

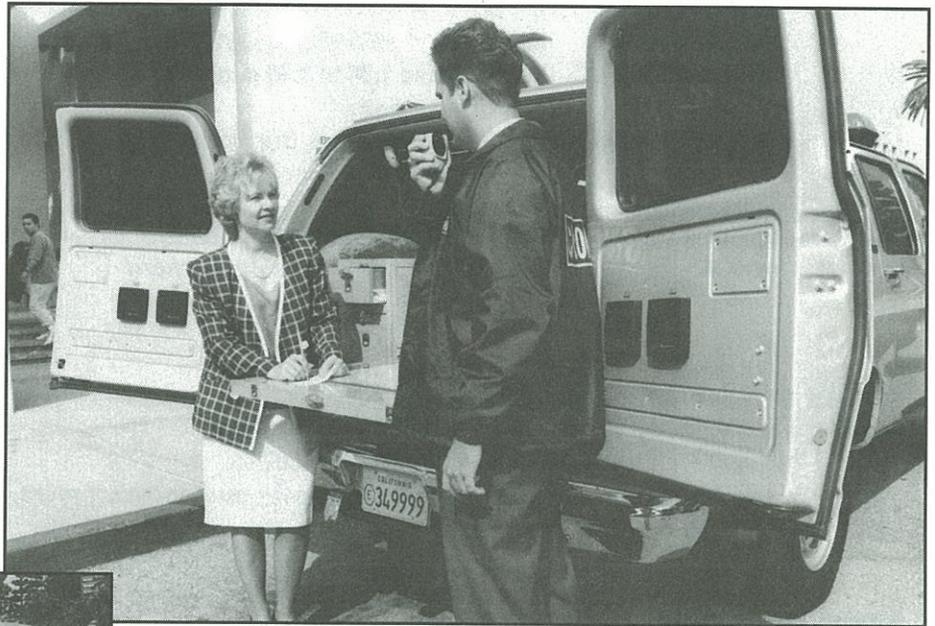
## FIRST IN THE STATE Emergency Unit Rolls Into Riot-Torn Streets

**D**uring the Los Angeles riots, Coroner staff members put their lives on the line while searching for the dead in burned-out buildings.

But thanks to a new multi-purpose Emergency Operations Center vehicle, the job went off as a success.

"The new mobile units are critically important in reaching the scene of a disaster and in speeding service at the location," Board Chairman Deane Dana said, during the vehicle's dedication ceremony May 20 at the Coroner's headquarters in Los Angeles.

The vehicle, which also serves as



**Mark Cooper, Chief of Disaster and Community Services, gives a demonstration to Coroner Director Ilona Lewis.**

a field command post, temporary morgue and disaster response unit, is part of a first-in-the-state program to develop equipment and policies that help the Coroner cope with disasters such as major earthquakes.

During the riots, the unit and a mobile command trailer served at

the Lynwood and Carson Sheriff stations. The unit also worked the area around 58th Street and Van Ness Avenue in Los Angeles.

Under law, the Department of Coroner has sole responsibility for investigating, processing and handling the dead that resulted from an extraordinary emergency or natural disaster. •

## Reward Offered for Workers' Compensation Fraud

**H**oping to stamp out fraud and abuse, the Board of Supervisors has approved \$1,000 rewards for County employees whose tips lead to the conviction of fellow workers who make fraudulent workers' compensation claims.

Starting July 1, employees are eligible for rewards if the information results in criminal

convictions or denial of benefits.

According to Supervisor Mike Antonovich, who made the motion, California suffers from a system that is of "greater benefit to doctors and lawyers than to workers who are legitimately injured on the job."

Antonovich noted that using the Employee Fraud Hotline, at (213) 749-4266, coupled with the reward "will help reverse the exodus of

business from California to other states."

A new state law prohibits giving false information to obtain benefits. Those convicted of the felony face up to five years in prison and a \$50,000 fine.

Under the program, the Chief Administrative Office and Auditor-Controller will monitor and administer the rewards. •

## SUMMER FUN

There's great entertainment at County facilities this summer and most of it's free or at bargain prices. From jazz concerts and fireworks spectacles to a Huck Finn celebration and a Shakespeare extravaganza, there's truly something for everyone. Some of the standout events include:



Drummer Frank Capp brings his big band to town August 30.

### 1992 FREE SUMMER JAZZ ON THE PLAZA

Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Blvd, (213) 857-6115  
**Sundays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.**

**July 5** *Supersax*

**July 19** *Bill Holman Big Band*

**August 2** *Bob Florence's Limited Edition Big Band*

**August 16** *Bill Berry's L.A. Band*

**August 30** *Capp/Pierce Juggernaut*

### FOURTH OF JULY SPECTACULAR

**July 4**, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Belvedere Park, 4914 E. Brooklyn Ave., Los Angeles, (213) 268-9302.

*The day's events include carnival rides, food booths and entertainment, wrapping up with a fireworks show after dark.*

### HAWAIIAN FESTIVAL

**July 18 and 19**, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Alondra Park, 3850 W. Manhattan Beach Blvd., Lawndale, (310) 327-2930

*Food, clothing and entertainment of Hawaiian life are showcased.*

### SHAKESPEARE ON THE GREEN

**July 29 through August 2**, 8 p.m.

South Coast Botanic Gardens,  
26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes Peninsula, (310) 544-6815

*The New Place Theatre Company sponsors five performances of **Midsummer Night's Dream**.*

*Bring blankets and sand chairs or rent chairs. Gates open at 6 p.m. for picnickers and those buying box suppers. To reserve seats call (310) 316-3121.*

### A HUCK FINN EVENING

**August 7**, 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, (818) 821-3222

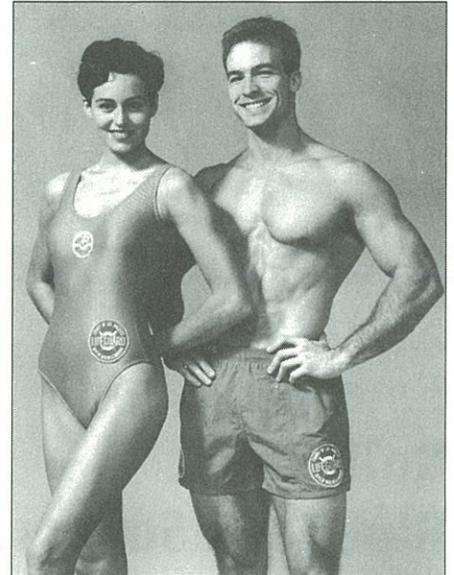
*As part of the Project Twilight series, evening festivities include three-legged races, pie-eating contests, fishing, watermelon and a wide range of entertainment.*

### LAS FIESTAS PATRIAS

**September 12 and 13**, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Belvedere Park, (213) 268-9302

*Commemorating Mexican Independence, this event features parades, food, music and other Hispanic entertainment.*



Models display new swim attire which will start showing up on ocean lifeguards in July.

### ON THE BEACH

## County, Jantzen Create New Look

Ocean lifeguards and beach maintenance staff will sport a new look in July following approval of a two-year marketing pact with Jantzen, Inc.

The sponsorship agreement with the nationally known clothing manufacturer provides 980 County lifeguard and beach maintenance employees uniforms worth \$52,000. The Department of Beaches and Harbors also receives \$30,000 in cash each year for two years for a beach maintenance fund.

In exchange, the company gets the rights to advertise a "Clean Water Logo" on 125 beach safety signs and one panel on the sides of beach maintenance vehicles.

A portion of the donated cash will be used to develop new safety signs which will replace the current outdated and weathered advisory signs along the coastline.

Donated uniforms for beach lifeguards include white polo shirts and men's swim trunks and specially designed swim-suits for women. •

## Vitale: A Mentor for Volunteers

When Joan Vitale took over the Public Guardian's volunteer program 12 years ago, only three volunteers existed.

### EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Today, 50 people volunteer year-round with ranks swelling to 150 during holidays, thanks to this 19-year County veteran who recently picked up May Employee of the Month honors.

But recruiting volunteers was only part of her initial challenge.

Vitale next sought stable funding to improve the lives of nearly 2,500 mentally ill or disabled people under the Department of Mental Health Office of the Public Guardian's care.

Buoyed by a one-time, \$16,000 United Airlines gift, Vitale has kept the *Guardian Circle* volunteer program solvent through a wide range of fund-raisers and donations. In addition, she set up "Joan's Boutique" in 1988, where donated gifts are sold to provide additional funding.

And outside the County, Vitale's efforts helping the mentally ill don't slow down.

As a 36-year member of the San Fernando Association for the Retarded, she helped establish the first high school for the Mentally Retarded in the San Fernando Valley, where her son Paul graduated in the first class. •

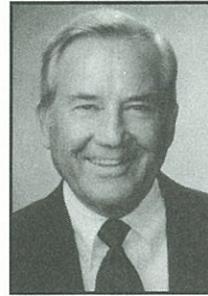


Joan Vitale and Board Chairman Deane Dana.

## Driving Forward: Nation's Largest Car Museum to Open

**P**lans to build the nation's largest automobile museum turned to reality recently when the Board of Supervisors approved bond financing and a magazine publisher kicked in \$15 million for the project.

The Peterson Museum, set to occupy the old Ohrbach's building on Wilshire Boulevard and Fairfax Avenue, will be part of the County's Natural History Museum and is slated for a



Robert Peterson

December 1993 opening.

Robert Peterson, publisher of *Hot Rod*, *Motor Trend*, *Car Craft* and more than a dozen other sport magazines, gave \$15 million toward purchasing and renovating the building that will bear his name.

More than 80,000 square feet will focus on

how the car has shaped and modeled every aspect of 20th century life. •

**HOT ROD**  
MAGAZINE

**MOTOR TREND**

**CAR CRAFT**

## New Technology Training Center Launched, Puts the Spotlight on Computer Skills

**I**n an effort to beef up employee computer skills, the Internal Services Department has launched a training center featuring free seminars, a self-study learning center and a specialized library.

Called the Information Technology Training Center, the program offers a wide range of classes to improve skills on mainframe and personal computers.

Working with County managers, the center staff helps determine County needs and then sets up training classes at minimum or no cost to County departments.

So far, employees are getting a wide range of services, including:

- A free seminar series featuring the latest technology; more than 1,000 employees have already attended.
- A free library and self-



Members of ISD's new Information Technology Training Center take a photo break at a free seminar offered to County employees. From left are Solveig Atwood, Stew Gitlin and Bobbi Vernon.

study learning center featuring computer training courses.

- A free reference service for locating outside technical and personal skills training.

For more information, call Stew Gitlin at (310) 940-2201 or Bobbi Vernon at (310) 940-2972. •

## CHILDREN'S COURT DEDICATED



**O**n Monday, June 22, 1992, the Edmund D. Edelman Children's Court was dedicated, named on a motion by Supervisor Kenneth Hahn in Supervisor Edelman's honor for his personal involvement with children's issues and his support of this innovative project. The new dependency court is the nation's first child-sensitive courthouse designed to reassure and comfort abused, neglected or abandoned youngsters passing through the County's Dependency Court system. Cutting the ribbon, from the left, are Sam Kiang, Mayor of Monterey Park; Kan Morimoto, Director and Western Region General Manager for Kajima International, Inc; Jaime Corral, Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court; John Westwater, President of the Rotary Club's fund-raising arm, the CiVIC (Child Victims in Court) Foundation; Supervisor Hahn (seated); Chris Campbell, President of California Partnerships, Inc.; Supervisor Edelman; Frank Zolin, Director of the State Department of Motor Vehicles; Supervisor Deane Dana; James Rosser, President of California State University, Los Angeles; Richard "Skip" Byrne, former Presiding Judge of the Superior Court; Ira Reiner, District Attorney; Marcus Tucker, Supervising Judge of the Dependency Court; Kenneth P. Hahn, Assessor; and Robert Mallano, Assistant Presiding Judge of the Superior Court. Front row: Carlos, age 6; Max, age 7; and Jasmine, age 10 (currently in the Dependency Court system).

## CHILD CARE UPDATE: 6TH CENTER TO OPEN

In a continuing effort to meet parents' needs, the County will open a new employee child care center July 6 in downtown Los Angeles.

Civic Center Child Care Center, at 2916 S. Hope St., will provide care from 6:30 a.m to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday for children 6 weeks to 5 years old.

Managed by Children's Discovery Centers, a child care management firm, the new 4,300-square-foot facility is the County's sixth child care facility.

*For more information on this and other employee child care projects, call the County Child Care Coordinator at (213) 974-2440. •*

## Board Ok's Change

## New Name, Same Olive View

**I**t's the same place but with a new name.

Olive View Medical Center in Sylmar is now known as Los Angeles County-Olive View/UCLA Medical Center.

Robert Gates, Health Services Director, requested the name change to incorporate the name of the medical school at the facility into the hospital's name. The Board of Supervisors approved the change in May.

Olive View joins LAC+USC Medical Center, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and Martin Luther King, Jr./Drew Medical Center in using their medical schools as part of their names. •



## County DIGEST

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