

County DIGEST



OCTOBER 2000

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



Participants in a senior citizens computer class.

Supervisor Molina Makes Computer Technology Accessible to Unincorporated Areas

As part of her commitment to making computer technology accessible to First District unincorporated communities, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Gloria Molina launched the first-ever after-school shuttle service in Los Nietos to connect youths to the Los Nietos Computer Technology Center and computer club at Sorensen Park.

"This shuttle service was initiated six

months ago as a pilot to connect the community to learning and recreational services. I am pleased this pilot has proved successful to date, as evidenced by the number of participants in our community center and park programs," said Supervisor Molina.

see Accessible on page 10

Supervisor Knabe Presents Long Beach with \$95,000 for Gang Prevention

Supervisor Don Knabe presented a check to Long Beach Prosecutor Tom Reeves during the August 29, 2000 Long Beach City Council meeting. The funding, which was drawn from the Fourth District's pool of discretionary Local Law Enforcement Block Grant funds, will be used by the City Prosecutor's office to achieve injunctions against hardened-adult gang members.

"The City of Long Beach needed help with one of its programs to curb violent gang activity," Supervisor Knabe said. "I realized this was a great opportunity for my office to get involved. The war against gang activity has to be waged on all fronts: in our schools, in our streets and in the courthouse."



Long Beach Prosecutor Tom Reeves and Supervisor Don Knabe

In Long Beach, a gang injunction occurs when the City Prosecutor's office, with approval from a judge, issues a

see Prevention on page 8

Calendar of Events

October is:

Breast Cancer Awareness Month
Natl. Domestic Violence Awareness Month
Quality and Productivity Month

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

(888) 778-5900

STRIDESLA@CANCER.ORG

A 5K walk around the Rose Bowl
October 29, 2000
9:00 a.m.

DISNEY
PRESENTS



Pantages Theater – Hollywood

The Lion King

November 12, 2000
1:00 p.m.

A special matinee performance benefiting
the Education Division of the
Performing Arts Center of LA County
Seats are limited, so call today!
(213) 202-6280

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

(323) 857-6000

www.lacma.org

California Noir (Crime Fiction and Private Eye Genre Film Series)

October 27, 2000 through
November 28, 2000
Call (323) 857-6010

for exact films, dates, and times

Friday Night Jazz

November 3, 10, 17, 24, 2000
5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Art Classes and Family Programs for Children and Adults

Call for exact dates and times

"Made in California:

Art, Image, and Identity, 1900-2000"

Through February, 2001

Sheila and Wally Weisman

Family Sundays

Sundays at 12:30 p.m.

Call for exact themes

Family Gallery Tours

Saturdays at 2:00 p.m.

Call for exact dates

Skirball Cultural Center

(310) 440-4500

www.skirball.org

Fred Hersch

November 5, 2000

7:00 p.m.

The Gershwin Legacy with Bryan Pezzone

November 8, 2000

8:00 p.m.

"Generation J"

with speaker Lisa Schiffman

November 9, 2000

7:30 p.m.

Revealing & Concealing: Portraits & Identity

Through December 31, 2000

Jose Gurruch -

Drawings and Watercolors: 1947-1974

Through December 31, 2000

John Anson Ford Amphitheatre

(323) 461-3673

Sleepwalk

November 9, 2000 through
December 17, 2000

Call for exact dates and times

Autry Museum of Western Heritage

(323) 667-2000 extension 329

www.autry-museum.org



On Gold Mountain:

A Chinese American Experience

Through January 1, 2001

Los Angeles Opera

(213) 972-8001

www.laopera.org

Peter Grimes

Through November 4, 2000

Call for exact dates and times

La boheme

November 29, 2000 through

December 21, 2000

Call for exact dates and times

The Arboretum of Los Angeles County

(626) 821-3222

"Big Bugs" Bug-A-Boo Fest

Afternoon Fun for the Entire Family!

October 29, 2000

David Rogers' Big Bugs exhibit

Through November 30, 2000

Natural History Museum of

Los Angeles County

(213) 763-DINO

www.nhm.org

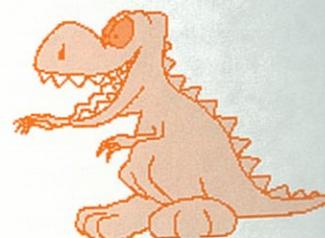
Wildlife Photographer of the Year

Through November 5, 2000

A T. Rex Named Sue

November 18, 2000 through

April 22, 2001



Bruce A. Hoffman

Alternate Public Defender

Bruce Hoffman has headed the Office of Alternate Public Defender (APD) since its inception in 1993. Janice Fukai, Chief Deputy, and Bruce started the office together without any office space or staff. Today, the office stands as a premier indigent defense office with 150 lawyers and a total staff of 215.

Bruce received a bachelor's degree in business administration (1961) and a law degree (1964) from the University of California at Berkeley. Following law school, Bruce joined the Marine Corps and served in Vietnam before being discharged as a captain in 1967. Bruce relates that 1967 was quite a year: released from a major commitment (The Corps) into an even greater commitment--marriage. In 1967, he also began his career-long fight on behalf of the poor when he joined the County's Office of Public Defender (PD). During his time with the PD (1967-1993), he rose to the rank of Head Deputy. There, he supervised the Central, Juvenile, Torrance, Compton, Norwalk and Long Beach branches.

The APD's Office was created to curb the ever increasing cost of hiring private lawyers to represent PD conflict of interest cases. Conflicts are cases involving multiple defendants or other reasons that the PD cannot represent the defendant. Bruce relates that the Department of Auditor-Controller and Chief Administrative Office have determined that through the establishment of the APD, the County has saved millions of dollars in indigent defense costs and also provided excellent representation to the less fortunate in our society.

The APD's 150 lawyers and 65 support staff provide indigent representation in Central, Compton, Long Beach, Norwalk, Pasadena, Van Nuys, Lancaster, San Fernando, Torrance and Airport major courts. Staffing in the APD is far different than with the PD. While 60 to 70 percent of lawyers in the PD's Office are involved with misdemeanor cases, approximately 70 percent of cases in the APD's Office are felonies.



The APD is a leader in the fight to correct the terrible injustices of the Rampart scandal.

"It's been very time and energy consuming. Right now, we have about 15 lawyers and additional support persons working full-time on getting innocent people released from prison, and all the disabilities resulting from a felony conviction. More importantly, we are attempting to lead the formulation of a new process to be adopted by the other members of the criminal justice community in order to prevent a scandal such as Rampart from ever reoccurring," Hoffman said.

The APD also represents a high percentage of Three Strike cases. These cases are time consuming and result in a higher number of jury trials.

"There are also many injustices in how the law is applied," Hoffman stated. "If someone committed two robberies in the past for strikes one and two, who now has stolen food or cigarettes from a market or in one case a pizza in Los Angeles County, then that person would be prosecuted as a third strike and likely go to prison for life without the possibility of parole. Even the author of the three strike legislation has said that this was not the intent of the legislation."

He continued. "We can certainly get the defendant's attention with far less time in jail and then attempt to treat his problems to prevent the reoccurrence. To lock this person up for the rest of his life is ridiculous! Not only is it a disaster to the person, but it is also horrendously expensive to State taxpayers. Since most crime is committed by persons under the age of 35, do we really want to keep people in jail in their 60s or beyond? Wouldn't we as a society be much better off by spending the money on the front end of the process by attempting to prevent young kids from being involved in the first place? How about project Head Start, where you're educating kids in grammar or preschool?" Hoffman stated.

According to Hoffman, Los Angeles County has one of the highest rates of prosecution for third strike cases in the State. Some counties, such as San Francisco or Monterrey, focus on the intent of the law and take a reasoned approach on whether certain cases should be handled as a third strike.

The APD tries a very high percentage of special circumstance or death penalty cases. The office was recently recognized for their outstanding representation in these most complex and severe cases by the California Public Defender Association and the California Attorneys for Criminal Justice.

Bruce has an open door philosophy that plays an integral role in running the office.

"People often comment that Janice and I run the office. However, that is far from the truth. The staff of the office makes the decisions. We, administrators, are here solely to implement those decisions. If you don't keep a close dialogue with your staff, how do you know what's going on or what changes should be made? These people work very hard and our job as administrators is to assist them in every way possible," Hoffman stated.

The trial lawyers are broken into small teams in order to boost efficiency and quality. These lawyers often get the

see Hoffman on page 7

County Police Deploy for the DNC



Los Angeles County Police prepare to protect County property.

From August 14, 2000 through August 17, 2000, the nation focused its attention on Los Angeles and the Democratic National Convention (DNC). Many Americans tuned in to participants' speeches and the "official" nomination of the Democratic Presidential candidate. Others were curious about how Los Angeles would fare against protesters, particularly anarchists, who were certain to make their presence known throughout the four days. While the DNC proceeded as scheduled, anarchists fell far short of their well-publicized goal of disrupting the Convention with activities similar to earlier summer demonstrations in Seattle,

Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C. This was due in large part to advanced planning by the City and County of Los Angeles, which included having an overwhelming police presence in and around the Convention site and throughout the Civic Center.

With the support of Chief Bayan Lewis, the Office of Public Safety (OPS) fielded a 60-officer County Police Tactical Response Platoon that was ready to deal with any attempts to damage or interrupt business in County buildings and courthouses. After months of extensive training with the Sheriff's Department in areas such as Riot and Crowd Control Techniques, Convoy Driving, and Less than Lethal Weapons, OPS was prepared for any contingency.

With their state-of-the-art equipment and disciplined movements around the Hall of Administration, Hall of Records, and the County Courthouse, County Police Officers were an impressive sight to behold. In addition to the Civic Center, the Tactical Response Platoon was also tasked



Los Angeles County Police Officer on duty.

with maintaining order in and around Patriotic Hall due to several Convention-related events held at that site. In spite of the numerous marches and protests that wound through the Civic Center, no County buildings were damaged and County employees were able to go about their duties with a minimum of distractions.

Welfare to Work Program: One of the Nation's Best

Study shows the County has achieved goals of increasing employment, raising earnings, and reducing welfare expenditures.

The County is leading the way nationally in helping welfare recipients transition into the workplace, according to a recently released report. The study, prepared by the prestigious Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation (MDRC), says the County's welfare-to-work Jobs-First program has successfully increased employment and raised earnings, while at the same time reduced welfare expenditures. The report mentions that gains are among the largest ever found in studies of full-scale welfare-to-work

programs in the nation's largest cities. The County has such a tremendous number of welfare recipients that only two entire states, California and New York, have more.

"This study confirms once again that Los Angeles is a national leader in the movement to help welfare recipients move into and stay in the workplace," said Supervisor Gloria Molina. "Speaking on behalf of the Board, this report provides concrete evidence that our decision to move from an education-first approach to one that emphasized immediate job placement was indeed the right one."

The study was conducted over a two-year period from 1996 to 1998. The research sample included 15,683 single

parents and 5,048 members of two-parent families. The sample was racially and ethnically diverse. Of the single parents, 45 percent were Hispanic, 31 percent were African-American, 17 percent were non-Hispanic white, and six percent were Asian. Nearly all the single parents were female, while half the members of two-parent families were male.

Key findings of the report include:

- **Employment:** Over two years, the program increased the percentage of single parents getting jobs by nearly 10 percentage points.

- **Earnings:** The program resulted in

see Best on page 10

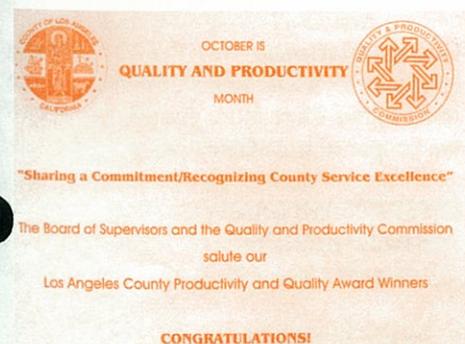
Year of Achievement, Month of Recognition

Congratulating County employees and departments for their achievements in improving service quality and productivity to the benefit of our communities, Chair Gloria Molina and the Board of Supervisors proclaimed October as "Quality and Productivity Month" Countywide. The recognition is well-deserved considering our leadership in numerous programs throughout the region, State, and country.

The October 25, 2000 annual Quality and Productivity Commission's Productivity and Quality Awards program makes October a prime time to reflect on our efforts, even though County leadership is ongoing.

As with all great business undertakings, the County continues to refine and evolve its programs and processes, and most importantly its commitment to customer service. This mission, upon which our broad range of communities have relied on for 150 years, touches as many residents and helps shape as many lives as our greatest institutions. With this great responsibility, in areas from the arts and health care, to streets and roads and public safety, the Commission is pleased to recognize creative thinking that improves the quality of our programs, uses resources most wisely, and brings together our workforce in collaborative and committed programs that impact our communities and underscores our personal and collective pride and determination.

We are the County, we are the world.



Meeting Voters' Needs

Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC) Conny McCormack is requesting that you check out the exciting new additions to the RR/CC's website, specifically pages addressing Voters with Disabilities, Touchscreen Voting, Sample Ballot Booklet, and Multilingual Voter Services. The RR/CC's website address is www.lavote.net or <http://regrec.co.la.ca.us> and a link to each of these new services can be found on the home page.

Voters with Disabilities

Information regarding the Department's services, that are available and designed to meet the needs of voters who are disabled and elderly, is provided on this page. It addresses the goals of the RR/CC to achieve 100 percent accessibility by all voters in the voting process and also outlines federal laws specifically applicable to the voting rights of the disabled and elderly voters.

A link allows viewers access to the *Voters with Disabilities* brochure, which outlines the specifics of the RR/CC program to meet these voters' needs. The Department's Voters with Disabilities Coordinator's name and telephone number are available on this page for viewers wishing further information regarding the program or to request hard copies of the *Voters with Disabilities* brochure.

Touchscreen Voting

One of the highlights of the November 7, 2000 General Election is the Touchscreen Voting Pilot Program. The website page dedicated to touchscreen voting allows the viewer to peruse the future by learning about a new technologically advanced and easy to use method of voting to be available for the first time ever in Los Angeles County. Access to information describing touchscreen voting, who can use it, and step-by-step procedures is available. Viewers can learn where they can touch the future by taking the opportunity to vote at a touchscreen voting location starting as early as October 16, 2000. The specific touchscreen voting location address, dates and hours of operation are available on this page. The RR/CC's Election Information Section's

telephone number is available on this page for viewers wishing further information regarding touchscreen voting or to request hard copies of the *Touch the Future with Touchscreen Voting* brochures that are currently available.

Sample Ballot Booklet

Another exciting addition to the Department's website is the inclusion of the sample ballot booklet pages containing the candidates and measures appearing on the November 7, 2000 General Election ballot. Viewers can click on the flashing "Sample Ballot" icon or can pull down the

revolving "Check Out Our New Services" button, both located on the home page of the website to view this information. This feature allows voters to view the actual ballot applicable to their geographic area (there are 263 different ballot styles for this election with different congressional, state assembly, etc. candidates

depending on the voters' districts).

Multilingual Voter Services

In a continuous effort to reach voters whose first language is not English, the website has also been expanded to include information on voting services for persons requiring assistance in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog and Vietnamese (these are the languages mandated for translation in compliance with the U.S. Voting Rights Act and Board of Supervisors' policy). Viewers have translated links located on the RR/CC home page into these specific languages for accessibility. When clicked, viewers will find a Multilingual Assistance Hotline which is a toll free number for voters to request translated materials, i.e. voter registration forms and sample ballot booklets in a specific language. Viewers can also find out their polling place location. A copy of the *Multilingual Voter Services* brochure highlighting the many multi-language services provided by the RR/CC and a listing of the community groups partnering with the RR/CC to provide these services is available through each of the individual language links on



see Voters on back page

Rancho Los Amigos Wheelchair Sports Program Receives Grant

The Amateur Athletic Foundation (AAF) of Los Angeles has awarded a \$49,475 grant to the Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center (Rancho) Foundation, which will benefit Rancho's renowned wheelchair sports program for individuals with disabilities.

Launched in 1987, the Rancho Wheelchair Sports Program provides free competitive sports opportunities year-round to patients with disabilities resulting from traumatic spinal cord injury, cerebral palsy and spina bifida.

David Su, AAF senior program officer, said, "Our organization was created to manage the endowment fund generated by the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, and we are proud and happy to offer support to the outstanding, life-affirming youth sports program at Rancho Los Amigos."

Accepting the AAF gift, Rancho Chief Executive Officer Connie Diaz said, "With professional assistance from our

caring staff of coaches and therapists, Rancho's wheelchair sports program has produced some of the top youth wheelchair teams in the nation. Most importantly, the effort has helped hundreds of youngsters on the road to fulfilling, happy lives."

The new AAF grant will help defer costs of technically advanced and sport-specific wheelchairs, related sports gear, uniforms and facility rental for Rancho's hard-charging wheelchair hockey, football, basketball and tennis teams.

Based in Downey, Rancho Los Amigos was founded in 1888, and today averages more than 3,000 inpatient admissions and 54,000 outpatient clinic visits each year. Among 20 distinctive Centers of Excellence on campus, Rancho's spinal cord injury service, the traumatic brain injury and stroke programs have each



(L to R) Lisa Hilborn, Rancho Wheelchair Sports program director; Rancho CEO Connie Diaz; Daniel Su, AAF senior program officer; and Glenn Maddalon, vice president of development, Rancho Los Amigos Foundation.

earned national recognition for outstanding patient outcomes. One of six medical centers governed by the Board of Supervisors, Rancho ranks in the top tier of medical rehabilitation institutions in America, according to *U.S. News & World Report*.

The Rancho Los Amigos Foundation was established in 1983 and conducts fund-raising activities that provide financial support for onsite research, education, rehabilitation equipment, and patient welfare programs.

October 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: Richard Ziff

COUNTY COUNSEL: Daniel D. Mikesell Jr.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Bennie E. Layne, Kurt S. Seifert

FIRE: John M. Ambrogio, Glenn V. Groen, Steven C. Lindstrum

HEALTH SERVICES: Delia L. Amansec, Janie Clay, Agnes N. Colman, Barbara J. Goodson, Gloria R. Hufana, Beverly J. Powdrill

HUMAN RESOURCES/OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY: Naidu Permaul

INTERNAL SERVICES: David Holst, Jennifer G. Munford

PARKS & RECREATION: Robert Sims

PROBATION: Marnell Beason, Kenneth R. Brouard, Raymond D. Fox

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Stanley Perlo

PUBLIC LIBRARY: Kathryn K. Ginoza

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:

Marietta S. Welch

PUBLIC WORKS: Carl L. Blum, Kenneth Erhard Jr., Suzanne McClure

SHERIFF: Chad D. Cason, James J. Jacobs, Longin P. Kezeor, Darryl N. Lewis, Peter J. Loomis, Regan A. Moore, Armando X. Morales, Richard E. Odenthal, Dan Robinson Jr.

SUPERIOR COURT: Caroline J. Castle, Virginia K. Piper

TREASURER & TAX COLLECTOR: Elgy Broom, Kathleen Dickinson

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 25 or more years of service to the people of Los Angeles County:

DISTRICT ATTORNEY:

Andrea S. Weinberg

see Retirees on next page

Hoffman
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EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH Clyde Emerson

majority of praise for their work, but the heart of the office is the support staff. This starts with the team managers, whom some would call "secretaries," but not the APD as they and the outstanding paralegals and investigators are a vital part of each team.

"Being an Alternate Public Defender is different from any other type of legal practice. You have to be very mature, proud of who you are and what you're doing, and really feel a social obligation to provide the best possible representation to those who cannot afford to pay for their own lawyers," Hoffman said. "The staff in this office is outstanding, extremely dedicated and highly professional. The camaraderie is fabulous."

On a personal note, Bruce's wife is a professor of medical education at the University of Southern California. One of his twin sons is a commercial airline pilot; the other is pursuing a teaching credential. Bruce is a member of the Board of Directors of the Criminal Courts Bar Association, the Mental Health Association in Los Angeles County and the University of California at Los Angeles Paralegal Program. He enjoys traveling, fishing, reading, tennis and is a catcher on a baseball (hardball) team--currently hitting 450.

Retirees

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HEALTH SERVICES: Dorothy A. Biby, Juanita Boyd, Mary L. Daniel, Marie L. Hardwell, Vicente Rochin, Frederic Takeshita

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION: Reva Trevino

HUMAN RESOURCES/OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY: Junelle Moore

INTERNAL SERVICES: Burton L. Young

MENTAL HEALTH: Janice Gaither

PROBATION: Richard Leos Jr., Eugenio L. Mirto, Roy W. Moore, Darla J. Prediger, Joan M. Smith

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:

Jose L. Arteta, Phillip Moore

SHERIFF: George J. Bachmeier, Clarence E. Chaney, Ward C. Finch, Linda J. Mahakian, Ingrid M. Oswald, Frank L. Purcell Jr., Trent D. Sanders

SUPERIOR COURT: Waleen M. Valdez

Clyde Emerson, the September 2000 Employee of the Month, has worked for the County for 20 years and is currently a Quality Control Coordinator with the Department of Health Services' LAC+USC Healthcare Network.

"I was surprised to be selected from among so many County employees. The chances of being selected seemed as remote as winning the lottery," said Emerson.

He serves as Operations Manager for the Network Laboratory, overseeing the safety program, timekeeping, the morgue, and Decedent Affairs. In addition to being Laboratory Safety Officer, Emerson has tackled contract management, hazardous waste disposal, supervision of the Phlebotomy and Transportation services, personnel management, and regulatory compliance responsibilities. He interfaces with outside agencies to initiate blood donor look-back programs, and is responsible for ensuring administrative liaisons with other Network Administrative centers, American Red Cross blood drives, and the March of Dimes campaign. Emerson, a State of California licensed Laboratory Scientist, has degrees from the University of California at Santa Barbara and California State University, Los Angeles.

"It is a great honor to be selected," stated Emerson. "I know that many employees are equally deserving, as I work with many of them. I would like to see myself as representing the many unsung heroes of the LAC+USC Healthcare Network."

He also interacts with the Los Angeles Fire Department which consist of inventory work and seeking out locations for Network chemicals/bio-hazardous compounds. Emerson initiates safety training classes for Laboratory staff on all three shifts, and monitors the bio-hazardous waste disposal process and supporting contracts. He provides safety training for Bravo Medical Magnet High School students as part of their rotation through laboratories, and oversees the monitoring of hazardous chemical vapor levels in the workplace.

"Annual safety training for all Laboratory staff is required by accrediting and regulatory agencies. Since the same



Clyde Emerson and Board Chair Gloria Molina

subjects, such as chemical safety, infection control and disaster preparedness must be presented each year, it is a challenge to keep the class interesting. One key is to keep the audience involved and to encourage questions," noted Emerson.

Emerson, who co-chairs the General Hospital Safety Committee and the Hazardous Materials Committee, is adamant about safety.

"It is easy to become complacent about safety until someone is injured or the facility is cited for deficiencies. One purpose of safety committees is to remind staff of the importance of maintaining a safe work environment, since most accidents are preventable. Safety is everyone's job," remarked Emerson. "Not only must safety be practiced, but it must be documented--committee minutes, training records, equipment function and maintenance checks, accident reports, injury statistics, fire drills and more. The committee process helps ensure that problems are identified and corrected, and that the process is documented."

His participation in the Support Services Re-engineering Design Team involved evaluating and recommending operational revisions in

see Emerson on page 11

Property Tax Assessment Seminars

The County is sponsoring a series of free seminars to assist property owners who feel their taxes should be lowered due to a decline in the value of their property.

With the improvement in the real estate market, some homeowners who recently have received a "Notice of Assessed Value Change" will have questions regarding their appeal rights.

The meetings are intended to help taxpayers better understand the assessment appeals process, which many find confusing. The seminar will be of value to homeowners who are interested in learning about the assessment appeals process and to those who have already filed an appeal. The seminar will cover taxpayers appeal rights and when to file an application for reduction in assessment. The seminar will also cover how to prepare for a hearing, what qualifies as admissible evidence, what will happen in the hearing and what to expect after the hearing.

The 90-minute seminars will be offered at five locations: Cerritos, Culver City, El Monte, Glendale, and the Van Nuys area. Additional meetings will be scheduled throughout the County on a year-round basis.

The dates, times and locations of the sessions are as follows:

Cerritos - Senior Citizens Center, Pat Nixon Park, 12340 South Street, 6:00 p.m., Mondays, November 13, 2000 and December 11, 2000. Free parking is available.

Culver City - Public Library, 4975 Overland Avenue, 10:00 a.m., Fridays, November 3, 2000 and December 1, 2000. Free parking; also free parking at the Assessor's Office at 4909 Overland Avenue.

El Monte - Jack Crippen Senior Citizen Center - Crafts Room, 3120 N. Tyler Avenue, 10:00 a.m., Thursdays, November 9, 2000 and December 14, 2000. Free parking is available.

Glendale - Public Library, 222 E Harvard Street, 10:00 a.m., Tuesdays, November 28, 2000 and December 5, 2000. The library will validate three hours of parking at the corner of Maryland and Harvard.

Van Nuys - Bernardi Senior Center, 6514 Sylmar Avenue, 11:00 a.m., Wednesdays, November 15, 2000 and December 13, 2000. Free parking, entrance on Hamlin Street.

Persons with disabilities, who believe they need reasonable accommodations or help in order to attend a seminar, may call (213) 974-1578. Hearing-impaired persons with TDD equipment may leave a typewritten message by calling (213) 974-1707 (TDD). Schedules for meetings may be obtained by calling (213) 974-4240 or on the Internet at <http://bos.co.la.ca.us/Categories/Appeals/SeminarSchedule.htm>.

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Crimes of domestic violence occur more frequently than any other crime in America. Statistics show that approximately 100,000 domestic violence cases were filed by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office last year alone.

"Domestic violence knows no boundaries. It affects people who are married, divorced, living together, dating, or in gay or lesbian relationships," stated Sheriff Lee Baca, recognizing October as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. It is a vicious pattern of controlling and coercive behavior that can involve physical, sexual, financial, emotional, verbal, or psychological abuse.

Responding to these facts, the Sheriff's Department has implemented several programs designed to assist victims and help end the cycle of domestic violence. The Biscailuz Recovery Center has been open for over a year and features programs designed to rehabilitate inmates through social programs rather than simply house them. In addition to assisting in the rehabilitation of drug abusers, the Center

has counselors and teachers who work with inmates convicted and sentenced for domestic violence offenses. There is group therapy to work on anger management, proper communication techniques and appropriate social skills.

There is also the Safety Through Our Perseverance (S.T.O.P.) program which assists victims through early intervention. A specially-trained Deputy Sheriff and a shelter advocate provide resource referral services, victim assistance, threat assessments and safety planning.

The Victim Information and Notification Everyday (V.I.N.E.) program is a free, anonymous, computer-based telephone program. It is designed as an early warning system to notify victims of domestic violence and other crimes when their attackers are being released from custody or when they are being transferred. The system will call registered victims automatically and, if no response is received, will call back every 30 minutes for up to 24 hours. Victims can obtain information on their attackers 24 hours a

day, seven days a week. The service is provided free of charge to the victim.

Sheriff Baca's goal for the Department is to use these programs to help reduce the recidivism rate of family violence in the County.

Prevention continued from front page

restraining order against specific gang members of a particular gang. Subsequently, these individuals are prevented from engaging in a host of activities, including loitering in groups, selling drugs, vandalizing property and possessing weapons. Each gang injunction must define a geographic area where these activities are restricted.

According to the Long Beach Police Department, there are 53 different gangs in Long Beach and an estimated 9,200 gang members.

Local Veterans Day Activities

November 4, 2000

Fourth Annual Veterans & Armed Forces Day. Rose Bowl, Pasadena. UCLA vs. Stanford football game. Military Personnel (in uniform or with military I.D.) and Veterans receive one free general admission seat or "buy-one-get-one-free" offer on reserved seats. Tickets available in advance at the UCLA Central Ticket Office or at the Rose Bowl the day of the game, while supplies last. Exhibits and displays, run from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

November 9, 2000

Veterans Day Parade, VA West Los Angeles Healthcare Center, 11301 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, 10:00 a.m.

November 10, 2000

Veterans Day Ceremony, Forest Lawn-Hollywood Hills, 6300 Forest Lawn Drive, Los Angeles. Guest speaker: Major

General Peter J. Gravett, Commanding General, 40th Infantry Division, Los Alamitos, 11:00 a.m.

November 11, 2000

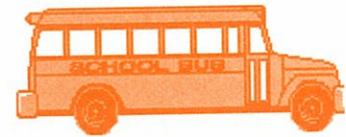
Third Annual Veterans Fair, "Remembering Our Veterans & Their Families," sponsored by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Arcadia Park, 405 S. Santa Anita Avenue, Arcadia, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

November 11, 2000

Veterans Day Parade, North Long Beach, Atlantic Avenue. Special ceremony to dedicate Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Houghton Park following the parade, 10:00 a.m.

As additional activities are announced, an updated list may be obtained from the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs at (213) 744-4827.

Back to School Safety



"Drivers need to remind themselves to watch out for children near bus stops and schools," said Sheriff Lee Baca.

Children between the ages of five and 14 account for a significant number of traffic-related pedestrian injuries and fatalities. Parents should discuss a few simple safety rules with their children and set an example by obeying the traffic rules themselves. Unnecessary tragedies can be easily prevented.

Drivers should remember to slow down in residential areas and that the speed limit is 25 miles per hour in a school zone. Watch out for school buses flashing their lights, indicating that students are either loading or unloading. Children may dart out into the street, so drivers approaching from either direction must come to a complete stop.

Children riding bicycles need to know the rules of the road and have a safe route planned for riding to and from school. An approved safety helmet is mandatory for all riders under 18 years of age. Children walking to school should always be in groups, never alone, and know the safest route to and from school. It is important for parents to reinforce basic safety rules with their children such as, "stop, look and listen" when crossing a street. Instruct them never to take shortcuts, and discuss the importance of crossing the street in a designated crosswalk.

Personal safety should also be discussed with children. Remind them not to talk to strangers. Children should know to yell and scream and run away if someone tries to grab them. Parents must ensure that their child knows his/her full name, address, and telephone number.

"These are just a few safety tips that I recommend parents discuss with their children so they can avoid harmful situations," concluded Sheriff Baca. "In addition, increased awareness by drivers in areas where children are likely to be present will help make this a safe school year for everyone."

Please Join

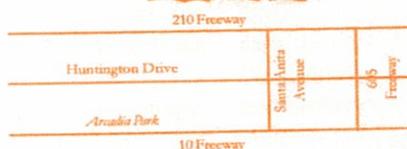
Michael D. Antonovich

Supervisor, Fifth District

In honoring our American Service Men and Women and their Families at the 3rd Annual Veterans Fair

"Remembering Our Veterans & Their Families"

Saturday, November 11, 2000
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Arcadia Park
405 S. Santa Anita Avenue
Arcadia, CA 91006



Receive information on Veterans benefits and entitlements. Meet representatives to assist Veterans and their families.

*A special salute to our Armed Forces will be held at noon.

For more information, call (626) 967-1441 or (909) 394-2264.

Los Angeles County is an equal opportunity employer and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals with disabilities.



Accessible continued from front page

Department of Public Works Assistant Deputy Director Pat DeChellis stated, "The shuttle pilot is the department's first-ever attempt to provide free transportation services for local after-school programs. Since the pilot was initiated, senior citizens have also begun to use the shuttle and join the computer classes."

Los Nietos School Board President Jose Martinez said, "The pilot shuttle service has been very helpful to our kids. Many families in our community do not have computers at home. The shuttle provides transportation to computer services and use of the local County park."

At the Technology Center, youths and their families participate in a program that focuses on developing life-long computer skills. Numerous letters have been received from Los Nietos children, youths, and senior citizens expressing their appreciation for their new learned skills in Microsoft, PowerPoint, graphics, and financial budgeting.

Anthony Gutierrez participates in the children's class. "Thank you very much for putting a technology center in our community. I hope that I can keep coming to the computer lab. We could use this information for the future."

Eileen Ramirez also participates in the children's class. "What I have learned is how to work with different programs that I did not know before. It feels good to learn new things. They have become very important in my life. Thank you for this opportunity."

John Guzman is a senior citizens class attendee. "This class has been very helpful to me. I have learned much about computers and especially the Internet. I am thankful that they're educating me and others about computers. The teachers have been very patient and helpful. They have made every student feel important. As a taxpayer, I am thankful to the County of Los Angeles for money well spent. This program is beneficial to the community and leading the way for further education."

"Thanks to Supervisor Molina's support, the Los Nietos library offers the homework center, and we now offer curriculum-based computer classes, along with tutoring, cultural programs, and much more," said Joe Quintero, Executive Director of the Los Nietos Neighborhood Center which also houses the local library.

"More kids and seniors can now



A group of students utilize the Los Nietos shuttle service to attend computer class.

benefit from the park facilities, and the sports and recreation programs at Sorensen Park," said Manny Guerrero of the Department of Parks and Recreation. "Also, since seniors and kids will be riding together, I think this is a great opportunity to open communication between them."

Supervisor Molina's commitment to making computer technology accessible includes programs at First District learning and recreational facilities:

Parks: Computer clubs at all local parks.

Libraries: Homework centers with Internet access at all libraries.

Community Centers: Learning and technology centers at Los Nietos Community and South Whittier Resource Centers.

Best continued from page 4

increased single-parent household earnings averaging \$1,600 and increased earnings of \$2,050 for two-parent households.

•*Large Welfare Savings:* The program produced large reductions in both single-family and two-parent family expenditures (\$973 or 10 percent for single-parent families and \$1,429 or 12 percent for two-parent households).

•*Subgroup Impacts:* The program benefited a broad cross section of the welfare caseload, producing positive impacts for welfare recipients of all racial/ethnic groups, with and without English proficiency, and for recipients with the least as well as for recipients with the most barriers to employment.

The report also went on to say for

those in the study group who were not working after two years, the County has met the challenge by expanding its goals and welfare-to-work efforts to provide more pre-and post-employment job retention and advancement services and larger financial incentives for people to work.

"I'm gratified with the findings," said Lynn Bayer, Director of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS). "With DPSS staff working in collaboration with many partners throughout the County, we have come a long way. Welfare reform is a work in progress, and as the MDRC study shows us, we have an effective program to build on. This confirms we're on the right track."

MDRC began evaluating the Jobs-First GAIN program in 1996. The evaluation was conducted by MDRC under contract to DPSS, with additional support

from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Ford Foundation.

"We congratulate Los Angeles County on a well-designed and implemented welfare reform program that has achieved impressive positive results for families," said Dr. Olivia A. Golden, Assistant Secretary for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. "The County's leadership is also to be commended for their willingness to evaluate and invest in the program. We learned in today's study that the County's program resulted in substantial gains in employment and earnings, and reductions in poverty and welfare costs. These accomplishments are exceptional, as they were successful for all families, including the most disadvantaged, in the largest local welfare program in the country. These promising results are a model for the nation."

Emerson continued from page 7

laundry, environmental services, and facilities management. He developed a monitoring program to assure the highest level of safety possible in Autopsy rooms at the LAC+USC Medical Center. Emerson has worked with contractors, Cal/OSHA, and on-site staff to maintain required life-safety codes. Under his leadership, there have been consistent increases in the number of donated blood units to American Red Cross blood drives and hikes in dollar contributions to the March of Dimes campaign.

"The blood drives sponsored by the American Red Cross and the LAC+USC Healthcare Network are coordinated through my office, and also directly serve our patients, since all blood collected is identified for their use. Such campaigns are especially satisfying for those of us without regular direct patient contact who do not always see the impact of their work on patient care."

A computer program that Emerson and his father wrote several years ago continues to be used by the Laboratory to organize data about hundreds of chemicals. He was involved in the development and support of the Consolidated Accreditation and Licensure Survey preparations and on-line survey.

"I would like to share this honor with my co-workers, past and present, whose help has been invaluable. As in any large organization, success requires a team effort. I have been blessed with outstanding teamwork throughout my career," concluded Emerson.

Emerson, who is married, has two daughters and two grandsons. He is a church elder and a member of the Southern California Ship Modeling Association and the American Society of Clinical Pathologists. He spent two years in Ethiopia as a Peace Corps field epidemiologist, has extensive hiking and mountaineering experience, is an avid bicyclist, and enjoys drawing, woodworking, and etching.

Congratulations, Clyde!



Supervisor Molina Spreads Olympic Spirit at Special Sports 2000

Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair of the Board of Supervisors, in partnership with the Department of Parks and Recreation and local parents, spread Olympic spirit at the Special Sports 2000 in September. The event held at Roosevelt Park in Southeast Los Angeles inaugurated recreational and social service programs for the developmentally disabled.

Supervisor Molina said, "Special Sports 2000 provided developmentally challenged individuals an opportunity to join in the competitive spirit of the Olympic games. More important, the event marked a day when Roosevelt Park began to serve all members of the Roosevelt community."

The passing of the torch launched the park's first-ever event for special youth athletes, including wheelchair participants who competed in a variety of competitive sports events including tennis, field races, basketball, and swimming along with their siblings and other park youths.

"I'm very happy to be here today with my friends, and I'm going to win them a gold medal," said 13-year-old Jesus Zavala, while he passed on the torch with excitement before entering the 50 yard dash.

"Generally, children with disabilities are set aside and not given the opportunity to participate in regular park programs to show what they are capable of doing," said Lourdes Ocampo, a mother of two children, including Jesus, who has autism.

Agencies partnering with the park to provide services include the South Central Regional Center for the Developmentally Disabled, Inc., Fiesta Educativa, WIC, Department of Children and Family Services, Housing Authority, Western Law Center for Disability Rights, Catholic Big Brothers, Biola University Community Services, Blind Children's Center, Social Security Office, In-Home Support Services, Protection and Advocacy, Inc., Mental Health Advocacy, Inc., Shantee's Castle, and the Mexican American Opportunities Foundation.



"I want to encourage parents who have children with disabilities not to keep their children locked indoors, to take them out, and look for services and programs such as the ones being provided here at Roosevelt Park," said Josefina Blanco, a parent who takes her children to the park.

Entertainment was presented by the talented clients of Shantee's Castle who sang and danced for the audience during intermission. Shantee's Castle is a care provider for individuals with disabilities.

Roosevelt Park in the First Supervisorial District is located at 7800 Graham Avenue in Southeast Los Angeles.

LACERA Election Results

At its meeting of Sept. 5, 2000, the Board of Supervisors approved the results of the August 22, 2000 elections for the Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association (LACERA). The Board declared Brian C. Brooks elected as the Third Member of the Board of Investments, Simon S. Russin was elected as the Third Member of the Board of Retirement, and William R. Pryor was elected as the Alternate Member of the Board of Retirement.

Historic Property Owners Advocate Post Created



Linda Aquaro and Assessor Rick Auerbach

Los Angeles County has its first-ever Property Owners Advocate under an administrative order issued by Assessor Rick Auerbach creating a post to resolve unusual problems facing homeowners and small businesses.

Auerbach, appointed as the 24th Assessor by the Board of Supervisors in February 2000, said one of his first concerns was finding a way to help property owners who do not have attorneys on their side.

"Someone described it as an agent for those who can't afford an agent," said Auerbach.

For the position, Auerbach has chosen Linda Aquaro, a veteran of the Department of Auditor-Controller and the Office of the Assessor.

"[Linda Aquaro is someone who will] inspire respect and trust by demonstrating an impartial determination to find solutions and confirm the fairness of the process and decisions," said Auerbach.

The Assessor said he realized it was time to give someone the job of dealing with unusual situations and complicated disputes--someone working directly out of his Executive Office.

"There is such a sense of satisfaction in this, and it is a challenge, whether the problem is complicated or very simple," said Aquaro.

"Often, it is just a matter of making sure the property owner understands why a conclusion was reached and that the taxpayer's concerns were considered and addressed. Sometimes the property owner simply wants a third party they trust to sit in on discussions and then say, 'yes, they listened to you and made the right decision,'" said Auerbach, a 30-year veteran of the Assessor's Office who was Assistant Assessor when he was recommended to the Board of Supervisors for the top spot by retiring Assessor Kenneth P. Hahn.

Aquaro has already acted on behalf of sports figures, entertainers, widows, small homeowners and churches.

"So many of the problems are just misunderstandings, like a person who thinks they're being denied an exemption when all we asked for was verification of documents," said Aquaro.

Aquaro also helps property owners deal with the Office of Treasurer and Tax Collector and the Auditor-Controller. In the early 1980s, Aquaro supervised clerical staff in the Department of Auditor-Controller, where she received

an award for public service and learned the intricacies of property tax law. She joined the Assessor in 1987, where she worked in special investigations and was a liaison to other County agencies and the Board of Supervisors.

Voters

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this page. The Department's Multilingual Voter Services Coordinator's name and telephone number are available on this page for viewers wishing further information regarding the program or to request hard copies of the *Multilingual Voter Services* brochure. Persons requiring multilingual assistance in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog, or Vietnamese may call (800) 481-8683.



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Second District

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Third District

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Fourth District

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Mailing Address Change



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