



# DIGEST

DECEMBER 15, 1988

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



## Traditional County Christmas Program

Various children's choirs are among numerous others performing Saturday, Dec. 24. See back page for further details.

## Ramirez Gives 110% To Job

"Mr. Ramirez exhibits superb qualities of performance, is always ready for any priority change of assignments, and contributes 110% of his energies to his continued and ever expanding responsibilities." These excerpts

### Employee Of The Month

are only a part of the accolades for Eduardo Ramirez, the November 1988 County Employee of The Month.

During special recognition ceremonies recently, Supervisor Ed Edelman gave high praise to Eduardo's achievements and work ethics.

The honoree is a Cash Systems Analyst. He began his County career as a Student Worker for the Clerk of the Board in 1979 while attending East Los Angeles College. His responsibilities there made him highly visible and with an aggressive but professional demeanor he displayed a positive attitude and soon promoted into a position of increased responsibility.

He was then hired by the Department of the Treasurer and Tax Collector in 1983 and was assigned to the department's Cash Manage-

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Eduardo Ramirez

## Boothe Honored For Saving Motorist's Life

As a Safety Police Officer in the Facilities Management Department, Paula E. Boothe has been commended by William F. Stewart, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for her unerring instincts and heroic actions in the preservation of a human life.

On August 15, 1988, at 2:50 a.m., while on routine patrol, she found an overturned vehicle on fire, with the occupant pinned between the vehicle and a concrete barrier. After checking for vital signs and extent of injuries, she radioed for assistance and attempted to extinguish the flames. Unable to do so, she moved the victim to a safe area, fearing the vehicle would explode, and administered first aid with the help from California Highway Patrol (CHP) officers.



Paula E. Boothe

While administering first aid, Paula observed that the fire was progressing, so she lifted the damaged hood off the ground and used it as a shield to protect the victim, the CHP officer, and herself. All too soon, the shield did protect them from the following (two) explosions.

Fire units arrived and victim was safely transported to Long Beach Memorial Hospital, where eleven days later he was in critical but stable condition.

Upon recognizing Paula's heroic actions, Bill Stewart added, "It is gratifying to know that in an emergency, law enforcement personnel, of whatever agency, can come together and act as one team in the furtherance of the safety of the public it serves."

Recently, Boothe was also presented a Certificate of Commendation by the California Highway Patrol in recognition of her heroic actions.

## Emergency Survival Kits

### Provided for Homeless

The cold and rain are now upon us. For many people, this is the best of times - cozy evenings at home, hot chocolate and the holidays. But for the 15,000 homeless people on Skid Row, sleeping on the streets where hot meals are few and far between, it is the worst of times. Life becomes a miserable, endless search for warm dry shelter. Respiratory illnesses reach epidemic proportions and the danger of hypothermia is a real one.

Department of Health Services (DHS) staff of the Skid Row Medical Outreach Team provide health screening, first aid and other agency referrals to those on Skid Row and treat the health problems that result from this life style on a daily basis.

In response to what they've seen during cold weather, they have designed Emergency Survival Kits which include the following items for use in a shelter or on the streets:

Knit Cap  
Emergency Insulation Blanket  
Bottle of Multivitamins  
Plastic Ground Cover Sheet  
Instruction Pamphlet, "Keeping Warm in the Cold"

The kits are distributed to homeless people who show signs of hypothermia and seek medical care at the County's Weingart Clinic on Skid Row, through the generosity of DHS,



**Dr. James Lockyer advises a homeless patient at the Weingart center.**

Armin Industries, All American Sports Club and Western Surplus Stores.

The Medical Outreach Team realizes that responsive emergency services are only the "tip of the iceberg" in confronting the enormous problem of homelessness in the County and that meaningful long term solutions require the efforts of many. However, these kits will enhance the quality of life on Skid Row at least for today.

Anyone who would like more information on the Emergency Cold Weather Survival Kit Program, or would like to know how to get involved, please contact Lili Carbone, Project Coordinator at Hudson Health Center (213) 744-3710.

## Ramirez Employee Of The Month

*(Continued from page 1)*

ment Unit. As a self-motivator and very conscientious employee, Eduardo performed his duties with minimal supervision, and was recommended for advancement to more complex and highly responsible positions. Now, he audits the County's monthly bank charges, monitors and negotiates bank agreements, serves as the department's and school district's bank liaison, and develops cash flow systems which increase control and maximize the use of revenue.

In his efforts to demonstrate that a County employee can take pride and possess integrity while doing a good job, Eduardo has been instrumental in saving the County \$205,000 as a result of his commitment to dispute bank charges and aggressively pursue interest earnings due to the County. Additionally, he enhanced efficiency and increased productivity by adopting and implementing various automated report formats, and has assisted County departments and school districts to utilize the banks' automated reports.

Ramirez keeps abreast of new and creative cash management techniques by attending financial seminars which introduce new or improved technology and through his association with the personnel of six local banks, he has been able to obtain on-site information about their operations and to bring back productivity ideas from the private sector.

Eduardo's personality and leadership style

are also beneficial in promoting employee morale and County image.

He has coached his department's softball team for the last five years, and organized a raffle to raise money for the purchase of its uniforms. He was an organizer for the first all-department party after the department's consolidation with Collections and the Public Administrator. He was a planner and organizer of the first annual L.A. County Employees' Sportsfest at Whittier Narrows Recreation Park in June 1988, serving as chairperson for entertainment and coordination of canine, martial arts and weapons demonstrations. He has also coached community youth soccer and baseball teams for the last three years.

Prior to entering County service, Ramirez enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and was recognized as a superior airman whose performance was far above that required for the job. He was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal when he completed his term.

In summary, Mr. Ramirez has made significant contributions toward improving the financial and operational effectiveness of the department and other groups to which he belongs. His aggressive hands-on approach with a high level of commitment and dedication to his job's responsibilities has earned him this Countywide honor.

Congratulations, Eduardo!

## Congratulations Retirees

We salute and appreciate the following retirees and hope they will enjoy their well-deserved leisure time after more than 30 years of County service.

**Facilities Management:** Burnette Gray

**Fire Department:** Roy Futter, Charles E. Stein

**Health Services:** Virginia Gladney

**Municipal Court:** Clara Gallegos

**Probation:** John William Butts, Robert E. Scott

**Sheriff:** Richard M. Kelley, William McKinney, Jr., Rodrigo Serrano

The following retirees who are leaving after more than 25 years of County service will be missed and we wish them well:

**Assessor:** W. Beatrice Johnson

**Children's Services:** Francis J. Joyce

**Fire Department:** Charles R. Herbert

**Health Services:** Hugo R. Innocenti

**Mental Health:** Selma L. Medlock

**Probation:** John J. Klein

**Public Social Services:** Rosemary Webb

**Public Works:** James L. Easton

**Sheriff:** Edward Brown, Howard L. Tait



### Olive View Biathlon Held

With Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich firing the starting gun, the Olive View Biathlon was held featuring a 10K run and 25K bike race. Race Director Gene Evans congratulated the winners and all hard working volunteers for a job well done. Lots of food, surprise gifts in the race packets and dancing to live music afterwards, rounded out the day for spectators and participants. Proceeds from the event will be used to help with start-up costs for the employee day care center scheduled to open in April, 1989.

## Children Benefit From Compassionate Teamwork

Intergovernmental agencies and private sector donors have joined to establish a new administrative facility to improve the treatment of children who are victims of sexual abuse. Stuart House, near Santa Monica Hospital, is a refurbished two-story home in which interview and treatment rooms have been attractively decorated in a homelike atmosphere.

Before Stuart House opened, a child who alleged molestation was possibly taken to a police station, then hospital, then county agency, then counseling agency, then court building, and perhaps then dependency court. In the model project of the West District of Superior Court, the child victim is taken to Stuart House, a facility which houses staff from the Department of Children's Service (DCS), District Attorney's Office, and L.A. Police.

The efforts of the child protective workers, prosecutors, and police officers are child-focused and reduce the number of times the children are interviewed by various agencies. As a result, trauma is reduced for the child, proper evidentiary procedures are followed



**Children's Social Workers, Elisa Mendoza (L) and Sarah Krusen, are shown in a decorated reception area at Stuart House.**

and the child receives expert medical care at the Lorimar Children's Clinic and crucial therapy services.

The DCS has two on-site Children's Social Workers (CSW) responsible for providing all protective services to the children and their families. CSW will provide services to the child and family from the beginning of the case through its completion to further reduce trauma. This multi-disciplinary approach has been endorsed by the American Bar Association and the National District Attorneys Organization.

The concept of Stuart House grew out of the successful Santa Monica Rape Center whose founder and director, Gail Arbanel, spearheaded the development of this project. Aileen Adams served as Chair of the Interagency Planning Committee. Santa Monica Hospital donated the building. Stuart Foundations paid for remodeling to create offices, interview rooms, and bright play areas.

The unending list of generous donors and daily volunteers ensures its success!



**Happy in their new careers changing from civilian attire to county uniforms are (L. to R.): Deputies Lumpkin, Garza, Campbell, Plemon, Abram, and Ha.**



## Sheriff Hosts Women In Law Enforcement Career Day

With the theme "The Toughest Job Needs a Woman's Touch", the County Sheriff's Department will host a Women in Law Enforcement Career Day at the Sheriff's Training Academy on Saturday, January 14, 1989, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Academy is located at the corner of Telegraph Road and Colima Road in Whittier. The career day is designed to give interested job seekers information about the different programs and career opportunities available to them in law enforcement.

At 30 career booths, female deputies working on different assignments will be available to explain their duties and answer questions. Also, a panel of female Captains, Lieutenants and Sergeants will discuss opportunities for women within the Sheriff's Department.

The Department's Medical Services and Personnel Services units will have career booths and representatives to discuss the many clerical, nursing and specialized civilian positions that are also available.

Departmental Recruitment staff will assist applicants in selecting career options available

to them in sworn, civilian, intern, explorer, reserve and volunteer positions. These positions offer a variety of assignments in administrative, clerical, custodial, medical, technical and general law enforcement fields.

The Sheriff's Department is seeking over

1,000 qualified men and women for the position of Deputy Sheriff, with a salary range of \$30,426 to \$37,685 per year.

Don't miss this opportunity for a fun day to explore a new and exciting career.

For more information call 1-800 A-DEPUTY.

## Treasurer/Tax Collector Extends Hours

The hours of the Tax Collector's Office have now been extended to provide better public service to taxpayers requiring tax bills and/or assistance with tax payments, announced Sandra R. Tracey, Los Angeles County's Treasurer and Tax Collector.

The office, located at 225 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, First Floor lobby, will open its doors to the public at 7:30 a.m. and remain open until 7 p.m. Monday through Friday.

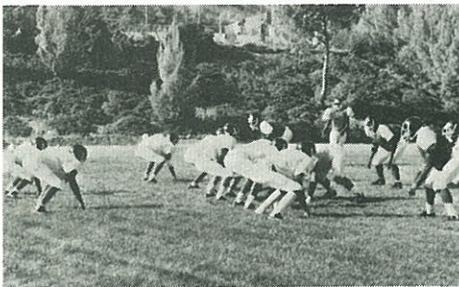
Telephone hours have also been extended from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. to request property tax bills for the 1988 tax year. The telephone number is (213) 974-2111.

This phone number provides taped instruc-

tions 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Should a person wish to speak to an operator, extended hours will provide property owners the opportunity to do so and resolve tax problems or obtain a bill without taking time off from their jobs, explained Tracey.

Tracey reminds taxpayers that property owner's failure to receive a tax bill is not the basis for cancellation of penalties according to State law.

New property owners should make every effort to obtain a bill by calling the "PropTax" phone number (213) 974-2111 or visit the Treasurer and Tax Collector's Office.



These Mustangs are real winners.

## Camp Kilpatrick Mustangs On the Move

You've no doubt heard stories about athletic students, low academic requirements and high scoring football games.

But have you heard about the County Probation Department's program at Camp Kilpatrick? Its focus is a football team called the Mustangs. Members of the Mustang football team are all court wards, who only a short time ago were juvenile delinquents.

This football team in its inaugural season had seven wins, one loss and one tie. And this record is all the more remarkable if you realize that these athletes are the same youngsters who ignored the admonitions of their parents, their teachers, the police, their probation officers, the courts and everyone else who tried to help them change their behavior patterns.

Incredibly, Camp Kilpatrick staff is managing to turn these kids around. Probation department statistics reveal that the rate of rearrest among the participants in this athletic program is extremely low.

As you might expect, the success of an endeavor such as this depends on much more than simply fielding a football team with smart kids. It is a comprehensive program, which incorporates the cooperative efforts of the Probation Department, the County Special Schools and volunteer tutors.

"Basically what we're doing is using athletics as a way of reinforcing academics," states Steve Canin, Special Assistant to the Chief Probation Officer. "Sports becomes the vehicle that gets these youngsters away from the negative peer influences in their neighborhoods. It promotes their self-esteem and helps structure their time when they return home, whereas they might otherwise go back to doing what got them into trouble before."

Canin goes on to explain that while in camp these court wards are given specific help in preparing for college, including preparation for the SAT and assistance in seeking scholarships. Even after they return home, he points that an "aftercare" component of the program provides supervision and encouragement.

Canin singles out the Camp Kilpatrick staff and the County Special Schools teachers for special praise, indicating the success of the program reflects favorably on their motivation and expertise. The long-range plan for Camp Kilpatrick also includes their participation in CIF competition in cross country, track and basketball.

## Holiday Joy Is In The Giving

The holidays provide many and varied opportunities to give the gift of your time. Several departments and community agencies are preparing gifts or food baskets for distribution, parties for children and the needy, and other holiday activities.

Check with your department's Volunteer Coordinator, a County facility (hospital, library, recreation center, etc.) in your neighborhood or community organization near you. Find out when and how you can help with wrapping and labeling packages, sorting, decorating, serving, supervising games, helping seniors and the handicapped to and from cars or buses, or wherever there is a need for extra hands and remember the special joy of giving will enrich your holidays too!



While Community and Senior Citizens' Services volunteer, Sheila Waters looks on, 4-H'ers apply paste, crayons and energy to an arts and crafts project. In the background, a bicycle safety and repair project is underway.

## Twelve Hours In Duration

### Traditional County Christmas Program Is Major Holiday Attraction

The Twenty-ninth Annual County Christmas Program will be presented by the Board of Supervisors through the Music and Performing Arts Commission on **SATURDAY**, December 24 (Christmas Eve) in the Pavilion of the Music Center from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Twelve hours in duration, the spectacular Emmy Award winning presentation is the longest continuous Christmas program of its kind in the world. More than 3,000 participants representing community, business and religious organizations from every Supervisorial District in Los Angeles County will participate in this year's event which will be simulcast by KCET/Channel 28 and KUSC-FM (91.5), and KCPB-FM (91.1).

Produced by Commission Executive Director J. Foster, this year's program will be highlighted by dance performances presented by the Aman Folk Festival, the Lula Washington Contemporary Dance Theatre, the Bella Lewitzky Dance Company and the Long Beach Ballet. **OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO FAMILIES AND YOUNG PEOPLE WILL BE THE PRESENTATION OF EXCERPTS FROM TCHAIKOVSKY'S NUTCRACKER BALLET (L.B. BALLET) AT 1 P.M. RATHER THAN DURING THE EVENING AS IN PREVIOUS PROGRAMS.**

Also included in this year's program will be

the presentation of major choral works under the direction of three internationally respected choral directors, John Alexander, William Hall and Dr. Frances Steiner.

Enjoying any part or all of the event will be a visual and emotional memory for anyone attending.

**ADMISSION AND PARKING ARE FREE TO THE PUBLIC THROUGHOUT THE DAY.**

County of Los Angeles

### DIGEST

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### Sign-Language Classes

Pre-registration for sign-language classes, which run from February through June, will take place in the Office of Affirmative Action Compliance, 500 West Temple Street, Room 780 Hall of Administration on January 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Beginning classes will be on Tuesday and Thursday, intermediate classes on Monday and Wednesday. Call Larry Bryant at (213) 974-1087 for more information.