

County DIGEST



MARCH 1997

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



THIS SPRING...

What better way to spend your weekend than to visit The Arboretum of Los Angeles County in Arcadia. The Arboretum, operated by the Department of Parks and Recreation under the direction of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, is open daily except on December 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adult, \$3 for senior citizens and students and \$1 for children ages 5 through 12. On the third Tuesday of the month, admission is free.

The 127-acre horticultural and botanical center for Southern California features a man-made waterfall; a Tropical Greenhouse; a library, cafe and gift shop among other attractions.

Call The Arboretum at (818) 821-3222 for more information on monthly and special events.



But if you want more challenging activities, then join the Los Angeles County Chess Championship sponsored by the California Association of Professional Employees.

Now in its tenth year, the tournament is open to all County employees, retirees and student workers. The event will start on April 10 and be held every Thursday thereafter from 6 to 10 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Public Works Building in Alhambra.

For more information on how to join, call Norman Cortez at (818) 458-7188 or Fred Ureta, Jr. at (213) 651-3996.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

BERNICE ABRAM: A CRUSADER AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

She said domestic violence is "close to my heart because as a child, I saw violence in my home." Bernice Abram, a deputy sheriff with the Juvenile Investigations Bureau in Whittier, was honored by the Board of Supervisors as the February 1997 County Employee of the Month.

Prior to presenting the award to Abram, Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky said that domestic violence is a priority in law enforcement and that Abram "builds and saves lives."

Abram, a 15-year County employee, has trained over 7,000 County employees on domestic violence and has served as instructor at the Southern California Coalition for Battered Women. "The Field Deputy's Guide to Domestic Violence", a guide she created, has been distributed to all patrol deputy personnel to assist them in handling domestic violence cases with professional acumen. Because of its effectiveness, the guide has been adopted for use by other agencies including the Long Beach Police Department; the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) Police; and the California Highway Patrol. Abram was also instrumental in developing the "Peace Officer's Standard Training - 1996 Domestic Violence" telecourse, a video seen by more than 40,000 law enforcement officers in California and



ABRAM RECEIVES HER COMMENDATION FROM BOARD CHAIRMAN ZEV YAROSLAVSKY.

other states.

Her work in domestic violence has resulted in her involvement in and association with several commissions, councils and committees such as the Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Health Issues Committee and the School of Public Policy and Social Research in UCLA's Department of Clinical Social Work.

Abram's passion for stemming the tide against domestic violence has led her to participate in similar humanitarian

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ABRAM:

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endeavors. She assisted in the opening of the Oshun Village Shelter, a haven for battered women and children, in the Antelope/Lancaster area wherein she donated her time gathering toys and clothing for the children of the shelter. She participates annually in the 999 for Kids Campaign, City of Hope Walk/Ride-A-Thon for Breast Cancer Research, the Lady Foot Locker Walk/Run-A-Thon for Battered Women and Children and the Southern California Coalition for Battered Women.

Believing that there is always a need to provide a positive role model for the youth and the community, Abram joined the Black Peace Officer's Association and has continued to bridge the gap

between the generations.

Abram has earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Management with a 4.0 grade point average from the University of Phoenix in Diamond Bar. She lives in Covina with her husband, Wil. They have been married for ten years. During her spare time, Abram enjoys gardening, interior decorating and watching movies.

Accepting the award in the presence of her supervisors and family members, Abram described her most recent recognition as the "County's equivalent of the Academy Awards." She, however, finds being a deputy sheriff her greatest achievement because it has afforded her everything she wanted to do including being a crusader against domestic violence.

When asked about what motivates her, Abram said, "seeing someone make it out as a survivor."

TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS TO WORK

A PROGRAM THAT EMPHASIZES EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The County of Los Angeles prides itself on being an equal opportunity employer. At a Board of Supervisors meeting held recently, the Board passed a motion by Supervisors Gloria Molina and Yvonne Brathwaite Burke proclaiming April 24, 1997 as "Take Our Daughters to Work Day" throughout Los Angeles County.

"Take Our Daughters to Work Day" is an annual event founded by the Ms. Foundation for Women. The public-education campaign was established in order for girls aged 9 to 16 to visit workplaces and experience



SUPERVISOR BURKE (TOP, CENTER) POSES WITH PARTICIPANTS FROM LAST YEAR'S "TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS TO WORK DAY."

first-hand what goes on in offices, opera houses, retail stores, news rooms, hospitals and universities.

For the fourth consecutive year, the County joins girls throughout the nation in celebrating a day to reinforce "equal opportunity."

In the Department of the Auditor-Controller, participants last year were treated to a host of speakers including Second District Supervisor Burke who took time out from her schedule to meet with the young, aspiring girls.

"Equal opportunity for women cannot be achieved without a foundation of equal interest and ambition. Ambitions

in women are fostered and nurtured at an early age by exposure to real workers and workplaces." This statement was entered into the record by Supervisors Molina and Burke with the hopes that equal opportunity for women can be fully achieved.

On April 24, 1997, County employees are encouraged to take a girl (she does not have to be their daughter or relative) to work and celebrate the essence of the working woman. County employees will be notified in writing if their department is participating.



MARCH RETIREES

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 30 or more years of service to the people of Los Angeles County:

AGRICULTURE: Richard C. Wightman

ASSESSOR: Robert T. Kazahaya

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER: Boyd Biggs

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE:

Bruce H. Amesbury, Claus B. Marx, Selma G. Anderson

CHILDREN'S SERVICES: Willistine J.

Arms, Jeanne P. Crose, Lynne Gerson,

Patricia Machuca, Roosevelt Scott,

Janet W. Szijj, Colleen Moes

COMMUNITY AND SENIOR SER-

VICES: George R. Flores

CORONER: Marilyn R. Lewis

COUNTY COUNSEL: Gerald F. Crump,

Gordon W. Treharne, Jerald E. Wheat

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Timothy L.

Farmer, Robert E. Strong, Anthony G.

Patchett

FIRE: Ronald B. Lennan, Richard R.

Moon, Larry G. Rohrer, John A. Maleta,

John J. Samarin, Franklin A. Wall, Jr.,

Michael E. Craig, Gerald E. Brodeur,

Ronald L. Coffin, Leroy Gilbert

HEALTH SERVICES: Mary L. Bow-

man, Charles T. Davis, Noemi De La

Cruz, Delean Flowers, Ira Thompson,

William Poppin, Jr., Beverly A. Williams

INTERNAL SERVICES: Alfred Avila,

Denton Calhoun, Gilard Hutchinson,

Raymond Z. Toguchi, Fred Benson

LACERA: Betty J. Bates

MENTAL HEALTH: Nelson D. Cuevas

MUNICIPAL COURT: Joe A. Ramirez

PARKS AND RECREATION: Frederick

A. Radel, Eugene J. Schmidt

PROBATION: Carl M. Arnold, Albert J.

Harruff, Jr., Milton A. Jackson, Charles

W. Johnson III, Lois A. Jones, Barry J.

Nidorf, Richard Ramos, Willie K.

Springfield

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Samella Ger-

many

PUBLIC LIBRARY: David Sylvester

Dauncey, David P. McClain, Edna J.

Moreland, Elinor A. Osman

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CBEEP:

A PARTNERSHIP BASED IN COMMUNITY SERVICE

One of President Kennedy's legacies is the establishment of the Peace Corps. In a campaign speech delivered in 1960 at the University of Michigan, Kennedy challenged the students to give two years of their lives to help people in countries of the developing world. What he wanted to foster in the minds of his listeners was the idea of commitment to service.

On a smaller scale, a similar project has been established in Los Angeles County called the Community-Based Enterprise Education Internship Program (CBEEP) under the auspices of the Department of Human Resources.

CBEEP, which began as a pilot project between Los Angeles County and California State University, Northridge (CSUN), offers students a meaningful work experience while gaining an understanding of the role of government in community life; strengthens the already existing relationship between these two public entities; and develops an awareness of community service.

The program was approved by the Board of Supervisors under a resolution brought in by Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky.

"This is a win-win situation for the students, for the university and for County taxpayers. These kids are gaining real-world experience in public service and earning credit toward graduation, while County government benefits from a bright, motivated and select pool of youthful talent," Yaroslavsky said.

CSUN President Blenda Wilson

agrees wholeheartedly with Yaroslavsky. Wilson envisions the university to "be a leader in enhancing the educational, cultural and economic resources of our region." The establishment of CBEEP is one of the vehicles to reach this goal.

CBEEP, whose concept was developed over the past year, is a joint effort that brings together the talent and resources of Los Angeles County and CSUN together.

There are currently 24 CSUN students participating in this pilot program which has been dubbed a "national showcase." They are working as interns in various County departments such as the Public Library, Coroner and Board of Supervisors.

One of them is urban studies major Tom Hill, who works with the Commission Services

Division of the Board of Supervisors. Hill's primary goal is to assist in the development of a survey pertaining to health issues of the County's female employees.

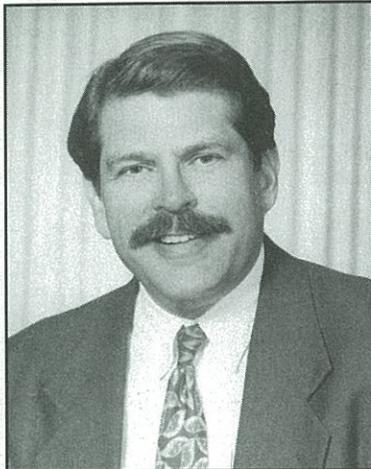
"I participated in CBEEP because there was an opportunity to work for the Board of Supervisors," Hill said. The survey on domestic violence "is the type of ground breaking project that interests me. Women's health issues are finally getting the attention they deserve and I want to be a part of that change."

Hill was one of the many students who attended "A Different Kind of County Fair" last November where a majority of County departments were present to interview prospective student interns. Another fair is scheduled on April 21, 1997 at CSUN.

With the need for boosting the future career prospects of students, the

program is being extended to include other colleges and universities in Los Angeles County.

If your department needs more information on CBEEP, please contact Ann Gomez with the Department of Human Resources at (213) 974-1767.



SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY, A STRONG ADVOCATE FOR COMMUNITY-BASED PARTNERSHIPS.

**DON'T MISS THIS...
LIFE-SAVING JOB OPPORTUNITY**



With less than three months before Fire Prevention Month, the Department of Human Resources (DHR) is pleased to announce that applications for Los Angeles County Fire Fighter Trainee have been available since Feb. 14 until April 12, 1997. Application forms can be obtained from the DHR Employment Information Services office in Commerce and from any of the one hundred thirty-nine Los Angeles County fire stations between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

For individuals outside Los Angeles County, application forms can be obtained through telephone requests. The County, however, is not responsible for nor can it guarantee receipt of mailed bulletins and application forms.

SEE "FIRE," NEXT PAGE

RETIREES

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO)

PUBLIC WORKS: Emmitt Coleman, Jerry R. Jonnum, Peter T. Kostos, Grant M. Lawseth, Lawyer Newton, Lynn D. Nicholson, Charles W. Peters, Robert W. Reader, Barbara J. Simmons, Harry V. Sirk, Robert P. Stein, Bert K. Sugimura, Peter M. Wood, Virginia A. Cobar, Juan J. Delgadillo, Otto H. Meddy

REGIONAL PLANNING: Richard Anderson, Geoffrey Taylor

SHERIFF: Gerald A. Boswell, Louis J. Diot, Jr., John G. Elliott, Jr., George T. Grasser, Larry Holden, Marcus C. Kourtjian, Ralph M. Le Sieur, Rudolph J. Lovio, Chester W. Newman, Teddy K. Pendergrass, Michael T. Reardon, Jack D. Roth, John J. Scully, Norman D. Burris, Mary A. Nix, William R. Gaynor, Marvin G. Tegtmeier, James Valdez, Robert L. Westphal, Douglas L. Beeton, Marian J. Edwards

SUPERIOR COURT: Harriette M. Colgrove, Sylvia J. Crisp, Robert J. Shepard, Carolyn F. Lampkin

Congratulations to the following employees who are retiring after serving the County for more than 25 years:

ASSESSOR: Rita Schwartz

CHILDREN'S SERVICES: Nancy P. Jones, Ruth T. Payne, Caroline L. Vassallo, Beverly S. Sloane

COMMUNITY AND SENIOR SERVICES: Iris Johnson, Eileen A. Wossner
CORONER: Antonio Lorca, George B. White

FIRE: Wayne J. Brooks, William H. Cyrus, Stephen E. Hudson, Eugene V. McCarthy, Thomas C. Rollo, Robert L. Berryman, Frederick C. Boehm, Oscar G. Gomez

HEALTH SERVICES: Evelyn L. Edwards, Guadalupe Garcia, Erma L. Glover, Lewis Hansborough, Roger Johnson, June Lloyd, Eugene Medrano, Ollie M. St. Amant, Gloria J. Wilson, Ruth H. Zepeda, Fe D. Ero, Mary L. Rodarte

INTERNAL SERVICES: Billy R. Johnson

MENTAL HEALTH: Carole Poston

PARKS AND RECREATION: John C. Kaiban, Jr.

PROBATION: Patricia B. Barber, Daniel C. Brantley, Wha S. Kang, Juanita Reed, Robert B. Bellusci

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Robert J. Levy
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Mary Anderson-Gri, Stephen E. Kabak, Joan Silver, Thomas W. Vonah, Leone G. Williams, Joan L. O'Keefe, Cozette A. Cowens

PUBLIC WORKS: Fawzy W. Habib, Rita M. Zechowy, John Goit

SHERIFF: Jerry L. Baker, Alberto M. Dominguez, Kenneth D. Dool, Michael J. Langgle, Ralph C. Owens, Jr., Galen O. Sabean, Henry N. Sasahara, Jr., Robin G. Sawyer, David F. Sloan, Roberto Thome, Arvie L. Sherman, Liova W. Anderson, Hugh E. Moore, Stephen L. Huss, Melquiades Ortiz

SUPERIOR COURT: Bernice Cumming, Dolores Mraz

TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR: Janet M. Willis

FIRE

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Completed applications will be accepted **only in person** between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. beginning April 10 through 12 **only** at the following locations:

Department of Human Resources
1436 Goodrich Boulevard
Commerce

Whiteman Airport
12653 Osborne Street
Pacoima

Fire Department North County
42110 6th Street West
Lancaster

Athens Park
12603 South Broadway
Los Angeles

SanPedro Skills Center
920 West 36th Street, Building 922
SanPedro

Fire Department East County
3325 Temple Avenue
Pomona

If you have any questions or would like more information, call Nick Apeles at (213) 887-6382 or (213) 887-6356 TTY

SEND US...

YOUR COMMENTS, STORY IDEAS OR QUESTIONS!

Contact us by phone: (213) 974-1765
fax: (213) 621-0387
Attn: *County Digest*
mail: *County Digest*
Department of Human Resources
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 375
Los Angeles, California 90012



Due to space considerations, we cannot guarantee publication of submitted articles.



Members of the Board

Zev Yaroslavsky
Chairman
Third District

Gloria Molina
First District

Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
Second District

Don Knabe
Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District

Michael J. Henry
Director of Personnel

Sandra A. Hoodye
Community Liaison/Ombudsman

John S. Mina
Staff