

# County DIGEST



FEBRUARY 1999

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## Census 2000 Complete Count Program

Federal, County and civic leaders convened on the Mall of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration to launch Los Angeles County's Census 2000 Complete Count Program on January 29. The kick-off event is the first step in encouraging all County residents to participate in the 2000 Census and to promote the importance and confidentiality of the Census process.

Don Knabe, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, was joined by Supervisor Gloria Molina, Congresswomen Lucille Roybal-Allard and Juanita Millender-McDonald and U.S. Census Bureau Associate Director for Field Operations Marvin Raines to name a few.

"The bottom line is that we do all we can to make sure that there is a complete and accurate 2000 Census count for Los Angeles County," Knabe said.

In recognition of the significant impact that the federal census has on County finances and political representation, the Board created a Census 2000 Complete Count Committee with representatives from key County Departments which interact with thousands of County residents on a daily basis.

"The County stands to lose tens of millions of federal and state dollars if there is a significant undercount, as occurred in the 1990 Census," Committee

continue to lose federal funds.

"Our responsibility now is to develop an aggressive and effective strategy to ensure that everyone is counted in Los Angeles County," Molina said.

The County's Complete Count Program will promote and facilitate the accuracy of the Census 2000 Count through an aggressive, targeted community-based outreach and media relations campaign to encourage participation by and partnership with all of the diverse residents of Los Angeles County.

The Program's aggressive approach to an accurate population count ensures that all County residents receive an equal level of

governmental and legislative representation. The Program has teamed up with community organizations in targeted areas such as the Asian-American, Hispanic, African-American and homeless communities due to the high level of undercounting associated with these groups in the 1990 Census. The goal is to guarantee that all County residents receive the maximum allowable benefit in future funding for



**Supervisor Don Knabe speaks at the kick-off event to launch Los Angeles County's Census 2000 Complete Count Program. On the foreground are Monsignor Richard Loomis representing the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and Supervisor Gloria Molina.**

Chair Conny McCormack said. "It is estimated that approximately \$120 million in funding was diverted from the County over the last 10 years based on the 1990 undercount figures."

The County relies on an accurate count of the Census for equitable distribution of federal funds to state and local governments for housing, education, health, transportation and other vital programs. Due to a perpetual undercount, the State of California continues to be underrepresented in Congress and the State and County

see Census on page three



# Calendar of Events

The Arboretum of Los Angeles County  
(626) 821-3222

***Backyard Composting Workshop***

March 13, 1999  
10:00 a.m. to 12 noon

***Environmental Education Fair***

March 13, 1999  
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

***Japanese Flower Arrangement Show***

March 20, 1999  
12 noon to 4:30 p.m.  
March 21, 1999  
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County  
(213) 763-DINO  
www.nhm.org

***Pavilion of Wings***

May 2 through September 5, 1999

***13th Annual Insect Fair***

May 15 and 16, 1999

***Beauty & The Bugs: Butterflies and Other Insects***

May 29 through September 5, 1999

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art  
(323) 857-6000  
www.lacma.org

***Van Gogh's Van Goghs: Masterpieces from the Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam***  
extended through May 16, 1999

***Edward Weston: Photography and Modernism***

February 11 through May 3, 1999

***Letters in Gold: Ottoman Calligraphy from the Sakip Sabanci Collection, Istanbul***

February 25 through May 17, 1999

## February 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:

**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/WEIGHTS & MEASURES:** William H. Myers

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE:** Lea A. Mitchum

**CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES:** Brian H. Berger, Victoria V. Calderon, Rita Hjelm, Paul M. Kramer

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** Andres Mucino, Mario M. Uribe, Jr., David R. Disco, Louis A. Grenier III, Richard L. Jenkins, Thomas Trapp

**FIRE:** Richard S. Land, Robert J. Neill, Jeremiah O'Donnell, Dennis W. Phillips, Roger W. Reding, Roger P. Sorenson, Laurence P. Wild, Michael L. Glosson, Bradley C. Hall, Gerald A. Himango, Barry C. Curtis, Mike Ferragamo

**HEALTH SERVICES:** Mary Blackburn, Alice A. Briggs, Joe Brown, Jennie L. Cade, Catherine V. Cousin, Velma Edwards, Gilbert C. Greene, Kathleen T. Hunt, Helen W. Lacy, Edna Landry, Milton Metcalf, Ona Tate, Corria J. Williams

**INTERNAL SERVICES:** Ernest L. Barrera, Thomas E. Brown, Luis C. Martinez, Howard N. Takata, Walterine Oliver

**MENTAL HEALTH:** Eugene Chatman

**PARKS & RECREATION:** Eugene Johnson, Lawrence E. McKinney, David A. Pardo

**PROBATION:** Lorelei Blitstein, Alfred D. Hightower, Stephen Hubert, Jerry Wright, Patricia L. Gibbens

**PUBLIC DEFENDER:** Steven H. Hough

**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Carole A. Carbone

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Robert G. Ames, Ronald L. Curtis, Phyllis Graff, Mary K. Lanigan, Daniel D. Marrufo, David W. Poppler, Masakiyo Watanabe

**SHERIFF:** Robert J. Acosta, Alden C. Barnett, Daniel R. Castillo, Alan L. Chancellor, Richard P. Clark, Ella L. Cooks, Randall E. Hedges, Barry S. King, Roger E. Moller, Grant H. Moltmann, Gail K. Persinger, Lenora J. Raia, Miguel R. Reyes, Michael L. Stine, William L. Webb, Kennedy G. Westfall, Jr., Jerry M. Wolf, Helen Belk, William C. Coffey, Gary W. Ferguson, Eddie F. Harris, Jr., Jo Ann Horne

**SUPERIOR COURTS:** Henreen Nunley, Sara L. Sproul

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

**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/WEIGHTS & MEASURES:** Timothy M. Pietz

**AUDITOR-CONTROLLER:** Carl M. Fish  
**CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES:** Fred L. Everette, Kay W. Jones, Rossie Stewart, Vivian G. Wiggins

**COMMUNITY & SENIOR SERVICES:** Jackie Jackson

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** Rolando Dulla

**FIRE:** Elvin J. Hammer, Edwin E. Laselle, Kenneth D. Brown, Ralph S. Campbell, Rose A. Frangione, Paul T. Secor

**HEALTH SERVICES:** Rowena M. Diancin, Billie J. Holloway, Lajoyce V. Johnson, Araceli V. Magpantay, Teresa R. McArthur, Linda Santos, Beverly Stengel, Willie Streeter, Jorge L. Tinoco, Juanita G. Vitug, Mable L. Williams, Charles J. Von Nordheim

**MUNICIPAL COURTS:** Mark S. Arnold

Suzanne M. Meigs  
**PARKS & RECREATION:** Thomas L. Brooks, Jr.

**PROBATION:** Jean Williams

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** James M. Drabos

**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Marjorie J. Crist, Rosemarie King

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Brian Hitchman

**REGIONAL PLANNING:** Norma F. Shanks

**SHERIFF:** Ronald M. Lummer, William H. Martin, Karen L. McKenzie, Michael D. Murphy, Walter C. Schiller, David E. Stothers, Howard J. Waldvogel, Barbara J. Parkhurst, Ernesto M. Arredondo, Albert A. Phenicie, Jr., Almond E. Pulliam,

**SUPERIOR COURTS:** Verlee Ferrell



## Donald Owens

### *Going Above and Beyond the Call of Duty*

There seems to be more camaraderie among those who work in the Firestone area office of the Probation Department. Probationers and staff work closely together. This change of attitude is due partly to the efforts of one man -- Donald Owens.

Owens, a Deputy Probation Officer II (Field), has been working tirelessly to make a difference in the community that is deemed "disadvantaged."

His efforts, though, have not gone unnoticed. He was recently presented with the January 1999 County Employee of the Month award by Don Knabe, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

The seven-year County employee supervises a High Risk Offender caseload and approximately 240 Adult Hardcore Probationers, enforcing the terms and conditions of probation as ordered by the court. He holds a B.A. in Communications from San Francisco State University.

Owens' dedication to his duties, the department he belongs to, and the probationers he supervises is evident in the many letters of appreciation and commendation that have landed on his desk. To further illustrate his genuine commitment, management, staff and probationers have sought out his advice.

"You have choices to make in life," Owens says to his probationers. "You either choose to fail or succeed."

On a weekly basis, he compiles job information from local dailies which he distributes to fellow deputies for use with their probationers. For instance, he has

been successful in placing qualified probationers with Paramount Juice Company. In addition to supervising General Relief Workers in the office, he has assisted them in seeking employment.

Given the nature of probation work, Owens spearheaded a mural project



which depicts an underwater sea theme located in the main hallway of the office which has served as a calming factor for both staff and probationers. He has also been instrumental in assisting Reserve Deputy Probation Officers and Student Workers to work harmoniously and productively together. In most cases, their willingness to work and the quality of their performance depend

on how they are received and supervised.

"Don't lose sight of our mission," he tells fellow deputy probation officers. "We are to look out for the safety of the community."

To further uplift the spirit of the community, he assisted in the development of a community garden at Fremont High School in South Central Los Angeles. A portion of the high school is on its way to becoming not just a garden but a haven of refuge where students, senior citizens and the community can work alongside and discuss the day's current events.

Aside from a fulfilling professional career, Owens finds pride in his personal life's achievements -- his children.

"Seeing them graduate from high school and into college and watching them mature with a sense of purpose and professional direction gives me the greatest satisfaction."

**County  
DIGEST**

Dept. of Human Resources  
500 W. Temple Street, Rm. 375  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 974-1765  
(213) 613-4789 FAX

[hr.co.la.ca.us](http://hr.co.la.ca.us)

## Census

*continued from page one*

public service needs and to spur economic growth in Los Angeles County through the next decade.

"Los Angeles County faces many unique challenges to securing a complete count," Knabe said. "We need to get the word out to our large immigrant population that there is nothing to fear from census workers."

The Census will also result in creating employment opportunities for the residents of the County. The Department of Public Social Services will provide the Census Bureau with qualified welfare recipients seeking to enter the workplace through the GAIN program.

"By hiring GAIN participants to help in the Census, we will be making a statement to the private sector that these workers are competent and well-trained," Molina said. "I want to make it clear that the County is ready to work through the Census 2000 Complete Count Program and the U.S. Bureau of Census every step of the way to ensure a complete count for 2000."

For more information on the Census 2000 Outreach Program, please contact Christopher Foley at (562) 462-2729.



## Telemarketers

### What You Should Do

After a long day at work, all you want to do is eat dinner and enjoy the comforts of your home. As you make your way to the dining table, suddenly the phone rings. You hope it to be a call from either your best friend or a family member bearing good news you have been waiting for. Unfortunately, on the other line is a telemarketer trying to sell you a product or persuade you to make a donation to their charity. What should you do? Here's a helpful message from the Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Consumer Affairs, Pastor Herrera, Jr.

Most telemarketers are part of the Direct Marketing Association (DMA) which has member companies from the U.S. and 49 other nations. Its members include marketers from consumer and business-to-business segments and include catalogers, financial services, computer sellers, book and magazine publishers and retail stores that rely on the telephone as a marketing tool.

First, any company calling you can only call between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. They are also required to tell you that it is a sales call and what they are selling before they even begin with their sales pitch.

If a consumer tells the telemarketer they do not want to be bothered anymore, then by law they must not make any future calls to you. The Federal Trade Commission enforces this regulation. If this does not work, then the consumer needs to contact the DMA in writing. Be sure to include your name, address and phone number and ask to be removed from their national solicitation lists. The address is: DMA Telephone Preferences Service, P.O. Box 9014, Farmingdale, NY 11735-9014. You can also visit their Web site at: [www.the-dma.org](http://www.the-dma.org)

For more information and other consumer affairs inquiries, call the Department of Consumer Affairs' general information line at (213) 974-1452 or visit their Web site at [consumer-affairs.co.la.ca.us](http://consumer-affairs.co.la.ca.us)

## Usable Discards

### How to Put Them to Good Use

Are you experiencing space limitations due to excessive items no longer in use? Do you need more space to move around? The answer is just a click away.

By visiting the Web site of the County's Department of Public Works at [dpw.co.la.ca.us/epd/lacomax](http://dpw.co.la.ca.us/epd/lacomax), businesses and residents with reusable items such as computers, building materials or furniture can post them on the site rather than discarding them. Anyone can sell or donate reusable items either by visiting the site or by calling (888) CLEANLA.

Examples of currently listed items are clean plastic buckets, stereos, VCRs and calculators. Schools, small businesses, nonprofit organizations and private individuals with the intention of purchasing such items should check out the Web site and take advantage of the free or low-cost materials.

Hazardous waste products, autos, food, guns, ammunition and other explosive materials are excluded.

The free service is part of the Department's effort to cut the amount of waste going into landfills. A State law passed in 1989 requires a 50 percent reduction by the year 2000.

For more information, call Kelly Groeneveld at (626) 458-2196.

## Beach Advisory

### Even on a Rainy Day

The rainy season has not dampened the spirits of children and adults alike to frolic in the majestic ocean waters of Los Angeles County. Caution though is needed to prevent fun-loving beach dwellers from contacting bacteria and other water pollutants.

The County's Department of Health Services is now offering beachgoers a 24-hour information service on the condition of ocean waters. A call to **1-800-525-5662** will provide the latest on beach closures and rainfall advisories. Environmental Health officials will update the recorded messages as conditions change.

When a sewage spill occurs making the levels of bacteria exceed State standards, health officials close sections of beaches. They also issue advisories to avoid contact with areas around storm drains which might be discharging during and after a rain.

Callers will hear telephone numbers to call to report emergencies and to answer specific questions.



#### Members of the Board

**Don Knabe**  
Chairman  
Fourth District

**Gloria Molina**  
First District

**Yvonne Brathwaite Burke**  
Second District

**Zev Yaroslavsky**  
Third District

**Michael D. Antonovich**  
Fifth District

**Michael J. Henry**  
Director of Personnel

**Sandra A. Hoodye**  
Ombudsman/Community Liaison

**John S. Mina**  
Staff

