

County DIGEST



APRIL 2001

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Energy Conservation

The California energy crisis is real! It impacts us at home and at work. As a result, the Board of Supervisors has directed all County departments to take aggressive energy conservation measures in order to reduce County energy usage by 5% as quickly as possible and further reduce an additional 2% to 5% usage by the end of the calendar year.

To assist with this effort, Internal Services Department (ISD) has established a Major Energy Users Group consisting of key representatives from County departments, ISD, and the Chief Administrative Office (CAO). This group meets twice monthly to assist with developing/reviewing energy conservation strategies/actions to aid in meeting our common energy conservation mandates. A number of Countywide energy conservation strategies have been identified.

see Energy on page 11

Pickens Fuel Corporation Honors Mayor Antonovich and Others



Joan Ouderkirk, director of Internal Services Department; Mayor Antonovich; Boone Pickens, chairman and chief executive officer of Pickens Fuel Corporation; Mark Ridley-Thomas, Los Angeles City councilman; Dee Allen, general manager, City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department; Andrew Littlefair, president, Pickens Fuel Corporation

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Pickens Fuel Corporation honored Mayor Antonovich, Los Angeles City Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas, Internal Services Department Director Joan Ouderkirk and Dee Allen of the City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs for enabling the public/private partnership which resulted in the March 19 opening of the downtown compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling station.

At the heart of downtown Los Angeles, the new station is located at 1055 North Alameda Street in Los Angeles,

adjacent to the County's Alameda Garage. The station will fuel CNG vehicles from Los Angeles County and City, taxicabs, shared-ride vehicles, hotel shuttles, and airport shuttles. The station features state-of-the-art equipment that dispenses compressed natural gas at 4.5 gallons per minute.

This is the second station available to support the 126 CNG vehicles in the County fleet. The first station is located at Internal Services Department's Eastern Complex at 1100 North Eastern Avenue in Los Angeles and was opened in mid 1990's.

Calendar of Events

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

*The Max Palevsky Collection of
Japanese Woodblock Prints*
February 8, 2001 through May 15, 2001

*Shifting Tides:
Cuban Photography after the Revolution*
April 15, 2001 through July 1, 2001

*L'Esprit Nouveau:
Purism in Paris, 1918-1925*
April 29, 2001 through August 5, 2001

*The Road to Aztlan:
Art from a Homeland **
May 13, 2001 through August 26, 2001

*Contemporary Projects 5 **
May 17, 2001 through July 29, 2001

"Made in California: Now"
Through September 9, 2001

Century in Fashion: 1900-2000
Through January 5, 2003

* Information is subject to change,
call to confirm information

Los Angeles Opera
(213)972-8001
www.laopera.org

Tosca
June 6, 2001 through June 27, 2001
Call for exact dates and times

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion
(213)202-2287
www.performingartscenterla.org

The Family Series
February 3, 2001 through June 16, 2001
Call for exact dates and times

Ahmanson Theatre
(213)628-2772

www.taperahmanson.com



3hree

April 15, 2001 through June 10, 2001
Call for exact dates and times

Contact

June 29, 2001 through August 26, 2001
Call for exact dates and times

Mark Taper Forum
(213)628-2772

www.taperahmanson.com

QED

March 10, 2001 through May 13, 2001
Call for exact dates and times

The Body of Bourne

May 27, 2001 through July 15, 2001
Call for exact dates and times

In Real Life/Another American

July 12, 2001 through September 16, 2001
Call for exact dates and times

Natural History Museum of
Los Angeles County

(213)763-DINO
www.nhm.org

*A Communion of the Spirits:
African-American Quilters, Preservers,
and Their Stories*

March 16, 2001 through September 3, 2001

"Pavilion of Wings" Butterfly House
April 28, 2001 through September 3, 2001



15th Annual Insect Fair
May 5 & 6, 2001

Tiniest Giants:

Discovering Dinosaur Eggs
May 19, 2001 through October 14, 2001

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

*HuupuK-anum Tupaat, Out of the Mist
Treasures of the Nuu-chah-nulh Chiefs*
February 24, 2001 through June 10, 2001

The Huntington Library, Art Collections,
& Botanical Gardens
(626)405-2100
www.huntington.org

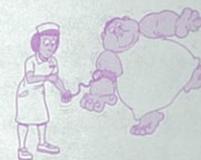
Selections From The Darwin Collection
February 25, 2001 through June 24, 2001

The Aboretum of Los Angeles
(626)821-4623

Tai Chi in the Garden
Every Tuesday & Friday
7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
Call information

*Baldwin Bonanza 2001
Festival of Plants*
May 4-5-6, 2001

Wellness Fair 2001



June 27, 2001
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Civic Center West
Community & Senior Services
3175 West 6th Street
Parking Lot B
Los Angeles, CA 90020

Arcadia Community Center

A Special Conference for Mid-Life and
Older Women... Take Control of Your Life

April 28, 2001 **
8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Contact Gwen at (213) 738-4239

The Revlon Run/Walk for Women

May 12, 2001 **
at the L.A. Memorial Coliseum
Call (213) 974-1431 to sign-up for the
Commission for Women's Team

** Supported by the Los Angeles County
Commission for Women

Supervisor Burke Hosts First Florence-Firestone Job Fair

On March 15, 2001, Supervisor Yvonne Burke welcomed nearly 600 participants 18 to 65 years of age to the first Florence-Firestone Job Fair. The fair, held at the Florence-Firestone Service Center, featured booths from more than 50 organizations offering jobs.

Supervisor Burke thanked her co-hosts of the event, the Florence-Firestone Community Service Center, including Larry Littleton and his staff, and the Work Opportunities Resource Committee. "It's so important for residents to have the opportunity to find meaningful work," Supervisor Burke said. "It is also helpful for them to learn what it's like when you're actually interviewing for a job."

County agencies with booths at the job fair included the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) GAIN Program, DPSS GROW Program, Community & Senior Services (CSS)-Parents Fair Share and Los Angeles County "The WORK Center." The State's Employment Development Department and the Compton Unified School District also manned booths.

The fair started at 9:00 a.m. and ended at 1:00 p.m. which resulted in 32 people being placed in jobs through the



Supervisor Burke (seventh from left) joined representatives from County agencies who were manning booths at the First Annual Florence-Firestone Job Fair. There were more than 50 booths offering jobs to attendees, who ranged in ages from 18 to 65 years old.

DPSS GAIN and DPSS GROW programs. Additionally, the CSS-Parents Fair Share Program reported that 65 people are waiting to hear from Disneyland Resort about job placements. The company came to the event with 2,000 job openings.

"I'm pleased to hear that apparently the recent announcement by

the Disney Company in Anaheim, in that they planned to lay off 4,000 workers, does not impact the job openings that were offered at the Florence-Firestone Job Fair," said Supervisor Burke. "We think this has been a successful beginning for this job fair, and look forward to having another one next year."

Dispute Settlement Program

The Dispute Settlement Program is a free service of the Los Angeles County Department of Consumer Affairs that allows you to resolve a case without going to court. Mediation can resolve matters out of court with individuals who are willing to communicate and listen to one another.

A program mediator will work with you to reach an agreeable solution so that both parties win. The mediator will not judge who is right or wrong but will assist you in reaching an agreement. Mediation allows you to determine the outcome of your case and to remain in control of the process. Once your case goes to court, you may not have a say in the outcome.

Mediations are scheduled at the convenience of both parties, often within a few short weeks, and you won't have to spend a full day in court waiting for your case to be heard. It is a voluntary process that is private and confidential, encourag-

ing a free exchange of information by the parties involved.

"Our staff will help you decide if mediation will work for you," states Pastor Herrera, director of the Department of Consumer Affairs. "Once we determine that mediation is right for you, we will contact the other party and mediate your complaint on the telephone or schedule a mediation session at a convenient time and place for both parties."

The service works to resolve disputes between:

- Consumers and businesses
- Renters and property owners
- Neighbors

The service does **not** handle cases involving:

- Criminal acts
- Legal and medical malpractice
- Governmental agencies

- Family law including divorce and child custody

There are no court filing fees, attorney's fees or any other costs for either party. You have nothing to lose by trying to resolve your case through mediation. If a solution can't be reached, you still have the opportunity to go to court.

You may contact the Dispute Settlement Service at (213) 974-0825, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. A trained counselor will answer your questions and provide you with information on how you can resolve your dispute quickly and easily.

The Department of Consumer Affairs Dispute Settlement Program is funded by the County of Los Angeles Dispute Resolution Program Special Fund administered by Community and Senior Services.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Frederick Aguilera Corral

Frederick Aguilera Corral, the March 2001 Employee of the Month, has worked for the County for 15 years and is presently a Supervising Coroner Investigator II with the Investigations Division of the Department of Coroner.

"I am very honored to have been selected as the March 2001 Employee of the Month. I am thankful to the Department of Coroner for their consideration, support and for their nomination. I could not have received this honor without the help and support of my family: my wife Angie; daughter Christina; son Freddie; and parents Fred and Isabel and the assistance of my co-workers and many others."

Under State law the Coroner's role is to determine the manner, mode and cause of death. The investigator conducts interviews with witnesses, police, family, doctors and conducts a physical examination of the decedents to determine if there are any signs of trauma. As a Supervising Coroner Investigator II, Corral assigns Coroner Investigators to respond to death investigations that fall under the jurisdiction of the Coroner. In addition, Corral makes notification of the next of kin, prepares written detailed reports, testifies in court, responds to mortuaries, and signs death certificates.

Corral was born and raised and went to school in Los Angeles County. He graduated from El Rancho High School, Rio Hondo Police Academy and Rio Hondo College. Currently, he is obtaining a B.A. degree in criminology from California State University, Los Angeles.

Of his many accomplishments, Corral received a lifetime California State College Teaching Credential in police science and graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation Law Enforcement Specialist's Course.



Mayor Antonovich honors Frederick Aguilera Corral as the March 2001 Employee of the Month.

Corral retired from the United States Marine Corps after 26 years (three years active and 23 years reserves), worked as a Police Officer for the city of Baldwin Park and later became a Deputy Sheriff for San Bernardino Sheriff Department. He was wounded in the line of duty and as a result he was medically retired. It was then that Corral became a Coroner Investigator for the Los Angeles County Department of Coroner.

Since being with the Department of Coroner, Corral played a critical role in many high profile death investigations. He was assigned to the specialized officer involved shooting team which investigated the Night Stalker serial murder, Cerritos plane crash, Los Angeles riots, and the Northridge earthquake.

In addition, Corral was assigned as the team leader for the Coroner's Special Operation Recovery Team (SORT), formerly Disaster Response Team, which assisted in the investigation, recovery and processing of the decedents with San Diego County during the "Heaven's Gate Mass Suicide." The SORT team consists of

trained coroner investigators, criminalists, forensic technicians and forensic attendants.

Recently, Corral was activated to respond to the Alaska Airlines Flight #261 plane crash in Ventura as a medical investigator and as a relief commander for the Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (D-MORT). The D-MORT team assists the local medical examiner/coroner in the recovery and identification of the decedents and gets the decedents back to their families so the families can have a sense of closure.

Since the Alaska Airlines Flight #261 incident, Corral was appointed D-MORT Region #9 commander. D-MORT Region #9 covers Guam, Hawaii, California, Arizona and Nevada. Also, Corral has taken on the responsibility of the Department's mass fatality instructor. Currently, he is one of four certified mass fatality instructors that conduct mass fatality awareness presentation and mass fatality training courses certified by the California Office of Emergency Management.

"The Department of Coroner has allowed me this opportunity and I am thankful for their full support. Being a mass fatality instructor is a great honor and I am proud to be representing the Department of Coroner and D-MORT."

As well as being a Coroner Investigator, he teaches part time at Rio Hondo College, Public Services Department on Death Investigation.

In his spare time, Corral enjoys reading war/crime novels, collecting Marine Corps memorabilia mainly WWII insignias, target shooting and swimming.

"I want to thank Mayor Antonovich and the Board of Supervisors for this honor. I also want to give special thanks to our Director, Tony Hernandez and Administrative Service Manager, Sarah Ahonima, who were the ones responsible for my nomination. This is an honor and experience I will always remember. To the members of the Department of Coroner and D-MORT Region #9 members, I share this honor with you. Thank you!"

Congratulations, Frederick!



Abrams Property Dedication

On Friday, February 23, 2001, Supervisor Yaroslavsky officially dedicated the Liberty Canyon Wildlife Corridor, a crucial link between wildlife habitats for mountain lions, badgers, bobcats and other large mammals in the Santa Monica Mountains and the Simi Hills. Formerly known as "the Abrams property," the parcel was acquired with Supervisor Yaroslavsky's assistance for \$3.2 million, as a condition of National Park Service approval of expanded operations at the nearby Calabasas Landfill. The landfill is operated by the Los Angeles County Sanitation District, on whose Board Supervisor Yaroslavsky serves.



Joining Supervisor Yaroslavsky are former property owner Al Abrams; Representative Brad Sherman (D-Woodland Hills); Superintendent for the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Art Eck; and environmental consultant, Betty Wiechec.

Getting The Word Out: Changes in Child Support

The transition countdown is underway. Los Angeles County's child support program is scheduled to transition from being a bureau in the District Attorney's office into a new, independent agency. When the transition becomes final, the child support agency will become the Los Angeles County Child Support Services Department.

At the outset, the most notable change will be the name on the doors of the six regional offices, the Interstate Division and the courts where child support matters are heard. Child support services will be provided from the same office locations at the same addresses as they are at present. The nationwide, toll-free phone number will remain the same (800) 615-8858, but the voice you hear taking your call will be identified as a staff member of the Los Angeles County Child Support Services Department.

The Child Support Reform Act, which was signed by Governor Gray Davis in 1999, mandates the name change. The same law created the new California Department of Child Support Services.

"We want to reassure the public that there will be no disruptions in service, at the same time we are trying to get the word out that the ultimate result of these changes will be improved child support

customer service," said Wayne Doss, director of the present Bureau of Family Support.

"The new Los Angeles County Child Support Services Department will continue to manage all 578,000 child support cases in this county," said Doss. "There will be no need for existing child support orders to be changed simply because the new Los Angeles County Child Support Services Department will be enforcing the orders," said Doss. "Child support criminal cases will still be prosecuted," he said.

Over the coming months, there will be a lot of publicity about the new department and the implementation of new programs designed to improve service. Most notable among them is an Ombudsperson Program. It is designed to solve case problems that are not handled as quickly as the public might wish.

In addition to publicity in the news media and information generated through community relations programs, the department will hold a series of community meetings on selected Saturdays. These meetings are designed to bring transition information directly to members of the public.

Here is the schedule:

1. Saturday, April 28, 2001 - 10:00

a.m., West Covina, 2934 South Garvey Av.

2. Saturday, May 12, 2001 - 10:00 a.m., Torrance, 20221 South Hamilton Av.

3. Saturday, June 9, 2001 - 10:00 a.m., Palmdale, 1020 East Palmdale Bl.

4. Saturday, June 23, 2001 - 10:00 a.m., El Segundo, 621 Hawaii St.

Members of the Child Support Services Department staff will make presentations on the changes in the child support program at these public meetings and make themselves available to answer questions.

In addition to these dates people with problems or questions about their particular cases may discuss them with members of the CSSD staff.

Each regional office is open the second and fourth Saturday of each month to enable persons who have difficulty in coming to our offices during weekdays. To reduce the waiting time we encourage people seeking assistance during one of our "Outreach Saturdays" to make an appointment in advance by calling the Child Support Service Center at (800)615-8858.

Information about Child Support Transition may also be found on our Internet web site <http://da.co.la.ca.us/childsupport>.



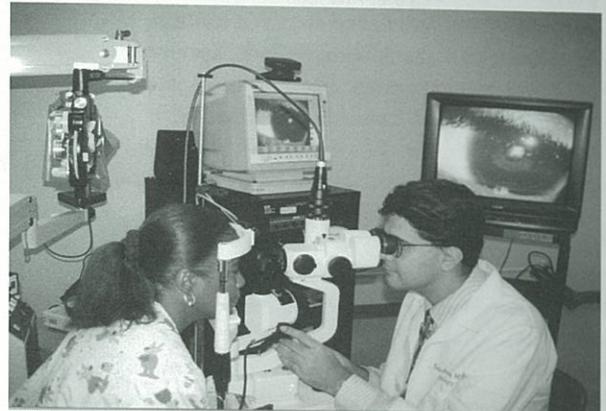
Sharing A Commitment County Strategic Plan

The County is embarking on a five-year Countywide Strategic Plan to realize a shared vision of service and workforce excellence, organizational effectiveness and fiscal responsibility. Each of the County's 93,000 employees are essential partners in the Plan and this vision. As in corporate enterprise, the Plan will identify and focus our efforts. Unlike private ventures, however, our critical responsibilities range from life saving to life nurturing, from cultural arts to cultural diversity, and from caring for children to strengthening an economy they will one day inherit. In doing this, we are Sharing a Commitment.

Over the coming months, you will hear much about the multi-year Strategic Plan. While it is composed of various strategies and objectives, its core is captured in four "organizational" goals, which are discussed below, and one "program" goal to promote Children and Families' Well-Being which will be discussed in a later Digest issue.

1. Service Excellence

Each day, millions of County residents rely on us to provide protective services, maintain the public infrastructure, deliver medical attention, assist individuals and families, and create art and recreational opportunities. We participate individually and collectively in making that happen. In the process, through concern and professionalism, we value ourselves and beneficially touch the lives of others.



In our public sector careers we have the unique leadership opportunity to directly affect the lives of individuals and families. Here, Health Services uses video conferencing technology so that doctors at remote locations can share in a patient diagnosis.

"We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give." Winston Churchill



Measuring where we are allows us to move forward. County programs are support tools. Here, Human Resources provides training to County personnel.

2. Workforce Excellence

As individuals, and as a workforce, we need to continually improve our customer service skills. To help make improvements, and ensure we have the tools to make a contribution, the County is committed to an emphasis on training, computer literacy, programs for employee well-being, and increased internal and cross department communication.



Effective organizations understand where they are and where they want to go. Here, the Chief Administrative Officer briefs employees at one of the periodic meetings of staff.

3. Organizational Effectiveness

While as a level of government the County needs a "game plan," each department, as a service "organization," needs to chart a parallel course and strategy about the future. To be effective, that strategy needs to be shared with employees, and together what was once a direction and a goal becomes a reality.

VISION-PLAN-REALITY



Over a two-year period, the Board of Supervisors, Chief Administrative Officer, and numerous department heads and managers worked with the Anderson School at UCLA on a vision, a "game plan," for the future of the County as we enter the 21st Century. The result, a Vision Statement circulated Countywide last year, and now a *Strategic Plan* that emphasizes our unity of purpose, creates bridges between departments serving similar populations, supports creativity, rewards effectiveness, and strengthens the County's resources. Ultimately these values, where each employee is considered a leader, enable us through our direct actions to enhance the quality of life of our families, and our communities.

4. Fiscal Responsibility

From the child with a savings bank at home to the largest country on the planet, we live within limits dictated by the wise use of our available resources. By increasing partnerships, adopting the best strategies on a project or in a program, sharing information, and just making "dollars count," as a County we can manage our resources and be more effective in support of our public trust. Goal number four, therefore, is to make wise judgements about the way we expend our human and fiscal energies, ever open to creative strategies that can provide greater and more quality services to a public that relies upon our efforts. We salute the County heritage of caring and concern, and the recognition that justly provides.



Department heads leading Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) computerized accounting effort showing collaboration on enhancing fiscal responsibility Countywide. (AC, CAO, CIO, DHR, ISD and Sheriff, with Chair of Productivity Commission).



"If you think you can, or think you can't, you're probably right." Mark Twain

In future issues of the County Digest, we will talk further about the Strategic Plan, how making a contribution provides personal satisfaction and positively impacts our communities, and how that process can be and is being put into action. We will also discuss how the Plan, of which we are all a part, is a blueprint through which our great strengths in cultural and skills diversity are a positive and powerful reminder of the heritage and future of Los Angeles County government.

County Strategic Plan: a collaborative series brought to you by Human Resources and the Quality and Productivity Commission with the Auditor-Controller, Chief Administrative Office, Chief Information Office, Children's Services, Executive Office, Internal Services, Public Works and Sheriff.



LA County Commission for Women Announces Women of the Year Awardees



Lori Glasgow, 5th Supervisorial District honoree, is joined by Barbara Perkins, Commission for Women president; Mayor Antonovich; Charlotte Lesser, Awards Luncheon Committee chair; and Reiko Duba, the Mayor's appointee to the Commission.

On March 12, 2001, the Los Angeles Commission for Women hosted its 16th annual *Women of the Year Awards Luncheon* at the Regal Biltmore Hotel. "It is fitting that we honor these eleven women in March, which is Women's History Month," announced Commission President Barbara Perkins. After carefully reviewing all of the worthy nominees, a total of 11 exceptional women was chosen out of more than 40 nominations. These remarkable women represent a myriad of fields, including media, law, business, education and health. "We received many outstanding nominations and found the task of selecting our awardees extremely difficult," said Awards Luncheon Chair and Commissioner Charlotte Lesser.

The following are the 11 distinguished women who were saluted for their championship in the ongoing struggle for women's rights and equality.

Captain Veronie Steele-Small was the recipient of the Commission for Women's Inaugural President's Award for Outstanding Accomplishment. Recently, Captain Veronie Steele-Small became the 1st African American female Fire Fighter in the Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACFD) promoted to the ranks of Captain. Captain Steele-Small graduated from the LACFD in October 1988, was a paramedic for eight years and the primary Emergency Medical Technician Instructor for the Fire

Department's recruitment classes. Captain Steele-Small is an Explorer Advisor consultant for a program designed to encourage, motivate, discipline and instruct teenagers in the race towards maturity. Among her many affiliations, Captain Steele-Small is a 12-year member of the Stentorians, Professional Black Fire Fighters organization, Women in Fire Service, Gwen Bolden Big Sister/Little Sister and the Coalition of Employment & Economic Development.

Yolanda Nava, the 1st Supervisorial District awardee, is the author of the book, *It's all in the Frijoles: 100 Famous Latinos Share Real Life Stories, Time-Tested Dichos, Favorite Folktales, and Inspiring Words of Wisdom*. Ms. Nava is an Emmy Award-winning television journalist, columnist, educator, consultant and community leader. Additionally, she was a co-founder and owner of Ponce-Nicasio Broadcasting in Sacramento, the first Latina-owned and -operated television station in the U.S. Ms. Nava's weekly column can be found in the newspapers of Eastern Group Publications, the largest chain of bilingual newspapers in the country.

Crystal Stairs, Inc., the 2nd Supervisorial District awardee, is a nonprofit child development agency co-founded in 1980 by Dr. Alice Walker Duff and Karen Hill-Scott. Crystal Stairs assists parents in finding safe, affordable childcare services.

In addition, the agency conducts research and promotes advocacy. Today, Crystal Stairs is the largest private, nonprofit development agency in California. Nearly 50,000 children benefit daily from the various programs and projects of Crystal Stairs.

Irma Cols, the 3rd Supervisorial District honoree, is on the Board of Directors of the Venice Family Clinic and has devoted her personal sponsorship to the health concerns of low-income children and adults who might not otherwise have access to health services. She is responsible for the Clinic's private support base, and since 1979, has helped raise \$25 million for the Clinic's operations. Irma and her husband, Lou, have made significant personal contributions to the Clinic, and a grateful Board has named "The Irma and Lou Colen Endowment Fund" in their honor. This fund will ensure that the Clinic will always have a staff physician to back up the volunteer physicians who donate their time to the Clinic on a rotating basis.

Dorothy Courtney, the 4th Supervisorial District honoree, is the Executive Director of the Richstone Family Center. When Ms. Courtney chose to join the Richstone Family Center 20 years ago rather than complete her master's degree, it was a fledgling organization with only three employees. Today, under her direction, the Richstone Family Center is a flourishing help center serving nearly 5,000 children and mothers who have been victims of domestic abuse. Additionally, Richstone has a \$2 million budget and more than 40 employees, as well as hundreds of volunteers in the cities of Lawndale, Lennox and Hawthorne.

Lori Glasgow, Ph.D., the 5th Supervisorial District awardee, is the Chief Deputy for Los Angeles County Mayor Michael D. Antonovich. Her responsibilities as Chief Deputy include advising Mayor Antonovich on all public issues affecting Los Angeles County. In addition to her work as Chief Deputy, Ms. Glasgow is a part-time professor at USC and is a wife and mother of three children.

Deane Dana Friendship Park Groundbreaking

One of the most scenic parks within the Los Angeles County park system will soon be enhanced with a new Nature Center building. Entrance to the Deane Dana Friendship Park is through a gate in San Pedro; however, the 124-acre park is actually situated on a Rancho Palos Verdes bluff.

Previously known simply as Friendship Park, in early 1995 the Board of Supervisors took action to change the name to Deane Dana Friendship Park in recognition of the former County Supervisor's longtime advocacy of parks.

The design of the Nature Center was truly a combined effort, with a group of community representatives – The Friends of Friendship Park – offering input that was incorporated into the final design.

Visitors to the Nature Center building will be rewarded with a fantastic elevated view of the Los Angeles Harbor and Terminal Island. The 4,000 square foot Nature Center, with adjacent courtyard, will



Supervisor Don Knabe, second from right, is assisted by former Supervisor Deane Dana, his wife Doris, and children in breaking ground for the new Nature Center.

feature interpretive displays and offer a classroom for educational programs to be offered to visiting school groups. To accommodate group visits, additional parking will be constructed. New playground equipment will be installed to entertain younger park visitors.

To provide better access to the park, the existing service road will be replaced and widened to comply with current accessibility standards. In addition, a new, fully accessible trail to the park's Vista Point and the repair of existing trails will be made possible by a generous donation from the Sierra Club.

In conjunction with the project, there will be habitat restoration for the endangered Palos Verdes Blue Butterfly. This will involve hand seeding and transplantation of host plant materials.

The festive groundbreaking ceremony took place in early February. The program was hosted by Supervisor Don Knabe, with former Supervisor Dana, his wife Doris and other family members on hand. Many dignitaries and other interested members of the community celebrated this beginning of the long-planned Nature Center.

Women

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Christina Hsu is the Program Director of the Chinatown Service Center and was chosen because of her progressive efforts in the health field. Ms. Hsu was a founding member in 1978 and named Program Director in 1980. She is influenced by both Eastern and Western culture and has advocated women's rights since the beginning of her career. Oftentimes, there is a lack of education among immigrants in the Asian Pacific Islander Community in the area of women's health. Ms. Hsu has worked diligently to establish outreach and education programs for women to promote breast and cervical cancer awareness, as well as STD and HIV prevention, despite having to go against the traditional values of the community.

Veronica McBeth was the first woman to serve as presiding judge of the Municipal Court of Los Angeles County. Among her many honors, Judge McBeth is a recipient of the 1998 Chief Justice William Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence; named 1991 Bernard F. Jefferson Judge of the Year by the John Langston Bar Association; and received the 1993 Thurgood Marshall Award from the

NAACP. Judge McBeth received her J.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles School of Law in 1975.

Judy Vaughan, CSJ has had a lifelong commitment to education, from her early teaching days at Mount St. Mary's College in the 70s to her current position as Founder and Director of Alexandria House in the Mid-Wilshire area of Los Angeles. Alexandria House is a transitional residence for women and children in need. Ms. Vaughan has consistently worked as an advocate for women's rights and social change. As the director of Alexandria House, she oversees all of the programs, which include ESL classes, teen tutoring, after-school homework assistance, plus educational programs for women to assist them to re-enter society, gain employment and become self-sufficient.

Jane Velez-Mitchell is most recognized for her work as a television news anchor for *KCAL 9 News: California Report* with Kerry Kilbride. In addition to the many awards and accolades Velez-Mitchell has received for her journalistic work, she and Kilbride received a 1990 Golden Mike Award for best one-hour

newscast in Southern California. However, Velez-Mitchell has found many other ways to enhance her role in the community through her creative and personal resources. She has written and produced a children's opera, launched a web site to teach healthy living, and most recently produced a documentary on her mother, who is an immigrant from Puerto Rico.

Mary-Jane Wagle is committed to making the lives of women and their families better. As a co-founder of O.N.E. Company, Ms. Wagle develops low-income housing for families. However, her commitment to families does not end with her workday. Ms. Wagle is also a tireless advocate on behalf of the rights of women to have full and affordable access to reproductive health care, including birth control, cervical and breast cancer screening, STD testing and treatment, and abortion. Ms. Wagle has been an active participant in Planned Parenthood Los Angeles (PPLA) since 1989. She was also the driving force in the founding of the Planned Parenthood Advocacy Project, which works to elect and educate pro-choice elected officials.

April Retirees

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:

ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL:

Robert Jones

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Sydney S. Bowling

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE:

Robert M. Plasky

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES:

Joyce L. Artiaga, Wanda M. Silva

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: John R. Davis,

Sofia Hanna, Doris L. Anthony

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Sallie D. Hope, Robert B. Hume,

Delia M. Mabagos, Judith Navarrette,

Ernestine Neal, Marlene Nelson,

Esther R. Nollora, Hilda L. Smith,

Joe L. Thomas, Pensri Tongkul

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Manuel F. Diaz, Margie A. Fuller,

Ramon Granado, Betty B. Yeoman,

Frank Young Jr.

LIBRARY: Mary J. Noonan,

Andrew M. Reed

MENTAL HEALTH: Edgar Alvarez,

Shirley A. Wright

PROBATION: James S. Allsup,

Teresa L. Arriaga

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:

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Enayat Morcos, Merle S. Rosete

PUBLIC WORKS: Porfirio M. Fuentes,

Anthony A. Hernandez, Maureen Sheridan

SHERIFF: Arthur F. Ames,

Harold L. Bandy Jr., Chad D. Carson,

Tessa D. Cruse, Ronald H. Eoff,

Robert E. Grandchamp, Joseph Gross,

Kenneth D. Mays, Michael Odom,

Douglas L. Rath, Jeffrey H. Seitz

SUPERIOR COURT: Bernadette A. Filosa,

Phyllis E. Petrou



see Retirees on last page

2001 Ford Amphitheatre Season Opens

The 2001 Ford Amphitheatre season opens Memorial Day weekend with the U.S. premiere of a special program celebrating composer Kurt Weill commissioned by WDR Radio of Germany and closes September 24 with a performance by the Eroica Trio. The schedule for the intimate 1,245-seat outdoor amphitheatre encompasses 40 performances of 34 events embracing classical music, world culture, dance, jazz, bluegrass, cabaret, swing, film and family fare.

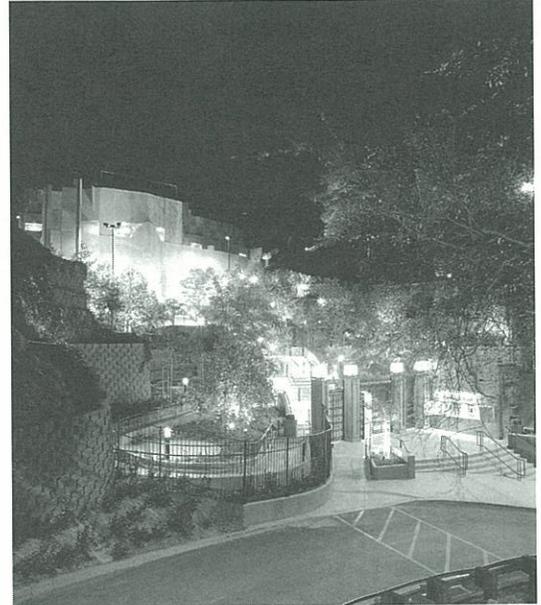
Complete season information is available by calling the Ford Box Office, (323) GO 1-FORD (461-3673) or, after March 26, logging onto the Ford web site, www.lacountyarts.org/ford.html. The Ford Amphitheatre season is a program of the Los Angeles County Arts Commission and is produced in collaboration with Los Angeles County-based arts organizations.

“As always, it’s a pleasure to look forward to an exciting new season of summer entertainment at the Ford,” said Supervisor Yaroslavsky, in whose district the facility is located. “This year, we’re especially pleased to welcome a roster of talented performers, many making their Ford debuts, with a variety of programs that range from chamber music and ballet to the sounds of West Africa and storytelling with music.”

Prices for evening events range from \$20 to \$36. Those who purchase tickets to 3 or more evening events receive a 20% discount. Admission to family events is free for children and \$4 for adults.

The Ford Amphitheatre is located at 2580 Cahuenga Boulevard East, off the 101 (Hollywood) across the freeway from the Hollywood Bowl and south of Universal Studios. The Ford is disabled accessible. Portable wireless listening devices are available upon request.

The Ford offers a number of dining options. A variety of food and beverages is available in the snack bar on the upper level and the indoor bar on the middle level of the theatre. Box dinners for evening events may be ordered through



Ford Amphitheatre at night

Tasteful Creations, (310) 652-3797. The Ford grounds - including the terraced entryway, new in 2000 - accommodate 200 picnickers.

On-site, stacked parking costs \$5 per vehicle for evening shows and \$3 per vehicle for morning family shows.

For evening shows only, non-stacked parking for \$3 per vehicle (with validation) is available in the city-owned parking structure at 1718 North Cherokee in Hollywood, 1.3 miles south of the amphitheatre, and at 3400 Cahuenga Boulevard West, 1.8 miles north of the amphitheatre. A free shuttle runs between the lots and the amphitheatre. This is the first season two off-site lots with shuttle service have been available.

The Ford Amphitheatre 2001 season is generously supported by the Colburn Foundation, Edmund D. Edelman Foundation, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Milken Foundation, Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, Robinsons-May, Toyota Motor Sales, Yamaha Corporation of America and “Friends of the Ford” donors.

Handling the Recent Storms With Ease

Los Angeles County streets have been soaked by recent storms – more rain than Seattle has seen lately – because our local rainfall amounts have been slightly higher than normal. But we've fared through the downpours "like water off a duck's back," according to County Public Works officials.

Why? Because of the County's extensive flood control system which, for the most part, lies hidden throughout the Los Angeles basin. This intricate system begins at the base of our local mountains at the 20 dams (15 owned and operated by the County Department of Public Works and five by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) that hold back the storm waters for release at a later time. During a storm, street flows are collected by over 70,000 County catch basins that send the water through our system of over 2,400 miles of underground

storms drains. These storm drains connect to our over 450 miles of open channels that ultimately carry the flows to the ocean. This system has provided flood protection to the residents of Los Angeles County for more than 50 years and is operated and maintained by the County Department of Public Works.

Los Angeles County has also gained ground in the ongoing battle with the tons of trash that usually washes through the flood control system and ends up in the ocean. As a pilot project, Public Works has installed a trash "boom" at the mouth of the Los Angeles River – sort of a floating barrier – that is designed to collect the trash before it reaches the ocean. The collected trash is removed by crane and loaded into trash containers hauled by truck to a sanitary landfill. So far, this innovative project

has prevented over a hundred tons of trash from ending up on our beaches.

On another positive note, the rains have been spaced perfectly with dry-out periods in between, allowing sufficient time for the storm water collected in our spreading grounds to percolate down to replenish our underground aquifers. Public Works has conserved over 50,000 acre-feet (an acre-foot, or 326,000 gallons, can supply two average families with water for a year) of storm water this winter season that would have normally been wasted to the ocean. This stored water enhances our supply and is available to local water purveyors.

Los Angeles County residents have enjoyed still another wonderful side effect of the recent storms – the increase in snow pack at our local mountains – what more could we ask for?

Energy

continued from front page

Can County employees make a difference in meeting the energy conservation goals? The answer is YES! Employees are the County. Your cooperation is essential for the County to meet its conservation goals. Following are some ways you can help to conserve energy:

- Discontinue use of small appliances (i.e., heaters, fans, desk fountains, toasters, and microwaves).
- Turn off lights in offices and conferences rooms when not occupied.
- Limit use of passenger elevators; use the stairs when possible.
- Turn off coffee pots by noon daily.
- Keep exterior doors and windows closed.

- Use e-mail instead of sending memos and faxing documents.
- Turn off personal computers, monitors, printers, and copiers at the end of the day and when not needed for an extended period of time (i.e. 2 hours or more).
- Turn off unnecessary overhead lighting where light switches have the option.
- Use lap top computers and ink-jet printers, if available, since they use 90% less energy than desktop and laser printers.
- Emphasize the purchase of office equipment that meets the Federal Department of Energy's "Energy Star" standard for energy efficiency.

If you have further questions or suggestions, please contact Nora Hernandez at (323) 881-3949.

Mailing Address Change



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

Dept. of Human Resources
500 W. Temple Street, Room 375
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 893-2257
(213) 613-4789 FAX

The Digest is available online at
<http://hr.co.la.ca.us>

County DIGEST

Retirees

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

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/ WEIGHTS & MEASURES:

Charles E. Parrish, Dennis K. Vinopal

ASSESSOR:

Lynn M. Freed, Tamio Fukasawa, Herbert Y. Hirashima

BEACHES & HARBORS:

Martin L. Bracamonte

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE:

Audrey Plasky

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES:

Frances E. Creveling, Joyce F. Francisco,

Barbara J. Jenkins, Dennis M. Kidwell,

Robert J. Knox, Sharyn L. Logan,

Jean R. Mc Candless, Lois C. Meiser,

Ellen Rabow, Mary Y. Young, Robert Zalkin

COUNTY COUNSEL:

Michael D. Ford

DISTRICT ATTORNEY:

Gwyane Collins, Paul P. Halpin, Ronald Hernandez, Georgia

M. Glover, Mary H. Nagle, David R. Ross,

Leonard J. Shaffer

FIRE:

John A. Bailey, Ronald E. Bozarth,

Donato M. Dingillo, William M. Everson,

Larry D. Foster, William J. Franklin,

Michael Kidd, Mark A. Lozano,

Robert J. New, Ronnie Patterson,

Donald C. Pratt, William J. Rader,

Theodore H. Sanford Jr., Edmund J. Schlegel,

David H. Stark, Russell D. Van De Mark,

Thomas D. Voigt

HEALTH SERVICES:

Melvin Ables Jr., Reza Alamdari, Ulysses D. Barnett,

Theophilus Boyd, Stuart Chason,

Oleta J. Dodson, James L. Frazier,

Patricia A. Hayes, Mary N. Hill,

Dan S. Huff, Edward W. Hutzler,

Russell M. Jones-Jordan, Patricia Kennedy,

Romy U. Lardizabal, Falefau M. Leiato,

Amor V. Lesaca, Tomiko Maedo,

Jack Petralia, Flora Simpson,

Helen Y. Talesh, Jacqueline K. Vogt

HUMAN RESOURCE/OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY:

Karen Hallinan,

Charles O. McClinton, Sermjot Payakniti

INTERNAL SERVICES:

Fernando F. Castro, James R. Crooks, William D. Wilcox Jr.

LIBRARY:

Ruth L. Venerable

MENTAL HEALTH:

Phyllis Eddleman, Stephen M. Fox

PARKS & RECREATION:

Paulette L. Smith, James T. Whitehead II

PROBATION:

Ronald H. Carman, Alice M. Cauthorne, Beverly Daugherty,

Alice M. Davenport-Wa, John N. Fletcher,

Bruce Johnston, Robert P. Lavery,

Howard M. Pitts, Willie L. Puckett,

Carol J. Rumble, Louis A. Sanchez,

Eugene R. Sullivan, Sharon R. Thompson

PUBLIC DEFENDER:

James A. Glass

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:

William M. Ahl, Barbara J. Berry,

Anna M. Castro, Lorna D. Custer,

Vivian Dudley, Teresa Harbus,

June Johnson, Mary C. L. Homme,

Amanda N. Little, Dorothy Lopez,

Joseph A. Rizzo, Alfredo J. Rodriguez Jr.

Inell Smith, Cora Suttles, Julia N. Takeda,

Eva J. Washington, Dorothy Watts,

Audrey M. Whatley, Burneace Wilson

PUBLIC WORKS:

Jesus A. Bautista, Roy L. Forward, James L. Greene,

Donald E. Jones, John S. Lovrensky,

Wayne L. Snively, John H. Squier,

Harry W. Stone, Jack R. Wade

SHERIFF:

Robert D. Bell, Edward Bennett,

Joseph M. Brown, Richard M. Buhman,

Dennis J. Curran, Louis D. Danoff,

James R. Ellison, Charlyne P. Eevee,

Richard E. Fetterling, Barry Gardner,

Charles E. Grantham, Henry A. Hoppe,

James J. Jacobs, James R. Klinger,

David C. Presswood, Gerald M. Robinson,

Jeffrey B. Springs, Robert D. Waters

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Sebastian R. Bustamante,

Joyce A. Campochiaro, Kenneth R. Cianfrini,

Laura E. Eley, Helen A. Heywood-Mang,

Merlin Mathews, Mildred L. Talley,

Barbara A. Velez

W.A.T.E.R. Program Revised Schedule

Due to aquatic facilities being under construction, the Water Awareness, Training, Education and Recreation (W.A.T.E.R.) Youth Program made changes in the location and times of its Swim Tests. The dates remain the same as previously listed. The revised locations and times are as follows:

- Saturday, May 19,

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mira Costa High School Pool

701 South Peck Avenue, Manhattan Beach

(One block North of Artesia Boulevard, East of Pacific Coast Highway)

- Saturday, June 2,

8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Culver City Municipal Plunge

4117 Overland Avenue, Culver City
(Exit 405 Freeway at Culver Boulevard, East to Overland South)

- Saturday, June 9,

8:00 a.m. to noon

Mira Costa High School Pool

- Saturday, June 16,

10:00 a.m. to noon

Malibu High School Pool

30215 Morning View Drive, Malibu

(From Pacific Coast Highway at Zuma Beach, turn East on Morning View Drive)

Further information can be obtained by calling the W.A.T.E.R. Youth Program office at (310) 305-9587 or accessing the Beaches and Harbors web site,

<http://beaches@co.la.ca.us>.



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Sandra A. Hoodye

Ombudsman/Community Liaison

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