

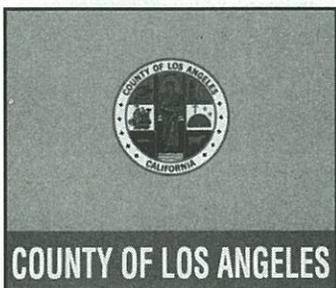
# County DIGEST



NOVEMBER 1997

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## *In Remembrance, With Love*



*Flag*

He was a man beyond measure whose vision and unwavering dedication to public service distinguished him as a leader of unparalleled achievements.

Freeway call boxes, the life-saving Paramedic Program, public transportation improvements, bringing the Brooklyn Dodgers to Los Angeles and building the Martin Luther King, Jr. General Hospital are but a small part of the extraordinary legacy of his life.

He was a man of perseverance and commitment who constantly pushed and encouraged others to push the limits of excellence, always striving to make life richer, fuller and better for the people he served.

He was a man of grace and integrity who knew only how to speak the truth and, in doing so, never wavered in his defense of what was right or in opposing that which was wrong, regardless of what others said or did. Such were his principles.

He was a man who walked tall in his faith, embodying his Christian beliefs and teaching others through example the joy that he knew from helping others.

He was a man of genuine humility who understood that true success is not measured by material wealth - although he could easily have had his share - but more so by the richness of lasting friendships, the satisfaction of a job well done and respect, both given and received.

He was a man of uncompromising devotion who, as an adoring husband, doting father and grandfather and loyal friend gave freely of himself and the inexhaustible hope, encouragement and love that came to be synonymous with his name.

He was a King among men whose inimitable legacy of public service has immortalized him in our hearts and minds, forever reminding us of all that is good and all that is possible in life.

He was Los Angeles County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.



*Seal*



*Los Angeles Dodgers*



*Proposition A*



*Freeway Call Boxes*



*Paramedic Program*

*Supervisor Kenneth Hahn*  
*August 19, 1920 - October 12, 1997*

# *A Drum Major For Justice, Peace & Love*

"He had such a fun time being a supervisor. He would have paid them to do the job. Everytime the Blue Line whooshes by, that's my dad blowing the horn."

- **City Atty. James Hahn, Supervisor Hahn's son**

"The door to his office was the door to his heart. His office was portable. It was wherever people were hurting. He was healing."

- **The Rev. Cecil L. (Chip) Murray, pastor of First AME Church**

"The initiatives and the programs he conceived and implemented to improve the quality of life for people made him a legend in his own time."

- **Former Mayor Tom Bradley, in a statement**

"Oh, Lord, another soldier, another good soldier, going home."

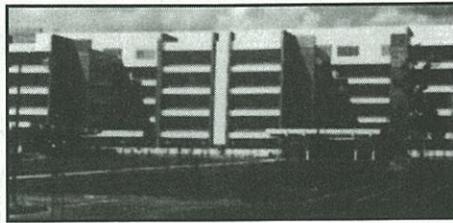
- **"Sweet Alice" Harris, 40-year community activist and head of Parents of Watts**

"I will miss his wisdom, dedication and unfailing compassion. We have all lost a true friend."

- **Los Angeles County Sheriff Sherman Block**

"Each morning he drove a different route to work looking for potholes and broken street lights. He noted the ones he found on a tape recorder. Every morning those cassette tapes were given to the secretary. We (the deputies) had to give him a report within 24-hours on each problem found with the words that said 'done,' 'taken care of,' or 'handled.'"

- **Carmen Perez, Supervisor Hahn's former assistant chief deputy**



*Martin Luther King, Jr. General Hospital*

"Kenny Hahn understood and lived his life in a way so as to manifest the truth that we are one. He blazed a trail for others to follow. He looked past race and he saw within. We ought to look at the life and service of Kenneth Hahn as an example to emulate."

- **Vice President Al Gore**



*Supervisor Hahn with Martin Luther King, Jr.*

"He cared for the small people, for the underdog. He always, always fought very hard for them."

- **Mas Fukai, Supervisor Hahn's chief deputy for about 10 years and a Gardena City Councilman**



*Supervisor Hahn at the dedication of the Roy Campanella Park*

"He was a great man and he was a great father. And I was always so proud to be his daughter."

- **Janice Hahn, Supervisor Hahn's daughter and a member of the Los Angeles City Charter Commission**

"Kenny never took himself too seriously, but his responsibility to his community he took very seriously."

- **Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, who replaced Hahn upon his retirement and is serving her second term**

"We all learn from the people who precede us and I learned a great deal from Kenny Hahn. I have memories of Kenny calling up and saying 'I need \$500 million for Martin Luther King, Jr. Hospital. Just a little favor for me.'"

- **Lt. Gov. Gray Davis**

"When I first ran for office, I walked around Kenny Hahn's district knocking on doors. One senior citizen said, 'I'm going to vote for you because I think you're going to be a Kenny Hahn type of public official.' I know exactly what she wanted. She wanted me to be a defender of the poor and powerless."

- **U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters**

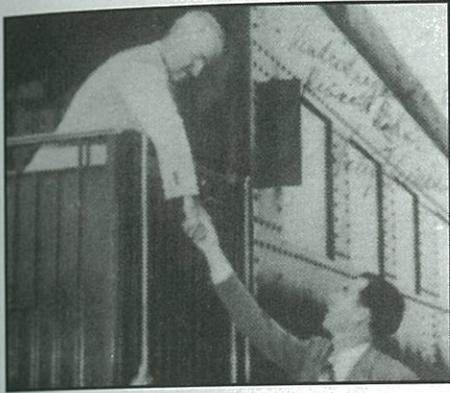
"We lost a hero. When they made him, they threw the pattern away."

- **Hermione Roberts, 2nd District resident**

"He befriended me and introduced me to key members of his community. His warmth and openness to me will never be forgotten."

- **Sen. Dianne Feinstein**

# *He Was Known By Ten Presidents*



*Harry Truman*



*Dwight Eisenhower*



*John Kennedy*



*Lyndon Johnson*



*Richard Nixon*



*Gerald Ford*



*Jimmy Carter*



*Ronald Reagan*



*George Bush*



*Bill Clinton*

# November 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:

**FIRE:** Peter Casamassima, Daniel J. Shea, Michael D. Carrick, Charles R. Kaveney, Robert E. Kinsey, Dennis M. Martin, Gerald C. Nolls

**HEALTH SERVICES:** Ellen S. Diaz, Fred Faggins, Jr., Fred Gadson, Isaac Mitchell, Jr., Louis Skepper

**MUNICIPAL COURTS:** Peggy E. Brooks

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** Santiago C. Campos

**PROBATION:** Will R. Harrell

**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Margaret Z. Gilmer, Amanda Metoyer

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Bennie C. Henderson, Stanley A. Krok, Bill W. Thompson

**SHERIFF:** Ronald L. Anderson, Jonathan E. Burt, Kenneth L. Pettus, Raymond B. Davis, Evelyn Forbes

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

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES:** Barbara L. Robinson

**FIRE:** Dyrck C. McClellan

**HEALTH SERVICES:** Gloria N. Arellaga, Jose L. Ballesteros, Leslie E. Bell, Bernadine Bergman, Lisa M. Calvillo, Juan Dominguez, William Hill, Fannie G. Smith, Mamie B. Smith, Susanne B. Thomas, Daisy E. Traylor

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** Francisco Lozano

**PROBATION:** Alice M. Harvey, Christopher Overfield

**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Barbara I. Allen, Claire L. Houston, William K. Johnston, Lydia Tiblow, Juliet Hanzy

**SHERIFF:** Howard S. Ahrendt, James L. Erwin, Carole A. Freeman, William L. Hardey, Richard L. Love, Pat Malone, Richard G. Baker, Jr., Ernest Cobarrubias

**SUPERIOR COURTS:** Charlene Castle

## Daniel A. Elias Supervising the GEARs in Life

With only four years to his credit, the program's selection committee voted for Daniel A. Elias as the County Employee of the Month because of his contributions to the Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) program.

Elias has been part of the GAIN program five years prior to becoming a County employee and before the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) assumed the responsibility for the program's Line Operations.

"Education and training were the focus of the program before DPSS became involved," Elias said. "Now, employment is the program's emphasis."

Elias, a GAIN Services Supervisor with the Bureau of Special Operation/GAIN Division of DPSS, plans, assigns, supervises and evaluates the work of a unit of GAIN Services Workers (GSW). His duties include monitoring face-to-face contacts, reviewing participant records and representing the region in both internal and external meetings.

His most significant contribution, nonetheless, revolves around improvements within the computer system used by the GAIN staff.

The GAIN Employment Activity and Reporting System (GEARS) is a mainframe computer used to maintain Aid to Families with Dependent Children participant information while in a GAIN activity. As chair of the GEARS Liaison Committee, Elias has introduced and/or implemented improvements such as the automation of notices of action to the participant regarding transportation and child care; securing authorization at the office level to perform database corrections thereby expediting the participants' case in order for them to participate in the GAIN program; and developing a training program for GSWs with a more "hands-on" practice on the computer.

The most recent change allowed staff at the regional level to update the children of the participants in the computer system.

GSWs can now process a child care invoice request without waiting for the department's computer services unit. As a result, a more efficient processing of a participants' case allows them to enter employment sooner.

Elias continues to be motivated to improve and/or change the system. He sees the improvements within the GAIN computer system as his greatest achievement because he was responsible for that change from the very beginning.

Elias actively participates in on-the-job functions be it as a barbecue chef for division picnics or regional celebrations such as Black History Month and Cinco de Mayo.

Elias has a B.A. in Business Administration from Arizona State University. He is an active member of St. Patrick Catholic Church and the Hispanic Managers Association. In his leisure time, he enjoys playing the saxophone, fishing, biking, dancing and hiking the native terrain of California.



### 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  
Ombudsman/Community Liaison

John S. Mina  
Staff