



# DIGEST

AUGUST 31, 1988

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## Debbie Soo Hoo – A Super Achiever!

Outstanding performance, energy and dedication were attributes used to describe Debbie Soo Hoo who was chosen as the July, 1988 County Employee of the Month.

### Employee Of The Month

In presenting a scroll to honor Debbie's selection, Board of Supervisors Chairman Deane Dana praised her efforts, dedication and performance.

Debbie is a Senior Assistant in the Los Angeles Municipal Court, has been a County employee for eleven years, and has excelled in all performance categories.



**Chairman Deane Dana and Debbie Soo Hoo**

A driving force behind the development of the Court's Manual of Accounting Policies and Procedures, Debbie has directed the development of 10 new sets of accounting procedures, revised procedures and prepared drafts for 2 other accounting issues. These procedures conform to requirements of the County Auditor-Controller and State Controller.

With Debbie Soo Hoo's extensive court experience and accounting knowledge, she has also developed training materials for Court Clerks and was the first instructor for these classes. She now has successfully trained her staff to take over the responsibilities of instructing new courtroom clerks.

Debbie has also provided formal training sessions to Accounting Division employees as  
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**Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich takes an inaugural spin on new patrol boat.**

## New Patrol Boats Dedicated At Castaic

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich recently dedicated two new Lifeguard Patrol boats at Castaic Lake. The new boats join a fleet of four other patrol boats used by the Department of Parks and Recreation at this popular recreation facility north of Los Angeles. According to Supervisor Antonovich, "These boats will bring a new safety dimension to boating and other recreational water activities."

The boats are operated by Senior Lake Lifeguards trained in boating law enforcement, scuba diving, and emergency medicine.

The two 23-foot custom boats, designed for

use in all types of weather, are equipped with fire pump and hose, fire extinguisher, first aid kit, scuba equipment, resuscitator, and salvage pump with hoses.

The boats were purchased through a Board approved Special Development Fund which earmarks a percentage of vehicle and boat entry fees for facility equipment purchases and refurbishment projects.

Jo Anne Darcy, Field Deputy; John Weber, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation; and Mike Hargett, Park Superintendent, also participated in the ceremony.

## Mental Health Worker Guides At-Risk Adolescents

**D**olva Watson, the school consultant for County Mental Health, Children and Youth Bureau, has received national recognition for her pilot project dealing with at-risk adolescents.

The program was established at North Hollywood High School in 1982 with a nucleus of 12 members to cope with the usual teenage problems and choices that confront them on a daily basis—gangs, substance abuse, interpersonal relationships, family conflict, early drop out, among others. The program has had a tremendous impact on the school. Fighting among students has virtually stopped, graffiti is substantially down and the campus is much calmer.

The program now has more than 300 adolescents who are "on call" for individuals

### Program has 300 adolescents "on call" for those who may need help.

who may need help. Even with that number, they don't come close to meeting the needs of the school's 2,600 member student body.

Besides group counseling, some of the adolescents are trained in peer counseling skills. Any student at the high school who wants to talk about a problem is put in contact with a peer counselor. The idea of the program isn't to tell kids how to make their lives better, but, to create an environment where they feel safe and able to be open so they can learn how to make life better themselves.

All conversations between adolescents are  
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## Soo Hoo Employee Of The Month

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well as journeyman training to outlying branch court employees, and has contributed to the design of the Courts Finance System.

All of Mrs. Soo Hoo's activities have assisted in strengthening the Court's fiscal and cashiering operations. Not only has she been instrumental in establishing internal controls, she has monitored the compliance for these procedures. Most notable, the Court has improved its efficient processing of \$90+ million collected annually.

Additionally, Debbie has participated on various Court committees (Revised Performance Evaluation Committee, Improved Ser-

vice Committee, Audit Task Force Committee). She is routinely complimented for improving the morale of co-workers and for the way she deals with the public's concerns.

Debbie's high energy level, work ethics and commitment to the County have made her an outstanding role model for her staff. She is best described as a professional who is highly respected by her subordinates, peers, and management.

As involved in her community and church activities as she is at work, Debbie did pause for a moment during the Board's ceremony to accept our warmest congratulations!



**Dolva Watson reassures program participant.**

## Alternative Test Sites Announced

The Health Services Department announces that people who wish to be tested for antibodies to the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) that is associated with AIDS can now do so at one of the 12 HIV test sites in Los Angeles County.

The tests are provided free of charge and are strictly anonymous. No identifying information is requested at any time during the procedure. Those wanting blood tests need only call the site most convenient for them to make an appointment.

Children under 12 cannot be tested at alternative test sites because written parental consent is required for their testing and the sites can only provide tests on an anonymous basis. Parents of children under 12 are advised to contact their physician about testing.

Included in the testing program is pre-test education which informs clients of the test's reliability and validity and post-test counseling which informs clients of test results as well as referral information for any necessary follow-up services.

Seven of the alternative test sites are operated or contracted by Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, three by the City of Long Beach and two by the City of Pasadena.

The locations of the alternative test sites and the telephone numbers for scheduling appointments are:

— Cal State University Long Beach  
Student Health Center  
1250 Bellflower Boulevard  
Long Beach (213) 985-4771

- The Center - Long Beach  
2017 East 4th Street  
Long Beach (213) 434-4455
- East San Gabriel Valley ATS  
2120 Foothill Boulevard  
La Verne (714) 596-9410
- Edelman Health Center  
1213 North Highland Avenue  
Hollywood (213) 464-7400 x267
- Jackie Robinson Clinic  
1020 Fair Oaks Avenue  
Pasadena (818) 405-4391  
(for appointments)
- Long Beach Health Department  
2655 Pine Avenue  
Long Beach (213) 427-7421
- Planned Parenthood  
1045 North Lake  
Pasadena (818) 405-4391  
(for appointments)
- Roybal Comprehensive Health Center  
245 South Fetterly Avenue  
East Los Angeles (213) 260-3033
- Ruth Temple Health Center  
3834 South Western Avenue  
Los Angeles (213) 730-3838
- South Bay Free Clinic (Gardena)  
742 West Gardena Boulevard  
Gardena (213) 376-3000  
(for appointments)
- South Bay Free Clinic  
(Manhattan Beach)  
1807 Manhattan Beach Boulevard  
Manhattan Beach (213) 376-3000  
(for appointments)
- Valley Community Clinic  
5648 Vineland Avenue  
North Hollywood (818) 763-5963

## National Recognition For Mental Health Worker

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confidential. The only time confidentiality is breached is if an individual describes physical or sexual abuse, is contemplating suicide, or threatens harm to others.

Peer counselors are used in the community as well as in the school setting. They meet with students at local junior high schools and talk about gang and drug problems. They also work with students in the local day care centers. Peer counselors are used to help students in the Special Education classes as peer tutors and buddies.

The program's most important accomplishment is that students at risk for early dropout have not only completed their high school experience but have continued their educational endeavors. There are also many changes with regard to self-esteem, personal relationships, and communication skills.

Beyond that, these adolescents are being prepared for the adult world and everyday living conditions.

Ms. Watson, a graduate of U.C.L.A. with a Masters degree in Mental Health Nursing, is currently a Ph.D. candidate. Most recently, she has been asked to develop a training program on the national level. Her work in peer and group counseling programs with adolescents is being cited as an "example of a solution that works."

## Private Sector Funds Tuesday Visits To The Museum

Thanks to generous grants from the ARCO Foundation and the Northern Trust of California, the free day program at the County's Natural History Museum has now been funded through 1988. These gifts make the museum's resources more accessible to people who may find the museum's already low admission prices a financial burden by covering the fee for every visitor on the first Tuesday

of every month and children ages 5 to 17 on all other Tuesdays. Children under 5 are always admitted free.

The generosity of ARCO and Northern Trust is greatly appreciated by the museum since one of its major goals during its 75th Anniversary year is to broaden the reach to underserved constituencies.

Through the free day program, the museum

hopes to encourage first-time visitors to become regular museum goers by introducing them to special 75th Anniversary events and exhibits. These programs will bring new audiences to the museum, exposing them to some of the world's history and inhabitants, as well as familiarizing them with cultural and scientific resources.

# County Health Insurance Premiums Changed

Beginning with the August 15, 1988 paychecks, the *Maximum County Contribution* for medical insurance was increased for employees eligible to receive the County contribution. The new contribution which applies to all County-approved medical plans is:

Employee Only	\$100
Emp + 1 Dependent	200
Emp + 2 or more Deps	230

Employees eligible for the Flexible Benefit Plan continue to pay for their medical insurance through their Flex Plan.

Effective August 1, 1988, a prescription drug benefit was added to the *Kaiser Health Plan*. Kaiser has mailed new ID cards which

reflect the new benefit to the homes of employees enrolled in the Plan.

For a \$4 co-payment, Kaiser subscribers and their enrolled family members will receive up to a 100-day supply of each medication *prescribed by a Kaiser physician and filled at a Kaiser pharmacy*.

Although a premium increase for the Kaiser prescription drug benefits went into effect on the August 15, 1988 paycheck, the premium is offset by the new County contribution.

**Blue Shield Rates** increased beginning with the August 15, 1988 paychecks. For employees eligible for the County contribution, payroll deduction changes are:

## BLUE SHIELD PPO PLAN

### EMPLOYEE SHARE (Gross Rate Less County Contribution)

	New Payroll Deduction (8/15/88) -	Old Payroll Deduction (7/15/88)	Payroll Deduction = Increase
Employee Only	\$35.28	\$26.54	\$ 8.74
Employee + 1 Dependent	77.38	59.25	18.13
Employee + 2 or more Dependents	81.70	67.34	14.36

Any questions concerning your County insurance should be directed to your departmental personnel office. A revised rate chart for all County-sponsored medical plans is shown below.

## INSURANCE PROGRAM LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES REVISED TABLE OF MEDICAL PLAN RATES AUGUST 15, 1988 PAYDAY AND UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

	Gross* Rates	County Contri- bution	Employee Payroll Deduction
<b>BLUE SHIELD (Ded Code 267)</b>			
Employee Only	\$135.28	\$100.00	\$35.28
Employee + 1 Dependent	277.38	200.00	77.38
Employee + 2 or more Dependents	311.70	230.00	81.70
<b>CIGNA/ROSS LOOS (Ded Code 252)</b>			
Employee Only	\$ 87.15	\$ 87.15	\$ 0.00
Employee + 1 Dependent	172.66	172.66	0.00
Employee + 2 or more Dependents	206.38	206.38	0.00
<b>KAISER (Ded Code 251)</b>			
Employee Only	\$ 98.16	\$ 98.16	\$ 0.00
Employee + 1 Dependent	196.32	196.32	0.00
Employee + 2 or more Dependents	226.85	226.85	0.00
<b>MAXICARE (Ded Code 263)</b>			
Employee Only	\$ 93.20	\$ 93.20	\$ 0.00
Employee + 1 Dependent	177.17	177.17	0.00
Employee + 2 or more Dependents	212.77	212.77	0.00

\*The Gross Rates on this chart apply to all employees. The County contribution does not apply to Flexible Benefit Plan participants; they pay their premiums through their Flexible Benefit Plan contributions.

## Immunize Early During Measles Outbreak

Because the County is experiencing its largest measles outbreak since 1984, Department of Health Services (DHS) officials are recommending that, while this situation exists, infants be given the measles immunization at 12 months of age instead of the usual 15 months.

In addition to changing the measles immunization age to 12 months in County clinics, the department is recommending that private clinics and physicians in the County, particularly those in the hardest hit areas, make the same change.

The outbreak is centered mostly in the southern part of the City of Los Angeles and in Bellflower and Cerritos. However, there are cases in Culver City, Hollywood, Whittier, and the San Gabriel Valley, among other areas. The infection is clearly widespread and could intensify without adequate immunizations.

More than 200 cases of measles, also called rubella or 10-day measles, have occurred since the first of the year and approximately 120 cases have been reported since early April, according to Dr. Stephen H. Waterman, chief of the DHS Acute Communicable Disease Unit.

"Almost two-thirds of our most recent cases have been children under five years of age," said Dr. Waterman. "At least a dozen cases have required hospitalization and there has been one death."

"Measles complications include pneumonia commonly and, more rarely, encephalitis and death. Very young children are at high risk."

Parents of children ages 12 months through four years are urged to check their records to see if these children have received measles vaccine, usually identified on records by the initials "MMR". If a child has not had measles vaccine or if parents are not sure, they should contact their doctor or clinic.

Measles immunization is free in all County-operated clinics. Parents can consult the County government section in the front of the white pages telephone directory for the health center nearest them.



*With her mother Lidia Arriaga there to reassure her, 13-month-old Leslie seems undaunted by the measles immunization being given by nurse Fanny Smith at the County's Central Health Center.*

## Pavilion For Japanese Art Opens



The Museum of Art will celebrate the opening of its Pavilion for Japanese Art on September 25, 1988. This international center for the study and exhibition of Japanese art will exhibit the Museum's extensive Japanese holdings, including the renowned Shin'enkan collection of 300 screen and scroll paintings and the recent gift of several hundred extraordinary netsuke from Raymond and Frances Bushell.

The Pavilion for Japanese Art was the last building designed by the late Bruce Goff. The design development and working drawings were executed by architect Bart Prince, a former associate of Mr. Goff. From the beginning, "Japanese art was to be the client" and every design decision was made from that standpoint. The 32,100-square-foot Pavilion is a three-level building comprised of two wings with exhibition galleries, study area, library, offices, and screen and scroll storage areas.

## Women's Employment Options Conference

16th Annual  
Women's Employment Options  
Conference (WEOC)  
Co-sponsored by the  
Office of Affirmative Action Compliance  
(OAAC)

**Career & Personal Development  
Opportunities for Women (and men)!**

Friday, September 16, 1988  
12 noon to 7 p.m.  
Saturday, September 17, 1988  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Disneyland Hotel, Anaheim

**For further information, contact**  
Lorraine Parra, OAAC, at  
(213) 974-1393

Your attendance is encouraged!

## More Medflies Found

County Agricultural Commissioner E. Leon Spaugy recently announced the trapping of two additional Medflies just inside the San Fernando Valley area previously treated by an aerial spraying.

Though these two flies undoubtedly represent a much larger population than the six already trapped in the area treated by helicopter, Commissioner Spaugy said, "We have no plans to do a second aerial malathion/protein treatment at this time." The first 20 million sterile flies have now been released. A 1987 infestation in the Maywood/Vernon and East Los Angeles areas was eradicated using the same technology - aerial spraying followed by the release of millions of sterile Medflies.

Some stages of the pest, such as eggs or maggots, are not affected by malathion spraying or sterile flies and may be present in backyard fruit or vegetables. Therefore, residents in the quarantine area are asked not to share their home grown produce with co-workers or relatives because this could very easily spread

the pest to other areas.

The 62-square mile quarantine area is bounded on the west by DeSoto; on the south by Burbank and Victory; and on the east by Woodman and on the north by Rinaldi.



**If you see the Medfly in your area, call your County Agricultural Commissioner.**

## East Los Angeles College Classes In Civic Center

The Civic Center program of East Los Angeles College provides educational opportunities to employees of State, Federal, and County agencies located in the downtown area of the City. The fall semester begins September 12, 1988.

Registration for Civic Center classes will take place during the first meeting of each class. Educational services for Civic Center students are available at the campus and include access to the Helen Miller Bailey Library, career and educational counseling, the computer center, and the transfer center.

Textbooks may be purchased during the first class meeting or at the college bookstore. Complete class bulletins may be obtained from your Personnel Office or you may telephone Sam Jackson at (213) 974-2614.



**Wynoma Tiger (seated), OAAC staff member and Lorraine Parra, Conference Executive Planning Committee member, discuss "Resume Writing" which is one of the professional growth seminars to be provided.**

County of Los Angeles

### DIGEST

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Room 783, Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Telephone: 974-1784