County DIGEST

JULY 2000 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

East Los Angeles Shuttle Launched

Supervisor Gloria Molina, Department of Public Works Director Harry Stone, and East Los Angeles residents.

Board of Supervisors Chair Gloria Molina has made getting around town easier in East Los Angeles. Molina, along with local residents, launched the new East Los Angeles Shuttle, a first-ever community shuttle in the unincorporated County, last month from the East Los Angeles Civic Center. In celebration of the East Los Angeles Shuttle, Molina joined residents on the inaugural ride from the festivities at the East Los Angeles Civic Center to festivities at the Commerce Shopping Center (two of the 127 total shuttle stops).

"I am happy to see this project become a reality. Our goal has been to complement existing transit services by increasing mobility in the area," said Molina. "Now there will be better accessibility to local East Los Angeles key locations."

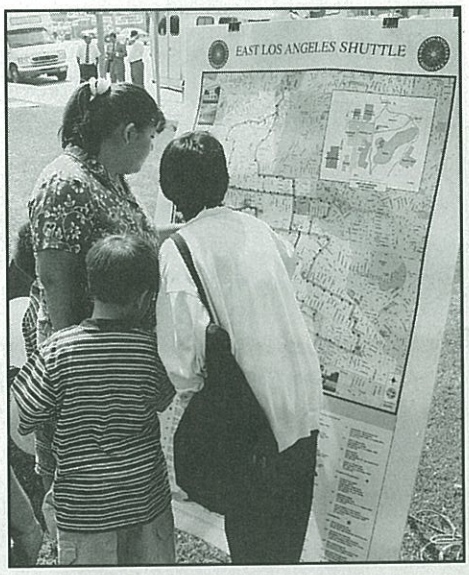
Touting a low fare of 25 cents, the East Los Angeles Shuttle is free to seniors, individuals with disabilities, and children under five. MTA passes and transfers are accepted as fare.

With three separate routes (serving the City Terrace, Saybrook Park, and Union Pacific/SalazarPark communities), this shuttle service is uniquely designed to pass through residential areas providing easier access to all area elementary and middle schools, as well as County parks, libraries, social service agencies, post offices, East Los Angeles College, Whittier Boulevard Shopping District, and the Commerce Shopping Center.

All three routes connect at the East Los Angeles Civic Center, site of the proposed future Eastside Lightrail project. The proposed lightrail will link East Los Angeles residents to all subway and lightrail lines.

Shuttle service also provides links to the Edmund D. Edelman's Children's Court Shuttle; California State University, Los Angeles; the express busway and Metrolink Station; Los Angeles Department of Transportation Dash Service in City Terrace; and LAC+USC Medical Center.

"I have lived in East Los Angeles since 1960, and I am very happy that this service is now available here," said Glafira Robles.



The $1.75 million project, funded by First Supervisorial District Proposition A Local Return Funds and Fare Box Revenues, will serve the more than 150,000 residents in the East Los Angeles County area.

see Shuttle on back page

Calendar of Events

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

Art classes for children and adults
Contact the education department for dates and times

"Martin Johnson Heade"
Through August 13, 2000

Edward Ruscha: Editions 1959-1999
Through August 27, 2000

Color and Fire: Defining Moments in Studio Ceramics, 1950-2000. From the Smits Collection and Related Works
Through September 17, 2000

Modern Masters of Kyoto: Nihonga from the Griffith and Patricia Way Collection
Through August 1, 2000

A Bold Aesthetic: Textile Arts of Central Asia
Through July 31, 2000

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

Murder in the Garden
August 10, 2000

David Rogers' Big Bugs
August 14, 2000 through November 30, 2000

Inside View of the Sunset Gardens
August 24, 2000

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

Pavilion of Wings
Through September 4, 2000

The Bahia: World's Largest Cut Gemstone Sculpture
Through September 4, 2000

Savage Ancient Seas
Through October 9, 2000

Adventures in Nature
Through August 18, 2000
For ages 3 to 13

Autry Museum of Western Heritage
(323) 667-2000 extension 329
www.autry-museum.org

On Gold Mountain: A Chinese American Experience
July 23, 2000 through October 29, 2000

Noontime Parenting Training Seminars
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles
Conference Room 743
(213) 974-2313

Getting Ready for Preschool: Things you should know before entering your child in preschool
July 26, 2000
11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Transitioning from Kindergarten to First Grade: What to expect from you and your child
August 23, 2000
11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Skirball Cultural Center
(310) 440-4500
www.skirball.org

Sigmund Freud: Conflict and Culture
Through July 25, 2000

Adventures in Archaeology Summer Camp 2000
For ages 5 to13
Call for dates and times

"Genealogy Sundays"
August 6 & 20, 2000
Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Page Museum
(323) 934-PAGE
www.tarpits.org

Mammoths: Wild and Wooly
Through September 17, 2000

Adventures in Nature
July 31, 2000 through August 11, 2000
For ages 5 to 10

Petersen Automotive Museum
(323) 930-CARS
www.petersen.org.

Hollywood Star Cars: Great Cars of the Movies
Through September 24, 2000

Second Annual L.A.'s Largest Mixer
July 27, 2000
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Discovery Day: Movie Flip Books
August 5, 2000
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

John Anson Ford Amphitheatre
(323) 461-3673

Kidspace Children's Museum, San Francisco Mime Troupe and Pasadena Shakespeare Company: It's Good to be an Ant
July 29, 2000
10:00 a.m.
(Crafts activities start at 9:00 a.m.)

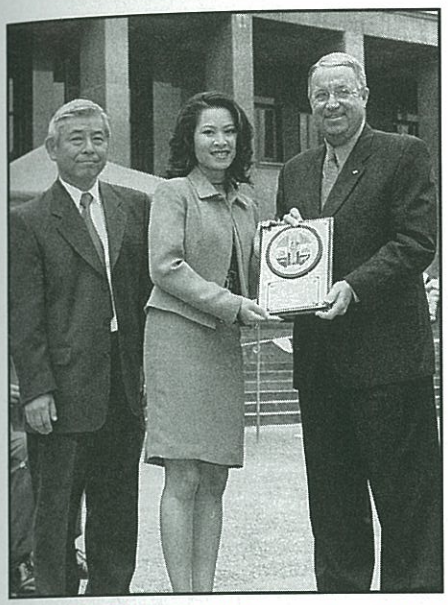
Winfred R. Harris' Between Lines: In Soul We Mate
July 29, 2000
8:00 p.m.

Agape International Choir: "Hear with the Heart"
July 30, 2000
7:30 p.m.

Simon Wiesenthal Center
Museum of Tolerance
(310) 553-8403
www.wiesenthal.com

The Port of Last Resort: Refuge in Shanghai
July 27, 2000
7:00 p.m.

Hundreds Join Supervisor Knabe for Celebration of Asian/Pacific Islander Heritage Day



(L to R) Shigeki Kikkawa, President of the Asian American Employees Association; Leyna Nguyen, Channel 9 Newscaster; Supervisor Don Knabe.

On May 23, 2000, with all the color of centuries-old cultural traditions, the mall area outside the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration was the focal point of the County's Asian/Pacific Islander Heritage Celebration festivities.

The lunchtime celebration included a Chinese dancing dragon performance led by a team of County department heads; entertainment by Chinese, Japanese, Filipino and Tongan dancers; music by Hiroshima; and the recognition of several Asian/Pacific Islander media, sports, community and entertainment personalities.

"This is a great opportunity for all of us to enjoy our cultural differences and similarities through a universal medium of expression: the Arts," Supervisor Knabe commented.

Knabe co-hosted the event along with the County's Asian American Employees Association and Asia America Online (A2OL.com).

In addition, he was the author of the Board motion proclaiming May "Asian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month" and handed-out County plaques to the following individuals:

Community Service Recipients

Katsumi Kunitsugu, Japanese American Cultural and Community Center; Tess Martin, Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of Los Angeles; Jae Chang Smith, Universal Studios; Rob Fukuzaki, Sports Commentator, Channel 7; Sharon Tay, News Anchor, Channel 5; Leyna Nguyen, News Anchor, Channel 9.

Athletic Recipients

Chan Ho Park, Los Angeles Dodgers; Onan Masaoka, Los Angeles Dodgers; Corey Nakatani, Jockey.

Performer Certificates

June Kuramoto, Hiroshima; Kimo Cornwell, Hiroshima.

Department Heads in Dragon Dance

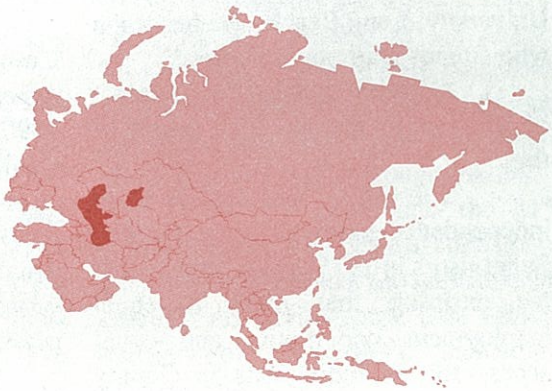
Stan Wisniewski, Director, Beaches and Harbors; Michael J. Henry, Director of Personnel; Harry W. Stone, Director, Public Works; Rick Auerbach, Assessor; Joan Ouderkirk, Director, Internal Services; Michael L. Galindo, Acting Auditor-Controller, Anthony T. Hernandez, Director, Coroner; Dr. Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran, Chief Medical Examiner/ Coroner.

Additional Performers

Cissy Zhang and Rebecca Wei, Chinese Sword Dancers; Percival Lehauli, Tongan Community Service Center; Los Angeles County Filipino American Employees Association Folk Dance Troupe; Randi Tahara, Japanese Ondo performer. Kevin Acebo served as Master of Ceremonies.

Department heads participate in Chinese Dragon Dance.

Tongan Community Center performers from the Fourth District.



Dennis A. Tafoya
Director, Office of Affirmative Action Compliance

Dennis A. Tafoya's County career began under the auspices of the Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) program as an Eligibility Worker with the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) in 1975. He became a DPSS trainer and facilitator two years later. While at DPSS, he served on the Office of Affirmative Action Compliance's (OAAC) American Indian Verification Review Panel. He transferred to the OAAC in 1984 and was appointed director in 1998.

Tafoya was born on the Santa Clara Pueblo Indian Reservation in northern New Mexico. In 1955, his family moved to Los Angeles as part of a Bureau of Indian Affairs program that sought to provide economic opportunities through the relocation of families from reservations to metropolitan areas. His father is a full-blooded Santa Clara Pueblo Indian, while his mother is from England.

In Los Angeles, Tafoya had the benefit and opportunity of growing up in two distinctive cultures. He went to non-Indian schools, and became an urban Indian on weekends—attending Indian pow-wows and social gatherings. Tafoya, who is very proud of his Indian background, continues to visit relatives on the reservation, a tradition that began shortly after relocating to Los Angeles. Tafoya has a bachelor's degree in Political Science and Public Administration from California State University, Long Beach. He has a son who attends Dartmouth College.

"I like to think that I'm a product of affirmative action. I'm proud of that."

The OAAC was created as an independent department by the Board of Supervisors in 1976, and is responsible for ensuring that there is equal employment opportunity and equal access for all individuals to County programs and services.

"I have a dedicated, knowledgeable, and hard working staff of 34 employees."

The OAAC investigates complaints of discrimination from employees and the general public. He feels the OAAC does an excellent job with the resources at their disposal.

"The human resource that we have is made up of people from many divergent backgrounds -- religious beliefs, life experiences, gender, racial backgrounds, sexual orientation, immigrant status, economic status, disability status, ideological and philosophical differences, and age. As a result, we have the best employees serving the people of Los Angeles County."

The OAAC oversees the County's compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. This represents a significant challenge for the County to ensure that all programs, services, and buildings are accessible to people with disabilities. Another responsibility of the OAAC is coordinating Countywide affirmative action programs.

"We're continuing affirmative action program efforts that reach out to all members of the community so that they have knowledge and awareness of our employment opportunities. The County still has work to do to ensure that all groups are represented in the workforce based on their availability, but overall we have made significant progress. We have done a much better job than any county in the State, or in the nation for that matter. Approximately 70 percent of our workforce are minorities, and nearly 60 percent are women. Our Board of Supervisors has historically been a leader in finding ways to ensure that women and minorities and all people have equal employment opportunities."

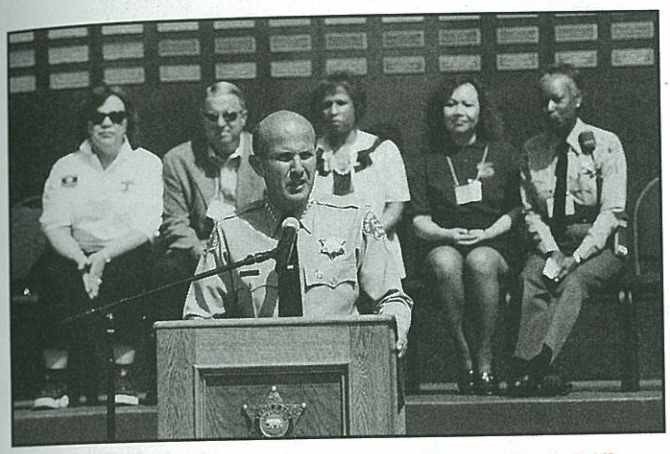
The OAAC works with other County departments in providing equal opportunity in contracting and outreach to minority and women-owned businesses. The County contracts out over $3 billion a year for goods and services, and has a Community Business Enterprise Program that strives to ensure that minority-owned and women-owned businesses have equal opportunity in participating in the County's contracting program. The OAAC monitors all County construction projects to confirm that contractors are abiding by equal employment opportunity laws. The OAAC has oversight and monitoring compliance responsibilities for the living wage program recently adopted by the Board. This program ensures that all Proposition A contractors pay their employees at least $9.46 an hour without medical insurance or $8.32 per hour with medical insurance.

The OAAC works collaboratively with all County departments in addressing employment discrimination issues, particularly sexual harassment. A good example of this is the Board approved Sheriff's Department Protocol, in which the OAAC and

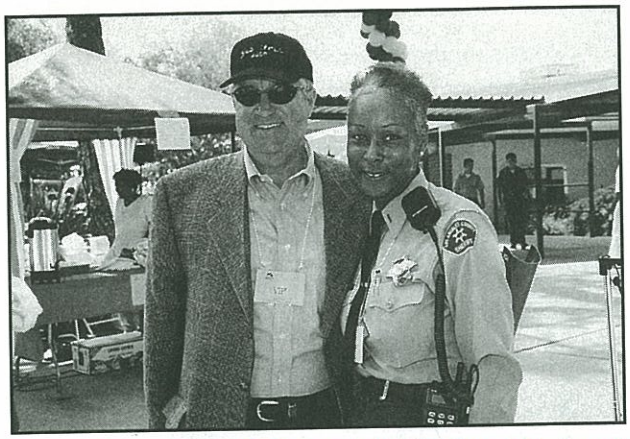
see Tafoya on page 5

Community Job Fair 2000

Community Job Fair 2000 was held at the Sheriff's Training Academy in Whittier on June 3, 2000. The Job Fair was sponsored by Supervisor Don Knabe, the Sheriff's Department, the Department of Human Resources, Community and Senior Services, and the Department of Public Social Services.



(L to R) Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer; Supervisor Don Knabe; Sheriff Lee Baca; E. Ann Francis, Community and Senior Services; Assistant Director Susan Toy Stern, Department of Human Resources; Lieutenant Janet Williams.



Supervisor Don Knabe and Lieutenant Janet Williams.

Tafoya

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County Counsel provide guidance and assistance to the Sheriff on investigating employment discrimination complaints. This preventative effort has helped resolve complaints and reduce the County's liability.

"I'd like to commend Sheriff Baca on making a commitment to ensure that the Sheriff's Department is up to speed on all these areas of non-discrimination. He's committed to valuing and appreciating diversity, equal opportunity for all people in his department, and addressing issues of underrepresentation."

In 1996, the Board of Supervisors adopted a policy on diversity. As a result, the OAAC developed a model diversity plan. Tafoya's goal is to have every County department implement a diversity program that uses a strategic approach for identifying and addressing diversity issues. Diversity is about educating employees to value and appreciate differences. The process involves surveying, training, and helping people to understand why they may have prejudicial feelings.

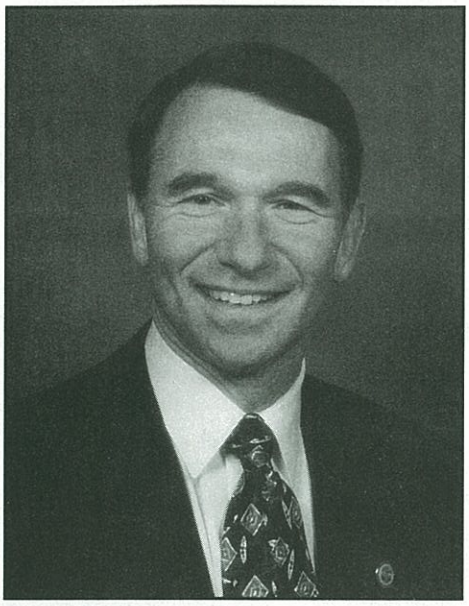
"The County has a 'zero tolerance' policy for those individuals who wish to act out on their bias' and prejudices."

Over the past two years, the OAAC has conducted more than 900 diversity training sessions for over 19,000 managers, supervisors, and employees. In addition, the office conducted 400 training sessions for some 10,000 managers and supervisors on sexual harassment prevention. The OAAC plans to shortly unveil an enhanced employment discrimination complaint process. This will ensure that the OAAC's rigorous standards of investigating complaints are met by County departments.

"Every employee in this County has a right to work in an environment that's free of discrimination and be respected as a human being. Every person who comes to our County for services also has a right to receive service with dignity and respect. Every employee and member of the public who feel that they have been subjected to discrimination can feel confident that my office will investigate their complaint in a timely and thorough manner."

"As we move into the 21st Century, we must continue to build upon the great work we have accomplished in creating an environment that values equality of opportunity, inclusion, fairness, and diversity."

Assessor Issues Alert to Property Owners and Renters



Assessor Rick Auerbach

Assessor Rick Auerbach reminds members of the public seeking financial benefits under the State Homeowner and Renter Assistance Program that they do not need to hire private firms to fill out and submit claims for assistance.

Responding to questions from homeowners about a mailing from a San Diego-based company offering to handle the claim procedure for a fee of $36, Auerbach stated, "Many elderly homeowners are receiving these official-looking solicitations which could easily be mistaken for government documents and which offer to 'expedite' the claim process for a fee. This is not a small amount to an elderly or disabled person on a fixed income."

"The forms in question are available over the Franchise Tax Board Internet site at www.ftb.ca.gov and also at the Assessor's public counters," Auerbach said. "Those calling a toll-free telephone number at (800) 338-0505 can also obtain information and order forms," he added. Speaking to an operator at that number will provide information about locations where State volunteers operate a program to help people submit assistance forms if arrangements are made by August 31, 2000.

Homeowners can receive up to $326 and renters are eligible for aid up to $240. State assistance is available to the elderly (62 years or older), blind or disabled homeowners (condominiums and mobile homes qualify) or renters (paying at least $50 per month) with a 1999 household income of $33,993 or less. Only one claim is allowed per household. Recipients must be United States citizens or persons with permission to work in the United States.

Pastor Herrera Jr., Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs, joined Auerbach in urging those receiving the mailing to review alternatives, adding that anyone concerned about misleading solicitations can call the department's toll-free Real Estate Fraud and Information Program at (800) 973-3370.

Be Wary of Overexposure to Damaging Ultraviolet Rays

As Angelenos prepare for the three hottest months of the year, Los Angeles County Health officials remind residents to protect themselves from the sun's damaging ultraviolet rays to prevent skin cancer.

Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer, affecting an estimated 800,000 people in the United States each year. This year, nearly a million new cases of skin cancer will be diagnosed and most will be caused by exposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays. The most serious form of the disease, malignant melanoma, will claim 7,700 lives this year. Overexposure to the sun also causes wrinkling and premature aging of the skin.

"Los Angeles County is well known for its wonderful beaches and warm climate, but to fully appreciate the environment we need to take precautions," said Antronette Yancey, M.D., M.P.H., County Director of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. "Overexposure to the sun, particularly among children, can increase a person's risk for skin cancer. It's critical that we all take steps to protect our health."

Ninety percent of all skin cancers can be cured if detected and treated early. Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer and the most preventable. Here are steps you can take to decrease your risk:

- Limit or avoid exposure to the sun between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., when the sun's rays are the strongest and most damaging.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and pants made of tightly woven fabric.
- Wear a wide-brimmed hat to shade your face, but don't forget the sunscreen. Reflected light will still reach you, so apply sunscreen too.

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Board of Supervisors Policy Manual

(L to R) Supervisors Michael D. Antonovich, Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair Gloria Molina, Don Knabe, and Zev Yaroslavsky.

A new, on-line Board Policy Manual made its first appearance on the County's Intranet Website (http://web.co.la.ca.us/lacounty). on June 30, 2000. At the request of David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer, the manual was compiled by a Task Force comprised of individuals from the Office of Affirmative Action Compliance, Auditor-Controller, Chief Administrative Office, Chief Information Office, County Counsel, Executive Office, Human Resources, Internal Services, and Treasurer and Tax Collector. Placing the manual on the County's Intranet Website was accomplished by the staff of the Internal Services Department and funded by the Information Technology Infrastructure Investment Fund.

The manual comprises a centralized source of brief, concise statements expressing Board of Supervisors policy with respect to administrative matters affecting all departments. Placing the manual on the County Intranet site will provide County departments, commissions and committees with instant access to Board policy directives that are currently unavailable except through extensive, time-consuming research of Board records. Availability on the Intranet will remove obstacles of access for personnel at all levels in the County organization that are able to access the Intranet through LAnet. This will ensure that County departments operate in accordance with the Board's expressed policies.

Policies included in the manual were either adopted by the Board or were prepared expressly at the Board's direction. The policies deal with matters relating to the administration of County departments, including issues of contracting and purchasing, information technology, personnel, fiscal and budget, and other administrative processes of the County.

The manual includes administrative policies adopted by the Board through May 1999. Policies adopted since that time will be added to the manual later this year.

Maintenance of the manual will be controlled by the staff of the Executive Office and policies will be written and revised by the central support departments named above. As part of a sunset review procedure, the Audit Committee will review and make recommendations to the Board regarding the extension, revision or repeal of the existing policy statements. The Audit Committee will also review Policy Manual statements relating to newly adopted Board policy to ensure that the manual statements conform to the Board's intent.

Ultraviolet

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- Stay in the shade when possible.
- Don't use sunlamps and tanning booths, which are just as harmful as sunlight.
- Even on cloudy days, use a sunscreen year-round anytime you will be in the sun for 20 minutes or longer.
- Choose sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of 15 or greater. SPF is an indicator of how long a person can stay in the sun before burning when using sunscreen. For example, if you use a sunscreen with an SPF 15, you can be in the sun 15 times longer before burning than you can without sunscreen. Sunscreen with an SPF over 30 contributes little additional benefit.
- Choose a sunscreen that protects against both UVA and UVB radiation.
- Use plenty of sunscreen--at least one ounce to completely cover your body--and be careful to cover all exposed areas. A missed spot can mean a painful sunburn.
- If you participate in outdoor sports, choose a water-resistant or waterproof sunscreen.
- People who are especially sensitive to the sun should choose a sun block containing titanium oxide or zinc oxide. New brands of sun block in fun colors are especially popular with young people.
- Reapply sunscreen after two hours or after sweating, swimming or toweling dry. Even waterproof sunscreens are effective for only 80 minutes of water exposure.
- Don't use sunscreen on children younger than six months. Young children dehydrate quickly and should not be exposed to the sun for long periods.
- Wear eyeglasses. Rays can damage your eyes.

For more information about protecting yourself from ultraviolet rays, visit the American Cancer Society Website at www.cancer.org.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH
Omega Gilbert
"My first reaction was one of disbelief."

Omega Gilbert, the June 2000 Employee of the Month, has worked for the County for 17 years and is currently a Clinic Nurse II with the Department of Health Services' Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. Gilbert is assigned to the Medical Center's Infusion Clinic where her primary assignment is administering chemotherapy to adult Oncology patients. She has a bachelor's degree in Nursing from the University of Oklahoma.

"What this award means to me is that I am one of many County employees who have been recognized for their excellence and commitment in their particular fields of expertise. My professional motto has been a quest for excellence in all areas of my professional practice."

Gilbert displays care and concern for those she serves. She uses outstanding clinical judgment to safeguard and deliver the highest level of care to her patients, encompassing their physical, psychological, emotional, and spiritual needs. Gilbert also knows what it is like to be on the receiving end of patient care. She was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1996 and underwent successful chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

"I was at work when I received notification of the award. My first reaction was one of disbelief that I was the one selected out of a field of many qualified County employees. I was overjoyed at having been selected. I immediately shared the wonderful news with my colleagues and patients. We were all ecstatic that a staff member from the Infusion Clinic had received such an outstanding honor."

She was instrumental in the establishment of the Infusion Clinic in 1987. Previously, chemotherapy and other infusions were administered in a designated area in Medicine Clinic A.

The Infusion Clinic's nursing staff provides a multi-disciplinary approach for the treatment of cancer patients through collaboration with other medical staff, clinical social workers, the hospital Chaplin, dietary services, hospice services, and the Wellness Community. While the majority of Clinic patients receive cancer treatments, some are there for outpatient infusion therapy, e.g. I.V. hydration, I.V. antibiotics, and chemotherapy.

"The Infusion Clinic is an outpatient adult, nurse-managed clinic that's staffed by five Oncology trained nurses and one nursing assistant: Lois Lucci, R.N., Maria Martinez, R.N., Maribel Gonzalez, R.N., Patti Lee, R.N., and Rose Camua, nursing assistant. Thanks to the commitment of my colleagues, we provide treatment from a value system that believes that patients and their families have a right to be informed and active participants in their own care. I cannot do all that I do without the assistance of my dedicated colleagues. The nursing staff in this area provides care that is emotionally supportive, individualized, family-centered, and technically competent."

She participated in the planning and implementation of the Clinic's 1999 expansion of services. The Clinic now provides Obstetric and Gynecology patients with chemotherapy for cervical and ovarian cancers. These patients were previously admitted to the hospital and administered chemotherapy on an inpatient basis. They are now treated as outpatients which is not only more cost-effective, but more importantly, allows patients to receive treatment with less disruption to their private lives.

"Due to the dedication of the nursing staff in this area, the Infusion Clinic has grown from two nurses and a treatment area that was limited to two rooms, to a much more expanded and improved treatment area presently located on the fifth floor of the hospital."

Gilbert has garnered the following professional recognitions during her tenure at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center: Outstanding Registered Nurse in 1984 and 1996, Patient Care Leader in August 1999, and 1999 Patient Care Leader of the Year.

Gilbert is active in her church. She speaks to youth and adult groups on a variety of issues. Her lectures focus on spiritual growth, empowerment, and on making wise choices, particularly about the importance of academics and college preparation.

"My most rewarding experience has been enrolling in the Los Angeles Bible Training School in the fall of 1999. My goal is to continue my theological studies with the plan of one day entering seminary studies at the graduate level."

Congratulations, Omega!

Summer Activities: Department of Parks and Recreation

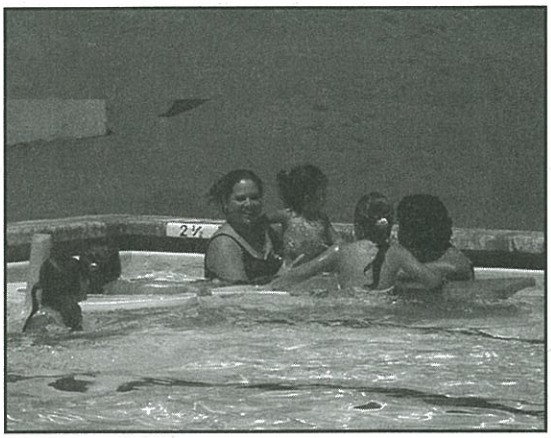
Employees at the Department of Parks and Recreation work year round in administering park facilities and programs. However, summer is the busiest season when most youngsters are out of school and activities are in demand every day of the week.

County swimming pools opened in mid-June and offer daily recreational swimming and learn-to-swim sessions throughout the week. The Board of Supervisors has made these swimming programs free of charge so that everyone can become water safe and stay cool during the summer months.

Summer day camps are available at many County parks and offer high-quality activities at a nominal charge, including sports, games, computer classes, arts and crafts, field trips and more (varying from park to park).

Regional parks such as Castaic Lake in Castaic, the Santa Fe Dam in Irwindale, and the Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park in San Dimas (home of the Raging Waters theme park) offer water activities such as swimming, fishing and boating. The Whittier Narrows Recreation Area in South El Monte and the Kenneth Hahn Recreation Area in Baldwin Hills only have lakes for fishing. All of these sites are great for family and group picnics.

Four garden facilities are enticing with their summer-blooming plants and enjoyable walks or tram tours, where offered. These include the Arboretum in Arcadia, Descanso Gardens in La Cañada Flintridge, the South Coast Botanic Garden in Palos Verdes and the Virginia Robinson Gardens in Beverly Hills (by appointment only).



Swimmers at Arcadia Park's Norman Johnson Aquatics Center. Recreational swimming and lessons are availalbe free of charge at all County pools.

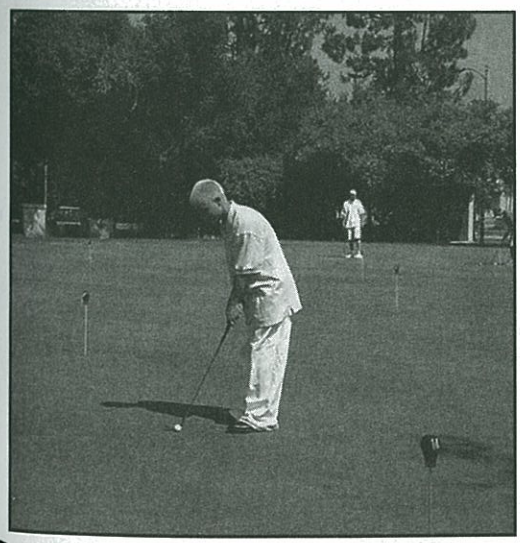
Concerts at County parks offer music to appeal to most every taste from classical to jazz performances at the Hollywood Bowl and the John Anson Ford Amphitheatre, to concert series at the Arboretum and Descanso Gardens, to free evening concerts at selected community and regional parks that feature a wide variety of artists.

At nature centers, visitors can participate in a variety of programs, such as viewing live animal exhibits, joining in docent-led hikes or bird-walks, or learning individually on an interpretive trail. Free to the public, nature centers include Eaton Canyon in Altadena, Placerita Canyon in Newhall, Whittier Narrows in South El Monte and San Dimas Canyon. The department also maintains 344 miles of riding and hiking trails for users with all levels of proficiency and experience.

For the first time in many years, the department has been able to open several new gymnasiums, made possible through funding from the voter-approved Proposition A (Safe Neighborhood Parks Acts). They are located at City Terrace Park, East Rancho Dominguez Park and the Castaic Sports Complex. Additional gyms are currently being planned.

Golf is an activity enjoyed by many people of all ages. Throughout the month of July, young golfers, up to 18 years of age, will be able to play for a reduced fee of $1 when accompanied by a full paying adult or senior golfer. The Board has named July 2000 as Junior Golfers Appreciation Month to encourage parents' participation with their kids, and offer them the opportunity to learn new physical, social and mental skills. The discounted rate will be offered daily after 3:00 p.m. at the County's 19 courses.

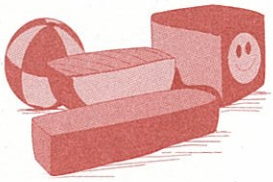
To find out more about these and other programs and activities offered at County park facilities, please call the Department's Public Information Office at (213) 738-2961.



When advised of the reduced $1 green fee, this young golfer said that he would return to the Santa Anita Golf Course in Arcadia with his mother and again with his grandfather.

USA-TLA Conference

Toy Loan, the free toy lending program for children sponsored by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and run by the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), participated in the United States Toy Library Association (USA-TLA) conference on May 19, 2000 at Mattel Headquarters in El Segundo. USA-TLA recognizes the importance of play as an essential part of a child's development. Its mission is to promote and support toy libraries that strive to make quality toys and play opportunities available to all children. It also serves as a network for Toy Libraries across the nation to share ideas, resources and success stories.



The Los Angeles County Toy Loan Program shares history with the USA-TLA as the largest toy library program in existence, as well as being one of the original members of the USA-TLA. Currently, the Toy Loan program is run by five DPSS staff who coordinate the efforts of donors who maintain the program and the volunteers who operate 34 toy lending centers serving 30,000 children. Toy Loan is unique in that it provides a merit system that rewards the responsible borrowing of toys. Working under the auspices of DPSS, the program promotes the department's goals by helping children develop a sense of responsibility while engaging in a wholesome community activity.

DPSS director Lynn Bayer, a special guest speaker at the conference, touched on the close ties between USA-TLA and Toy Loan and praised the USA-TLA for its mentorship efforts and work to educate the public on the importance of play. Although the Los Angeles County Toy Loan Program is great in size, the DPSS Toy Loan staff and volunteers in attendance came away from the national conference with a wealth of information from its smaller counterparts.

To find out more about Toy Loan, call (213) 744-4344 or visit the Website at http://dpss.co.la.ca.us/.

New Los Angeles County Website

On March 21, 2000, a new Los Angeles County Child Care Website was unveiled (http://childcare.co.la.ca.us). The primary purpose of this Website is to help parents make informed child care choices and assist them in locating licensed child care providers in their area.

The site accesses a Countywide listing of more than 6,000 licensed child care providers, which is updated monthly. It also includes a checklist of what to look for when selecting a child care provider, State licensing requirements and information and "hotlinks" to other child care Websites.

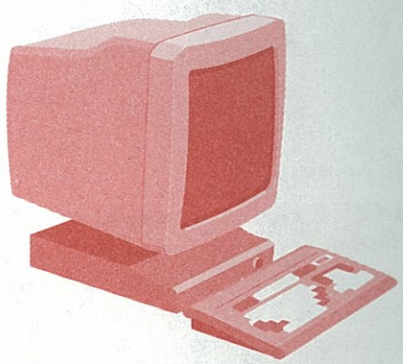
The idea of a County Child Care Website was initiated by Supervisor Antonovich and unanimously supported by the Board of Supervisors. Contributions to the Website include: the County Child Care Coordinator, the California State Community Care Licensing Division, local resource and referral agencies and the Department of Public Social Services.

General Members are encouraged to vote in the upcoming LACERA election for the Third Member of the Board of Retirement and the Third Member of the Board of Investments. The election will be held on Tuesday, August 22, 2000.

Using the employee's address on the Auditor-Controller's master file, ballots were mailed via U.S. mail on Tuesday, July 11, 2000. If you do not receive an original ballot, you may request a duplicate ballot through your Departmental Election Coordinator before Monday, August 7, 2000. The Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk must receive ballots before 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 22, 2000. The Board of Supervisors will certify the election results at its meeting on Tuesday, September 5, 2000.

It has been determined that only one member has been duly nominated for the Alternate Safety Member of the Board of Retirement. In accordance with the law, the Executive Officer will recommend to the Board of Supervisors that no election be held and that William R. Pryor be seated as the Alternate Safety Member of the Board of Retirement.

For more information, contact your Departmental Election Coordinator.



July 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:

ASSESSOR: Geoffrey C. Halstead
CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Sylvia J. Cotton, Sandra J. Grand
COUNTY COUNSEL: Marshall S. Rose
DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Edward Duran
FIRE: Kenneth H. Baker, John C. Gelfuso, Dennis G. Hillier, Robert A. Kaufman, William H. Miles, Douglas E. Moe, Paul R. Neil, Frank J. Prestia, Arthur R. Salcido, Reginald R. Walker, Michael J. Whittle
HEALTH SERVICES: Ruben R. Almanzan, Gildon Beall, Dorothy O. Booth, Bessie L. Bryars, George E. Cawelti, Mikhail A. Hanna, Irene C. Horn, Johnson Hunt, Lynda A. Lines, Eduardo Lopez, Sondra L. Maxwell, Yvonne McDaniels, Claire Pellicano, G.M. Rodgers, Sharon D. Skaff, Sally Tindall, Arthur Y. Vyesato, Jessie Warfield
INTERNAL SERVICES: James E. Williams
MENTAL HEALTH: Wagdi W. Guirguis
PROBATION: Minnie M. Ceja, Ben H. Stewart
PUBLIC LIBRARY: Barbara A. Walker
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Anthony C. Abruzzo, Norvin Armstrong, Ruth M. Atchley, Bettye J. Hodge, Ruby L. Howard, Frank Lavigne, Jr., John A. Martinelli, Diane L. McGuire, Ricardo Pinon, Leslie D. Rainey, Patricia L. Scully, Gloria L. Wooley
PUBLIC WORKS: Arthur Y. Iwasaki
SHERIFF: Robert C. Bennett, Walter J. Boskovich, Charles R. Brittain, Daryol R. Forinash, Willie M. Henderson, Patrick J. Holland, Ronnie E. Lancaster, Patricia A. Mayhall, Jackie D. Neihouse, Dennis J. Slocumb, Jill S. Terry, Alfonso L. Upshur, Fernando F. Vadurro, Barry A. Wish
SUPERIOR COURT: Dolores Barragan, Joyce L. Mallett
TREASURER & TAX COLLECTOR: Beverly J. Walton

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

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Susan Blair, Eugene J. Hall
DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Jacqueline I. Clark, Maria O. Kendall
FIRE: Galdino Gamboa, Alfonso Saldana, Lawrence Joseph
HEALTH SERVICES: Edward Ayala, Gussie M. Baker, Isabel Castanon, Ethel B. Collins, Andrew Gonzales, Jan Malo, Richard Marturano, Rose M. Mendoza, Solita T. Ong, Connie Ramirez, Adalberto O. Salcido, Ruth A. Sherman, Bonnie B. Thomas, Betty S. Ue
HUMAN RESOURCES/OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY: Cruz Navarette, Maria H. Gaudette
INTERNAL SERVICES: Keiji Ushiro
MENTAL HEALTH: Dorothy M. Lerma
PUBLIC LIBRARY: Judith N. Babka
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Eunice M. Davis, Marilyn R. Gomez, Martha R. Hamman, Joyce L. Kindt, Un J. Sim
PUBLIC WORKS: Leona M. Deeks, Refugio G. Ruiz
REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK: Shun Leung
SHERIFF: Anthony P. Dalbis, James E. Jennings, Dennis R. Kennedy, James A. Leone, Gloria R. Moreno, Vincent Ursini, Jr.
SUPERIOR COURT: Magdalena Booth
TREASURER & TAX COLLECTOR: Willie Wade

Employee Transportation Website: What's Inside...

The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) has designed a new Website in an effort to provide County employees alternative transportation and provide air quality issues and results. Here are some of the items you can view on this Website:

- South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD): Who is affected most by air pollution?
- Southern California Rideshare Commonly Asked Questions and Answers.
- 1999 Average Vehicle Rideshare (AVR) Survey Results.
- Office Employee Transportation Coordinators.
- AVR Programs: Information on Carpooling.

You can visit the Employee Transportation Website at the DPSS Intranet: http://dpssweb.co.la.ca.us and click on FYI Employees Only, Employee Transportation.

Mailing Address Change

If you have changed your mailing address, please notify your Personnel Office immediately.

Los Angeles City and County Partnership: Dockweiler Beach Volleyball and Hang Gliding Center Opens

Supervisor Don Knabe and Los Angeles City Councilwoman Ruth Galanter unveil the dedication plaque.

Supervisor Don Knabe hosted opening day ceremonies for the new Dockweiler Beach Volleyball and Hang Gliding Center on May 31, 2000.

Joining the Supervisor for the site's official opening was Los Angeles City Councilwoman Ruth Galanter and Stan Wisniewski, Director of the County's Department of Beaches and Harbors.

"I believe the new facilities and easy access afforded by the 105 freeway will make Dockweiler a local favorite this summer," Supervisor Knabe said. "It's a great example of a successful partnership between the City of Los Angeles and the County, and the County has close to $9 million in additional improvements already in the planning phase."

The new $6 million facility features a concessions building with restrooms, changing rooms and showers for beach-goers, and an adjoining volleyball area designed for tournament play and an access ramp for the disabled. The County's share in the project was just over $400,000.

It also has a hang gliding concession run by local legend, Joe Greblo, reviving this sport to its historic beach location.

The new Center evolved as the City of Los Angeles developed temporary bluff-top parking for construction crews working on the Hyperion Wastewater Management Plant. Once the plant's expansion project was completed, the parking area was opened for use by beach-goers. Meanwhile, the Dockweiler State Beach General Plan was drafted and construction of the recreational facilities was completed.

Shuttle

continued from front page

Service runs from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The East Los Angeles shuttle logo was selected from several artists' entries who submitted artwork representative of East Los Angeles. The logo identifies easy to recognize coordinated shuttles, shuttle stops, and bus schedules.

In keeping with the overall goal of a community-based service, drivers were recruited from the local community and trained to provide premium service to their neighbors.

For more information, contact the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works at (626) 458-3968 or visit the Website at *http://elanet.co.la.ca.us/index.htm*.

County DIGEST

Dept. of Human Resources
500 W. Temple Street, Room 375
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 974-1301
(213) 613-4789 FAX
http://hr.co.la.ca.us

Members of the Board

Gloria Molina
Chair
First District

Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky
Third District

Don Knabe
Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District

Michael J. Henry
Director of Personnel

Sandra A. Hoodye
Ombudsman/Community Liaison

Mason Fong
Staff