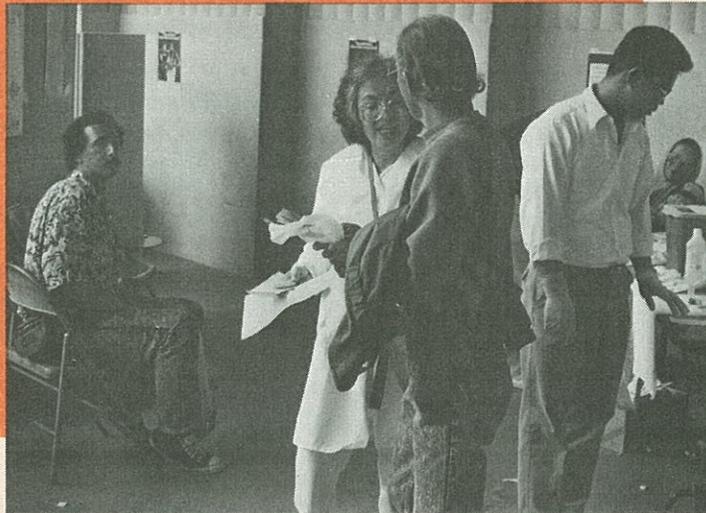




DIGEST

APRIL 30, 1990

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



PUBLIC HEALTH OUTREACH

Carolyn Dong, a Health Services clinic nurse, center, discusses health protection tips with a participant during Public Health Day April 7 at MacArthur Park in Los Angeles. Dong works at the Curtis R. Tucker Health Center in Inglewood.

More than 100 countywide events, ranging from homeless blood pressure screenings to discussions on nonviolent relationships, were featured during Public Health Week, April 1 - 7.

Co-sponsored by the County Department of Health Services, staff members from throughout the County gave presentations on protecting and promoting health and preventing disease.

Employees Raise \$2.7 Million for Community

Public Social Services Takes Top Honor

County employees raised more than \$2.7 million for the United Way and Brotherhood Crusade in 1989. And the Tenth Annual Community Support Awards Ceremony in the Board Hearing Room March 27 honored these countywide achievements.

Supervisor Pete Schabaram led the presentation of awards and praised the departments, employees and coordinators for their efforts.

Eddy Tanaka, Department of Public Social Services Director, walked home with the top prize, the Department of Distinction Award. Joe Wetzler, who represented the Coalition of County Unions, and served as labor campaign co-chairman, praised DPSS for running a "very

successful, highly organized" campaign that brought together employees, labor and management for a coordinated effort.

And Barry Nidorf, Chief Probation Officer and President of the County Management Council, also congratulated employees for their "continued support of community agencies."

The award-winning departments, grouped according to number of employees and the highest participation level, were Public Works, County Clerk/Superior Court, Chief Administrative Office, County Counsel, Regional Planning and Human Relations Commission.

For the largest per capita cash contribution,

(Continued on page 3)

Extra Cash Stuns Productivity Award Winner

You're all set to get a \$1,000 productivity award for saving your department big dollars. What happens when you receive \$5,000 instead?

"I was speechless," said Deputy Probation Officer Sarah Amos. "I felt like bursting into tears."

Amos received the extra \$4,000 surprise for starting the Accelerated Custody Probation and Sentencing Investigations Program in 1987, which saves the Sheriff's Department about \$5 million a year.

During a celebration ceremony in the South Central area office, Amos received a \$500 check from the Probation Department; then, a \$500 check from the Sheriff's Department. But as Commander David Hagthorp of the Sheriff's Department finished his presentation, he was asked if there was anything else he wanted to add.

"Oh yes," he responded casually. He then announced the \$4,000 bonus. According to spectators, "the crowd went wild."

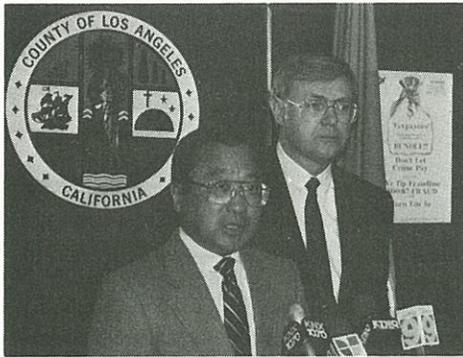
"The money arrived at the perfect time," Amos said. "It was the beginning of basketball season for my two sons and the cost of purchasing size 14 and 15 basketball shoes gets quite high."

Under current regulations, when there's a direct savings to a County department, up to \$5,000 can be awarded.

(Continued on page 3)



Sarah Amos: "The money arrived at the perfect time."



Eddy Tanaka, Department of Public Social Services Director, front, and Supervisor Mike Antonovich during press conference announcing the extension of the Welfare Fraud Hotline Reward Program.

Welfare Fraud Hotline Extended

The Welfare Fraud Hotline Reward Program, which saved County taxpayers an estimated \$4 million, has been extended for another three years.

At a press conference marking the successful completion of a two-year pilot program, Supervisor Mike Antonovich praised the "public-private partnership" between the Department of Public Social Services and WeTip who operate the Welfare Fraud Hotlines and reward program.

"County investigators have identified 608 cases of welfare fraud and detected more than \$3.8 million in fraudulent overpayments," said Antonovich, who initiated the program two years ago. "This is a 51 percent increase in the number of cases reported since the WeTip program started."

Citizens can call the WeTip or Welfare Fraud Hotlines toll free at 1-800-87 FRAUD or (213) 749-4266.

Congratulations Retirees

With 45 years of dedicated service, Ellsworth M. Goshorn, Jr., Department of Public Works, leads this month's list of retirees. Juan N. Delfin and Richard A. Ostrom, Department of Public Works, and Daniel O'Brien, Probation Department, are also commended for their 40 years of dedicated public service. We hope that Ellsworth, Juan, Richard and Daniel enjoy their well-deserved leisure time.

We also salute and appreciate the following retirees with more than 30 years of County service.

Agri. Commissioner/Wts. & Meas.: Robert L. Dingfelder, Eleanor R. Gera, George A. Hall

Arboreta/Botanic Gardens: Francis F. T. Ching

Assessor: Sydney Meisel

Auditor-Controller: Sueto Akiyama

Beaches & Harbors: Howard A. Lee

Chief Administrative Office: James A. Harrigan, Vernon J. Humphries

Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner: Edward B. Weissburd

Children's Services: Milouise Dearman, Ida P. Martin, Elbie W. Wade

County Counsel: Louis S. Gordon

District Attorney: David Correa, Rudolph Freno, Frank A. Kovacevich

Executive Office-Superior

Court/County Clerk: John Anthony, Claire Dine, Joycelee Holt

Fire: Ronald R. Carl, Allen Cox, Lynn R. Harrison, James H. Hensley, Leonard N. Julian, Reid A. Kirk, Earl W. Kramer, David A. Lehmann, Carroll R. Sheffield, Charles J. Viviano

Health Services: Evelyn Armstrong, Julia P. Bailey, Vivian Bell, Mario R. Bravo, Masao Fujii, Virginia Gonzales, Rebecca O. Hart, Lillian Hood, Earl W. Kendrick, Bette K. Kim, Harold R. King, Ayako M. Koyama, Richard A. Landon, Donald A. Lashmett, Rosie Lee Lewis, Mario Matus, Mary L. Mimbs, Daniel Mishell, Gladys M. Mosley, Lathan J. Nichols, John Ogata, Masashi Sid Okazaki, John I. Place, III, Irma R. Reed, Willie Lee Robinson, Eloise A. Rodgers, Sheridan E. Smith, Osa E. Terrell, Everett

K. Weeks, P. Allan Winters

Internal Services: John J. Alcantar, Arthur J. Fisch, Erasmo R. Gomez, Betty Jane Huhn, Richard G. Langstaff, Bernard R. Monday, Abraham Smalls

Marshal: James B. Brown, David K. Loupe

Municipal Court: Patrick E. Kennedy

Museum of Art: James H. Peoples

Parks & Recreation: Don E. Lamoureux

Probation: Harry Cummings, William M. Erickson, Eastye J. Jackson, Roderick L. Johnson, Lamar Matthews, Jr., Earl B. Thomas, Virginia M. Williams

Public Defender: Phillip A. Bennett, Sam Gordon

Public Social Services: Vivian J. Baines, Dorothy J. Brice, Donald E. Brown, Joseph M. East, Joseph R. Kearney, Classie Lee Latchison, Margaret L. Melton, John S. Portis, Doris J. Swindell, Catherinell Williams, Carolyn W. Woodyard

Public Works: Ramon J. Ballesteros, Thomas P. Barras, Walter Cook, Tony T. Gonzales, Reuben Heffel, John W. Hodge, Masaru Izuno, Don F. Keene, Marshall D. Kinder, George Koga, Frank P. Lewis, James Lizakowski, Ralph F. Martin, Dolores C. Merendo, Robert C. Moore, Richard Mossberg, Robert K. Riedle, Antonio P. Rincon, Jr., Arturo Sanchez, Wadachi Saruwatari, Eugene Shimomaye, Joseph L. Vicelja

Registrar-Recorder: Arletha Lusk

SCAQM: Charles E. Parsons, Elbert W. Ralston

Sheriff: Kenneth W. Allen, Stanley Backman, John H. Barnack, Wilbur C. Bruce, Marian J. Burgess, Robert W. Faucette, Elroy Gilliam, David A. Harris, Edwin M. Hill, Donald Hopkins, George S. Jackson, Louie A. Kemp, Jr., Vance G. Kirkpatrick, George Miner, Virginia G. Montoya, Donald Neureither, Elmer A. Omohundro, Jr., Raymond H. Osterhues, James W. Painter, Armando Sainz, Richard L. Wallace, Jerry L. West, Henry S. Williams

Treasurer & Tax Collector: Raymond S. Clark, Jr., Margaret Y. Endo, Willa J. Johnson

Hire a Veteran Week Spotlights Job Fair

More than 50 employers and 500 applicants are expected to attend the Central City Job Fair May 10 at the County Patriotic Hall in Los Angeles during Hire a Veteran Week.

The Board of Supervisors proclaimed May 7-11 Hire a Veteran Week, which features workshops, seminars, and job fairs throughout the County for all veterans.

"Veterans bring job skills, experience, self-discipline, maturity and a strong traditional work ethic to the table," said Joseph Smith, Military and Veterans Affairs Department Director. "We hope to raise public awareness of the importance of helping unemployed veterans once again become productive members of society."

The Patriotic Hall job fair, which is free to all employers and job seekers, runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. During the week, job fairs will also take place in Torrance, South El Monte, Lakewood and San Fernando. A Hire a Veteran Week hotline lists the dates and locations of all County job fairs. Call (213) 744-4836.

Driving Alone to Work?

Driving alone can mean convenience, but have you ever looked at the real cost of that convenience?

If your estimated round-trip distance to work each day is 30 miles, and the average per mile vehicle cost* is \$.276, then your estimated vehicle cost per day is \$8.28. With a 22-day average work month, you're spending \$182.16 per month; that's \$2,185.92 a year.

Isn't it time to consider the alternatives?

To register for a free ridesharing matchlist, please call Commuter Computer at (213) 380-RIDE.

*Calculated by Runzheimer International for American Automobile Association.

Community Support

(Continued from page 1)

winners were Children's Services, Public Library, Auditor-Controller, Beaches and Har-

bors, Regional Planning and Human Relations Commission.

Extra Cash for Amos

(Continued from page 1)

In short, Amos' proposal calls for probation officers to interview defendants at the courthouse rather than prison. Whenever a felony is committed, Amos said, and a person pleads in court, a report is needed. In the past, the defendant would return to prison after pleading and the probation officer would track the person down for the needed information. The driving and interview process was "extremely" labor intensive.

Now it's all completed at the court.

"Initially, I was told that interviews at the court were impossible," she said. "But the judges were on our side and eventually we were able to work it out."



DPSS receives Department of Distinction Award.
(L. to R.) Barry Nidorf, Eddy Tanaka, Floydia Washington, Mary Sherman-Jones, Jimmy Walker and Joe Wetzler.

DPSS Elderly Program Wins National Award

Competing with state and local agencies from throughout the nation, the Department of Public Social Services' Elderly Visiting Program has finished as a top winner in a prestigious national competition.

Started in 1986, the program was honored March 1 by the American Public Welfare Association in the Services and Benefits for Adults Category for its "fresh approach" in helping the elderly.

The program serves as a public/private partnership where volunteers provide a wide range of services to the elderly, including visiting convalescent hospitals, reading and listening, and escorting shut-ins to local parks, libraries and cultural events.

"I am proud that DPSS is on the front line in

helping the elderly through the use of volunteers and that our program earned top recognition among social programs in this category nationwide," DPSS Director Eddy Tanaka said.

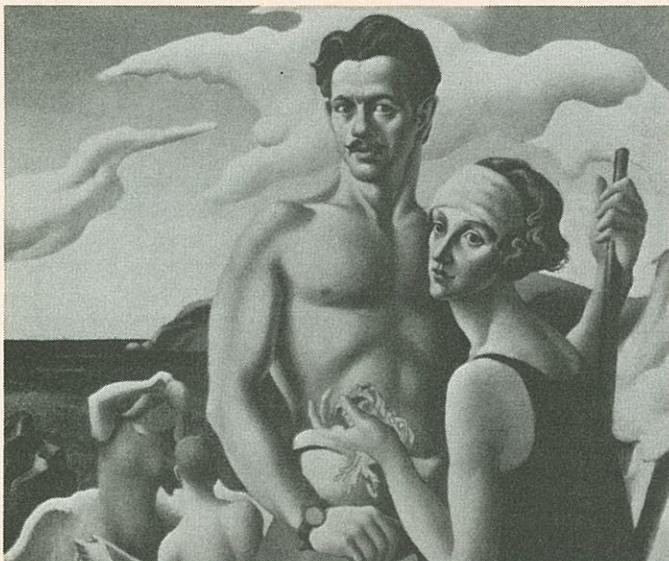
On hand to receive the association's Successful Projects Initiative Award in Washington D.C., were Assistant Director Floydia Washington and Volunteer Program Director Pamela Collins.

Since starting the program, more than 33,000

hours have been donated by volunteers, who often help break a cycle of isolation, self-neglect and abuse.



DPSS Assistant Director Floydia Washington, center, and Volunteer Program Director Pamela Collins receive congratulations from Sen. Alan Cranston on receiving an American Public Welfare Association award.



"Self Portrait with Rita," Thomas Hart Benton's 1922 painting, is part of the artist's centennial retrospective at County Museum of Art through July 22.

County Museum Gets \$150,000 Gift

The County Museum of Art has received a \$150,000 gift from the Los Angeles Times and Times Mirror to sponsor the "Thomas Hart Benton: An American Original" exhibit.

The exhibit, which opened April 29 and continues until July 22, features 82 paintings created between 1905 and 1975 and serves as the definitive centennial retrospective of this major American regionalist's work.

"The Museum is very grateful for this contribution," Museum Director Earl A. Powell III said. "We are indebted to corporations like Times Mirror whose support makes it possible to realize important exhibitions."

"As the Los Angeles County Museum of Art celebrates its 25th anniversary, we are delighted to help sponsor an important exhibition by a major American 20th-century artist," said Robert F. Erburu, Chairman and CEO of Times Mirror. "The wide appeal of Thomas Hart Benton's uniquely American style should enhance the Museum's silver anniversary and underscore its exceptional importance and outreach as a major institution."

VDTs: Tips on Eliminating 'Computeritis'

While computers have improved many office jobs, there's a lingering concern about the safety of working with video display terminals.

Research into the health effects of VDTs is ongoing. Meanwhile, leading health experts have created easy-to-learn tips to help minimize "computeritis."

PROTECT YOUR VISION

Many office workers using VDTs complain of eyestrain and headaches, some quite severe. To lessen these problems:

- * Make sure the screen is placed more than two feet away from you and can be tilted to a comfortable angle.
- * Request a new monitor if the letters on your screen flicker or are hard to make out.
- * Adjust the brightness of the screen so it is comfortable for your eyes.
- * Reduce general lighting in the office. Lighting installed for conventional desk work is usually too bright for VDT work, and may cause glare on the screen.
- * Don't face a bright window or sit under a bright ceiling light. If you can't move the terminal, request blinds for the window or a dimmer for the overhead light.
- * Get a glare guard for your screen if necessary, but don't consider the guard a substitute for good lighting.
- * Have periodic eye examinations to detect a change in your vision.

PREVENT MUSCLE STRAIN

VDTs are often plunked down on tables designed for typewriters, with no changes in desk height or chair type. This poor placement can force you to sit in unnatural and uncomfortable positions. To avoid that:

- * Place the VDT on a table that can be adjusted to your height. The keyboard should be on a separate surface that can also be adjusted.
- * Use a footrest if your feet do not reach comfortably to the floor.



Christine Henricksen, a management secretary with the Board of Supervisors Executive Office, takes a computer "eye" break.

- * Get a chair you can adjust for proper height, with an adjustable back.

VDT BREATHING SPACE

Terminals generate heat. They should be placed in well ventilated areas, not in small rooms or close together. There should be a few inches of space between the VDT vent and the wall.

REDUCE STRESS

VDT operators frequently mention the stressful quality of the work. To stay relaxed:

- * Take breaks. The National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health recommends a pause of 15 minutes after two hours of reasonably intensive VDT work and one hour of very intensive work. It is especially important to take a break before beginning overtime on a VDT.
- * Try to vary your work. If possible, alternate VDT work with tasks that take you away from the terminal.
- * Don't sit isolated at a VDT all day without contact with co-workers. Socialize now and then.

Try to vary your work. If possible, alternate VDT work with tasks that take you away from the terminal

County of Los Angeles

DIGEST

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Mall Celebration Kicks Off Public Service Recognition Week

A May 7 event in the County mall featuring exhibits, music, free food, entertainment and giveaways will kick off Public Service Recognition Week, May 7-11.

In a motion proclaiming the week and encouraging all County departments and employees to participate, Supervisor Pete Schabarum said the "celebration will pay tribute to the dedication of public service employees

and will inform American citizens about the range and quality of the services they provide."

The 90-minute event starts at noon. During last year's mall event, more than 75 community, professional and employee organizations assembled to express appreciation for excellence in public service.