



DIGEST

AUGUST 15, 1990

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



Robert Hausken and Supervisor Pete Schabarum

Hausken: An Attorney Worth Investigating

About 10 years ago, Robert Hausken ran across four lanes of freeway traffic to help a highway patrolman struggling with two suspects. While the California Highway Patrol awarded his bravery, the involvement was not out of character for the Senior District Attorney Investigator.

Employee of the Month

As the July 1990 County Employee of the Month, Hausken's "involvement" stretches well-beyond the 9 to 5 work world and into after hours employee and community programs.

"I hate to say no," the 18-year County employee said. "If someone needs help and I have the time, I'll give it a try."

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Board Approves Four-Day Work Week at Public Works Headquarters

Continuing the battle against traffic gridlock and air pollution, the Board of Supervisors has approved a four-day work week for 1,600 Department of Public Works headquarters' employees.

Starting September 10, employees at the Alhambra complex will work a four-day, 10-hour-a-day work schedule Monday through Thursday. The building will close on Fridays.

As a one-year pilot program, a committee comprised of the Chief Administrative Office, Productivity Commission, Auditor-Controller and Public Works, will monitor the plan. The Board of Supervisors will get quarterly reports and determine whether to continue the

plan beyond the first year. If successful, the program could serve as a model for other County departments.

Department of Public Works Director Tom Tidemanson proposed the new schedule to comply with a recent South Coast Air Quality Management District requirement that major employers reduce travel by employees.

In addition, the schedule will save taxpayers about \$1.7 million a year by reducing operating costs, increasing employee productivity and reducing sick leave.

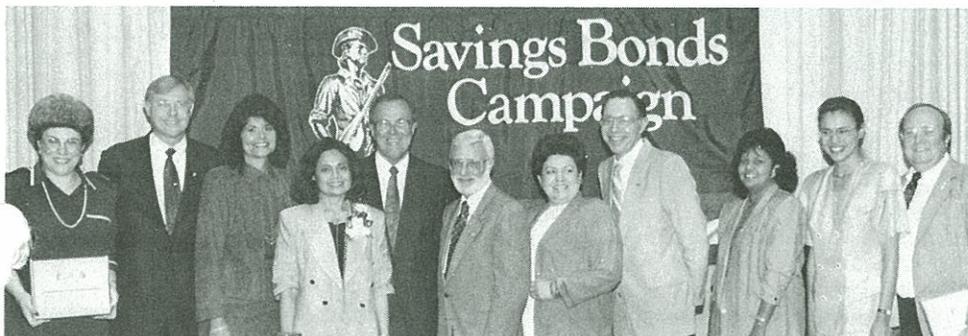
Clients also benefit from the plan, which
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A NEW START



President Bush helps 100 foster youth celebrate graduating from high school and foster care. See story on page two.

County Finishes First in Savings Bonds Purchases



(L. to R.) Judie Lecesne, Supervisor Mike Antonovich, Sandra Davis, Catalina Vasquez Villalpando, Supervisor Deane Dana, Joe Wetzler, Mary Louise Longoria, Milton Knopoff, Dilinie Perera, Margie Zamora and Raymond Drake.

Chalking up eight record-breaking years, County employees purchased more Savings Bonds in 1990 than any other county in the nation. And Catalina Vasquez Villalpando, United States Treasurer, has thanked County employees for their efforts.

During the U.S. Savings Bonds Awards Ceremony July 31, the U.S. Treasurer presented patriotism awards to the top County departments.

Treasurer and Tax Collector Sandra Davis also presented six, \$50 U.S. Savings Bonds to the outstanding departmental coordinators

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Philippine Earthquake Victims Need Helping Hand

Losses continue to mount in the grim aftermath of the July 16 Philippine earthquake. And the Board of Supervisors, lead by Mike Antonovich and Kenneth Hahn, has called on all County employees to help the victims by making cash donations.

The Philippine Consulate, acknowledging the Fire Department's quick response in volunteering assistance, said donations

of cash and medical supplies are top priority. However, the Consulate will accept food and clothing if delivered to its loading dock.

Working in cooperation with American Red Cross and Salvation Army, the Board of Supervisors requests that checks be made out to one of the following organizations with "Philippine Earthquake Relief" written in the memo section:

Philippine Consulate
3460 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1200
Los Angeles, CA 90010

American Red Cross
2700 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90057

The Salvation Army
900 W. Ninth St.
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Foster Youth Graduate To Independent Living

What do President Bush and rap star M.C. Hammer have in common?

They both recently helped 100 foster youth celebrate graduating from high school and foster care. The youth met and received congratulations from President Bush in the morning. That evening, an Independent Living Program celebration with a "Going Out and Living Successfully" theme was held at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion.

Rap recording artist M.C. Hammer served as master of ceremonies at the May 31 event.

And the graduating foster youth, dressed in formals and tuxedos, received scholarships to assist with college expenses or vocational training.

Other guests included actors Henry Winkler and Edward James Olmos. Songstress Whitney Houston also praised the youth for graduating from the Department of Children's Services Independent Living Program. Independent living training, services and programs help prepare foster youth for self-sufficiency.

Hausken: Employee of the Month

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As a senior investigator, Hausken works on complex criminal investigations, including welfare fraud and organized crime. He helped with the Jailhouse Informant Task Force, which investigated 800 felony convictions obtained from jailhouse informants.

And he recently received the 1990 Jemison Award, which goes to investigators making "significant" contributions to the District Attorney's office and the community.

In addition, he helped organize the first District Attorney's team and served as anchor runner for the Baker to Las Vegas relay run. A former president of the District Attorney Investigators Association, Hausken also organized blood drives and other department events.

At home, Hausken does handiwork for folks in his Downey neighborhood and participates in Neighborhood Watch. He also volunteers for the City of Hope annual Bike-a-thon.

"I can't take full credit for my accomplishments," he said. "I get a lot of support from my family, friends and community; without them, I wouldn't be getting this award."

ALARMING RESTORATION



Los Angeles County Fire Chief P. Michael Freeman, right, presents a refurbished fire alarm to Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, in appreciation for the supervisor's recent board motion giving the alarms a second life. Hahn's action granted 62 old surplus alarms to the Los Angeles County Fire Museum Committee for refurbishing. Once renovated, the alarms will be sold to collectors with proceeds going to support museum activities.

Also taking part in the presentation are, from left, Captain Bob Hancock, Vice President of the Fire Museum; Battalion Chief Mike Idol; and Deputy Chief Robert Blackburn. "I have received many fine honors and gifts," said Hahn, "but this one means more to me than I can express. Schoolchildren who come to my office will be thrilled with the opportunity to see firsthand how fire alarms work and this alarm will be a very popular attraction in my office."

4-Day Week for Public Works HQ

(Continued from page 1)

creates expanded counter hours of 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

All field and branch offices, which handle about 90 percent of the department's contact with the public, will remain open five days a week.

A poll of employees who work in the building showed overwhelming support for the new schedule which offers a three-day week-end every week.

Red Cross Thanks and Awards County Blood Donors

For many County employees, blood is not a frightful sight but a symbol of life.

In fact, workers gave 5,331 units of blood in 1989, up 5 percent over the previous year. Recognizing this achievement, the American Red Cross, employees and the Board of Supervisors gathered July 24 to celebrate the County's success.

Sonna Bell, Red Cross Director of Donor Services for Los Angeles and Orange Counties, presented awards to the top-winning departments, which were grouped into six categories and ranked according to number of employees.

Public Social Services finished first in the 3,000 or more employee category with County Clerk/Superior Court taking top honors in the 1,000 and up category. Treasurer and Tax Collector donated 101 units to finish first in the 400 to 999 employee category, and Beaches and Harbors earned the top spot in the 200 and up category. In the 50 to 199 employee category, the Museum of Natural History walked home with top honors while the Santa Monica Municipal Court finished first in the 10 to 49 employee category.

In a special Health Services category, Supervisor Pete Schabarum congratulated Health Services Director Robert Gates for the outstanding hospital donor programs.



(L. to R.) Supervisor Pete Schabarum; Sonna Bell, American Red Cross Director of Donor Resources; "Buddy Blood Drop"; Department of Public Social Services Director Eddy Tanaka; Jack London and Tony Vargas, DPSS blood drive coordinators.

Schabarum also lauded the dedicated departmental coordinators and recruiters, whose work resulted in both increased donorship and program expansion. Employee blood donors range from department heads

to new hires, with many donating more than once a year. And with members donating four times a year, the County's VIP Civic Center Club, represents 55 percent of the civic center's donorship.

Senior Transportation Service Continued Plan Helps 20,000 Senior Citizens

An agreement to continue transportation service for senior citizens to cultural, educational and recreational facilities, has been approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Grand Peoples Company will arrange about 530 trips in 1990-91, carrying more than 20,000 senior citizens from locations throughout the County, Supervisor Kenneth Hahn said.

"This transportation program saves energy, improves air quality and reduces traffic for the benefit of all our citizens," Hahn added.

Los Angeles County will finance the program for 1990-91 with Proposition A funds, which finance rail transit development and related transit programs throughout the County. The measure, which received voter approval in 1980, generates about \$400 million annually for public transportation projects.

For additional information about the transportation program, contact the Grand Peoples Company at (213) 680-4311.



A NEW TRANSIT ERA

Supervisors Kenneth Hahn and Ed Edelman ring the "all aboard!" bell to kick off the Blue Line's first run. Mayor Tom Bradley and RTD Board Chairman Nick Patsouras joined the supervisors and 25,000 riders on July 14 during opening ceremonies for the Los Angeles to Long Beach rail line.

"When the late William Mulholland dedicated the Los Angeles Aqueduct, he said, 'There it is. Take it,' " Hahn said. "The new Blue Line is equally historic, and I say to the people of Los Angeles County, here it is. Use it."

Often lauded as the father of the Blue Line, Hahn authored the voter-approved Proposition A, which provides about \$400 million a year for the development of light rail and other transportation projects.

"This was a historic day in Los Angeles County," Edelman said. "The Blue Line is just the beginning of a rail system that will traverse the whole county."

Savings Bonds: A First Place Finish

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for the 1990 campaign. Winners included Milton Knopoff, Health Services; Judie Lecezne, Treasurer and Tax Collector; Margie Zamora, Chief Administrative Office; Dilinie Perera, Animal Care and Control; Raymond Drake, Southeast Municipal Court; and Mary Lousie Longoria, Human Relations Commission.

Richard Dixon, Chief Administrative Officer and 1989-90 Chairperson for County Government on the National U.S. Savings Bonds Volunteer Committee, also attended the ceremony. In 1989, Dixon started a year-round purchase program enabling employees to buy bonds at the Hall of Administration or by mail.

Other patriotic service awards went to County departments with the highest percent participation during the 1990 campaign: Public Social Services, Treasurer and Tax Collector, Chief Administrative Office, Animal Care and Control, Regional Planning, and Military and Veterans Affairs.

More than 17,000 County employees and 500 retirees buy more than 23,000 bonds each month through payroll deductions.

In the highest per capita participation category, Public Social Services finished first, followed by Treasurer and Tax Collector, Chief Administrative Office, County Counsel, Southeast Municipal Court, and Affirmative Action Compliance.

And in the highest number of year-round bonds sold division, Public Works captured first place, followed by Treasurer and Tax Collector, Chief Administrative Office, County Counsel, Regional Planning and Human Relations Commission.

To obtain more information about Savings Bonds, see your departmental coordinator or call (213) 974-2172.



A FORGOTTEN TREASURE RESURFACES

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was only 25 years old when he wrote the music for "Idomeneo," an operatic masterpiece that was long-neglected but one that he counted among his personal favorites.

When the opera is performed for County employees in a special preview at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion September 22, audiences will see a production designed by celebrated author and illustrator Maurice Sendak and staged by Frank Corsaro. The performance is accompanied by supertitles — English paraphrases of the text projected on a screen above the stage.

"Idomeneo," with an Italian libretto, or text, by Giovanni Battista, received its premier in Munich, Germany, on January 29, 1781. It was only performed one additional time during the composer's lifetime and was not presented in the United States until 1947.

Mozart was at the height of his musical

powers when he created the work, but the opera seria style in which it was written emphasized pageantry, vocal stylization, and human interaction with mythological Greek gods — an approach that fell out of favor during the nineteenth century.

When "Idomeneo" was at last revived in England and the United States, some of the twentieth century's greatest thinkers and music lovers recognized the opera's brilliance.

Curtain call is at 11 a.m., with a free pre-performance talk for ticket holders at 10:15 a.m. Tickets are \$7.50 per person — a savings of up to 93% off the regular ticket price — and parking is free.

Please note: due to its three hour length, this performance is not recommended for children under the age of ten. The deadline for ordering tickets is September 7. For more information, please call County Special Programs at (213) 974-1768.



WEST COAST BOP

Saxman Jay Migliori and the group Supersax bop-it-up at the County Museum of Art. The July 15 concert, part of the free "Summer Jazz on the Plaza" series, brought about 1,000 people to the museum's courtyard. The series wraps up August 26 with the Bill Holman Big Band. Showtime is 1:30 p.m.

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August 15, 1990

To: County Employees

From: Richard B. Dixon
Chief Administrative Officer

Subject: **NEGOTIATIONS STATUS REPORT - CIVIC CENTER PARKING**

Recently, there has been a great deal of controversy and publicity over the subject of charging civic center employees a parking fee. Therefore, I feel compelled to give you **accurate** information on the civic center commuting allowance, parking negotiations and implementation of the parking plan.

Let me state up front that the County has aggressively accelerated its battle against traffic gridlock and air pollution. In the civic center, in particular, we have had to take hard-hitting steps to combat the downtown gridlock that is holding our civic center commuters hostage.

In an effort to support and reward our front-line soldiers, who daily fight gridlock and air pollution, the County is prepared to take some unprecedented steps. These commuting incentives will be a major contributor to cleaning up our air and reducing the stress and cost of commuting to work.

Supported by the Board of Supervisors, a proposed \$70-a-month commuting allowance will reward **all** eligible civic center employees by **subsidizing their use of public transportation, vanpooling, civic center parking or just give extra cash.**

With SCAQMD Regulation XV imposed goals, civic center parking becomes a key issue. On January 8, 1990, County unions were notified of the County's proposed civic center parking plan. Negotiations on the impact of the parking plan were then held with the unions. And at these negotiations, the County attempted to get input from the unions so that we could arrive at a mutually agreed upon plan. Unfortunately, agreement was not reached and an impasse was declared.

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At the June 26 meeting of the Employee Relations Commission, the impasse was certified on the parking plan negotiations; and mediation and fact finding were ordered by the Commission. However, agreement was not reached in mediation, therefore, the County and the unions are now entering the fact finding process.

With proposed implementation of the \$70-a-month commuting allowance scheduled for September, it now becomes necessary to concurrently implement the parking plan. **This means that eligible civic center employees wishing to park in County lots will have choices to make.** And many of these choices can result in cash savings.

Paying to park in the civic center may sound like a drastic move but it need not cost anyone a dime. If you consider the commuting options and try the one that best suits your commuting needs, you can save money and help make Los Angeles County a better place in which to live and work.

JOIN THE COUNTY'S BATTLE AGAINST AIR POLLUTION!

RBD:gjt

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