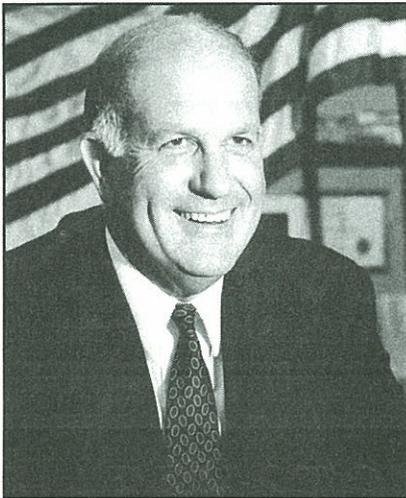




## HARRY STONE: *Charting the Course for Public Works*



Director of Public Works Harry Stone

**I**t was the summer of 1958 when 18-year-old Harry Stone first sat in a County Flood Control District office, plotting storm drains. He was working part-time as a junior engineering aid while attending college. Now, 35 years later, he is charting the management course for the department as its newly appointed director.

Appointed by the Board on August 9, Stone states, "Moving into this position was an evolving thing," crediting his selection as a testimony to the department's history of providing outstanding public works services to the communities in the County of Los Angeles. The department's broad range of responsibilities include: design; construction; operation, maintenance and repair of roads, bridges, airports, sewers, water supply, flood control and water conservation facilities, and regulatory and ministerial programs for the County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Flood Control District, other special districts and contract cities that request services.

Stone remained in the Flood Control District from 1958 until January 1985, when the new department of Public Works was created through the merger of the Flood Control District, Road Department and County Engineer. Shortly after the merger, he took the slot as Superintendent of Building in charge of the department's Building and Safety Division.

Over the years Stone has worn many hats, but as Director of Public Works he officially becomes the County's Road Commissioner, County Engineer, County Surveyor, Chief Engineer of the Flood Control District, County Building Official, Director of Aviation, Chief Engineer of the County's Waterworks District and Chief Engineer of the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance Districts.

To top it off, Stone also serves as city engineer and building official for a number of Southern California cities contracting with the County for services.

"I'm certainly not alone in these duties," explains Stone, crediting his chief deputy director and five deputy directors for their excellent service to the County.

Addressing the challenges presented by rapidly changing technology, Stone says, "I want to keep the momentum of new technological applications in the forefront, but I also don't want to overshoot by pioneering the failures. My management style would combine both low-tech and high-tech approaches to resolving many of LA's public works problems."

(See "Stone," page two)

## Elaine Jefferies: *Best on Film*

Elaine Jefferies, a County employee for 25 years, was recently honored as the September Employee of the Month. Her effectiveness as Head Clerk in the Film File Section of the LAC+USC Medical Center's Department of Radiology earned her Countywide recognition during the Board's awards ceremonies on September 20.

Responsible for 11 film file locations in four buildings, Jefferies directs a staff of 50. Among her major achievements: a specialized AIDS patient film storage and retrieval system; development of a film check-out and retrieval system for emergency-trauma films; and development and implementation

of a comprehensive mammography film/report storage and retrieval system. The new film storage and

retrieval systems not only help prevent the loss or misfiling of patient x-rays, but the mammography film storage and retrieval system provides a complete



Jefferies receives award from Supervisor Burke

(See "Jefferies" page three)

# DRUG COURT: Not a "Just Say No" Program

Since the Los Angeles Municipal Court's Division 42 unveiled Drug Court four months ago, over 100 people have enrolled in the one-year pilot program. The mission: to provide rehabilitation and avoid criminal conviction and jail time.

Supervisor Ed Edelman, who served as chairman of the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee, emphasized the program's aim "to achieve what our current justice system cannot - to help these drug offenders clean up, stand up and straighten out before they are irretrievably lost to lives of crime and hopelessness."

For the first time in Los Angeles, the Court and related justice agencies offer defendants with eligible drug convictions an alternative to the standard diversion program. In a non-adversarial process, the defense attorney and prosecutor work together with a judge to help the defendant follow a treatment program aimed at rehabilitation and a drug-free life. Closely monitored by the judge, the

defendant receives a combination of intensive treatment of detoxification and behavior modification through frequent urinalysis testing, acupuncture, substance abuse counseling and Narcotics/Alcoholics Anonymous meetings.

Participants who successfully complete the program have their criminal cases dismissed.

"We see people who have dramatically changed their lives," says Judge Stephen Marcus, who presides in Division 42. "For example, a long-term heroin addict who used to come into court looking sallow now comes in with a healthy glow. You can't quantify that."

Not a "just say no program," according to Judge Marcus, Drug Court is

*Judge Stephen Marcus helps turn around the life of program participant Gary Roberts through Drug Court.*



designed to work when other drug programs couldn't because it "gets to the root of the problem, the difference between really learning something or just getting credit for college."

Drug Court, modeled after a successful program in Dade County, Florida, is a cooperative program of the Los Angeles Municipal Court, District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, Probation Department, Health Services, Sheriff's Department and the Los Angeles Police Department.

## Employees March for Healthier Babies

County employees, led by the Department of Public Social Services Number One Team, raised over \$79,000 in the March of Dimes Walkathon, were recently praised during Board ceremonies. DPSS employees also volunteered to staff the County's registration booths at many walksites. Other departments honored include: Auditor-Controller, Internal Services, Public Works, Registrar-Recorder and the Executive Office of the Board. Health Services also received a special award for their series of health walks.



County Walk Chair, Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, and DPSS Director Eddy Tanaka kick off the walk at Elysian Park. Over 1,500 County employees participated.

## Stone

*(continued from page one)*

"We also face the challenges of ever-growing state and federal mandates, particularly in the environmental area, and the need to recognize the changing diversity of the communities served and the department's workforce," says Stone.

Stone believes that promoting a teamwork attitude in each and every Public Works employee will help keep the department in its number one position.

"I challenge each employee to do his or her best," he adds.

## Speedy New Services At Registrar- Recorder

Two new services available from the Registrar-Recorder's office are sure to speed up what used to be a much longer process:

**A new courier service** to transport real estate documents for examination for potential recording from their satellite offices at the LA Civic Center (227 N. Broadway) and in East LA (Centro Maravilla Service Center) to the main headquarters in Norwalk. This expanded service adds to service already available from the Lancaster satellite office. Documents may be dropped off Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m., at each of these three locations.

**A new toll-free number** for the general public to call for 24-hour-a-day recorded information about recording documents and other vital records is **1-800-201-8999**.

For more information about these new services, call (310) 462-2078.

## Jefferies

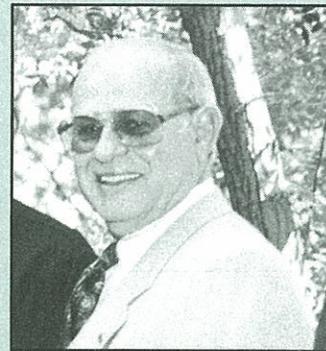
*(continued from page one)*

record of past examinations now available to determine if significant changes have occurred since past visits. This helps to ensure the earliest possible cancer detection.

Special events like the Life Safety Festival, Cultural Diversity Festival and Black History Month Celebration at the Medical Center were all organized through Jefferies' leadership. In the community, her leadership has also benefitted others.

She is the founding president of the Neighborhood Watch which evolved into the Adams Community Collaborative, sponsoring PEACEMAKER, a dispute resolution program operating in cooperation with the City Attorney's Office. As a PEACEMAKER herself, Jefferies works with troubled youth and substance abuse prevention program staff to help make a difference in the lives of others.

## Sheriff's Chaplain Receives International Honor



Chaplain  
Stephen  
Passamaneck

He may be a rabbi, professor, doctor of law, and captain in the reserve deputy forces of the Sheriff's Department, but at the recent International Conference of Police Chaplains training seminar in Portland, Oregon, he was introduced simply as Chaplain Stephen Passamaneck of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. The event was highlighted by the presentation of the John A. Price Award for Excellence in Law Enforcement Chaplaincy to Passamaneck.

One of only ten chaplains in the department, Passamaneck described the honor as a "huge shock," insisting that acceptance was on behalf of all 10 volunteer chaplains -- a group of rabbis, priests and ministers of various faiths stationed throughout the County.

Passamaneck, 60, a professor of

rabbinical law at Hebrew Union College in Los Angeles, became interested in the Sheriff's volunteer chaplaincy program in 1976 after reading a feature article about it in the Los Angeles Times. He immediately joined the program and even went on to become a reserve deputy sheriff in 1986.

Currently serving as supervising chaplain, he reviews the credentials of volunteer chaplain applicants and also assists the Sheriff's Health and Safety Unit by working with deputies and their families. He is stationed at the Lost Hills Sheriff's Station in Agoura.

"The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is proud and acknowledges the years of dedicated service Chaplain Passamaneck has given," stated Sheriff Sherman Block, following the award announcement.

## Board Creates Department of Human Resources

On September 20, 1994, the County Board of Supervisors approved the creation of a new Department of Human Resources and a centralized approach to human resource management. The Board also instructed the newly-appointed Interim Director Michael J. Henry to report back in 60 days with a proposed organization, staffing plan and workplan for the new department. A progress report on the departmental plan is to be made to the Board in six weeks.

Enthusiastic about the exciting opportunities the new department offers for improved service, Henry says, "We will strive to create a new, modern agency that will meet the needs of the Board of Supervisors, offer support and guidance to departments and provide expanded service to the community."

The Board commended the work of the interdepartmental task force that studied the feasibility of a central human resources department and their recommendations supporting uniform application of human resources policy.

## Metrolink News

The Cal State L.A. Metrolink Station will be open for service starting October 26. Free four-trip tickets are available. Located near the El Monte busway, this station requires that passengers be "dropped off" or use shuttles serving the station. For more information, call (213) 244-6585.

## DIGEST NOTES

Welcome to DIGEST NOTES, a new column featuring short items of interest. Share your ideas with Kristina Balian, Digest Editor, at (213) 974-2449.



### Benefits Enrollment Still Open

If you're eligible for the County's Choices benefits program, it's not too late to conveniently sign up by telephone. Employees may enroll through October 28. Telephone enrollment is simple and private, using the personalized enrollment packet mailed to your home address. If your enrollment package has not arrived yet, be sure to call the hotline at (213) 887-2233. Make sure to give yourself plenty of time to review all of your benefit options before signing up by telephone. Your selections will be verified by mail.

### Blue Line Bikers Rack Up

Cyclists who have dreamed about combining a bike ride to a Blue Line station with a ride to work on the Blue Line now have reason to celebrate. The Imperial, Artesia, Del Amo, Wardlow and Willow Blue Line stations currently furnish bicycle-size lockers on a three-month, six-month or one year lease.

"These lockers will provide the bicycle commuter a secure, inexpensive way to access our growing rail system, and combined with the 50 miles of bikeways we're building, make bicycling a more viable commuting option," says Supervisor Ed Edelman, who began his six-month post as Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) chair-

### What's The Bright Idea?

The Labor-Management Advisory Committee is seeking bright ideas...yours! Created by the Board of Supervisors 13 years ago, the Committee includes representatives of labor and County management. Their mission is to recommend improvements in the productivity and the effectiveness of County services.

You are invited to send in any ideas about how to improve County operations and solve persistent problems in service delivery and interaction with the public.

Send your ideas to: Labor-Management Advisory Committee, Attention: Richard Hoyer, 500 W. Temple Street, Room 588, Los Angeles, CA 90012 or fax them to (213) 680-2450.

### Our Apologies...

We incorrectly reported in last month's DIGEST that Anthony Hernandez was named as the County's new Coroner. Mr. Hernandez is the administrative director of the department.

Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran, M.D., is the Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner for the County, overseeing all medical operations of the department.

man on July 1.

MTA placed 60 lockers at the five stations, including 10 at Imperial, 12 at Artesia, 12 at Del Amo, 12 at Wardlow and 14 at Willow. For added security and a reserved space, bikers can lease a locker for \$25 for three months, \$45 for six months and \$70 for one year, plus a \$25 deposit. Also, 60 bicycle racks are already available at no cost on a first-come basis at each of the five stations.

"Bicycles play a big role in our long range transportation plans," adds Edelman.

For more information, call MTA's Cycle Express coordinator Maria Lasco at (213) 972-3777.



### Matchmaker, Matchmaker...

Three beautiful, fully-loaded telework exchange offices, complete with computer, printer and fax, located in a building surrounded by amenities such as banking, post office and nearby restaurants, are looking for County employees living in or around Norwalk who want to work out a congenial telecommuting relationship. Interested? Call "matchmaker" Marcia Ventura, telecommuter coordinator at the Registrar-Recorder, (310) 462-2726. You won't be disappointed!

## County DIGEST

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