



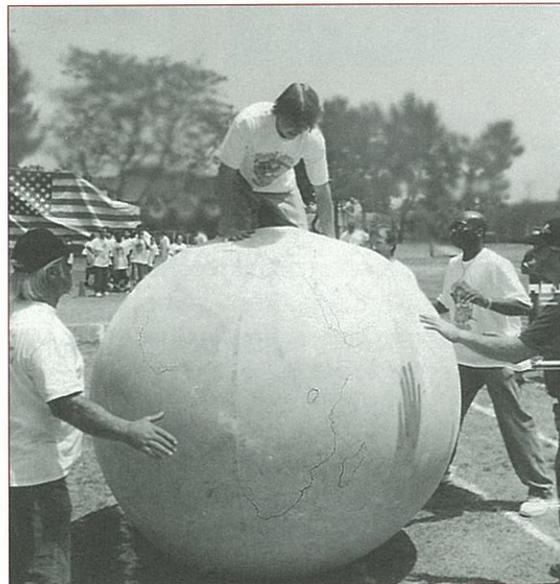
MacClaren Youth Have a “Ball” During Center’s 20th Annual Olympiad

MacLaren Children’s Center (MCC) celebrated its 20th Annual Olympiad over two days of sports, games and treats for the 150 onetime victims of abuse and neglect who now reside at the center.

The events on May 17 and 18 began with the “Parade of Athletes.” All of the children marched onto the field in bright Olympic uniforms carrying the flags of their respective cottages.

In honor of our country, the children sang the “Star Spangled Banner” while red, white and blue balloons rose from an enormous U.S. flag. The MacLaren Drill Team then performed for all of the children, staff and guests. After the opening remarks of Lisa Nuñez, MCC Interim Administrator, the events officially began.

Gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded, just as in the Olympics, by Chief Administrative Officer David Janssen; Chief Administrative Office Chief Deputy Sharon Harper; and Martha Molina, deputy for First District Supervisor Gloria Molina. Sportsmanship and participation awards were also handed-out so that every child was special for



Sporting events and games during the MacLaren Children’s Center 20th Annual Olympiad included traditional track and field events such as racing, sprinting and the high jump as well as a basketball toss, egg racing and pitching. The Olympiad had events for every age and skill level, including clambering atop a giant “Earthball.”

what they could achieve and for trying their best and participating. The Olympiad concluded with the building of the traditional 340-foot “Banana Split” by the children.

A long row of wood braces was set up on the field—in went sliced bananas, gallons of various-flavored ice creams, chocolate syrup, nuts, whipped cream and, of course, cherries. The children then dug in. Each child had about two feet of the gooey stuff and all had an exciting and wonderful time. ✍

Employee of the Month: Health Services’ Juana Gonzales

“I love what I do,” says Employee of the Month Juana Gonzales, a 17-year veteran of the County’s Department of Health Services. Manning the front line of King/Drew Medical Center’s emergency department, Gonzales relishes the challenge that each day brings, supervising a team of registered nurses, licensed vocational nurses and ancillary staff for shifts that average 12 hours long.

“We see a wide variety at King/Drew—usually around 37 patients a shift,” said Gonzales,

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EVENT CALENDAR

EMPLOYEE WELLNESS FAIR

August 28, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Department of Public Social Services
Employee parking lot
211 East Alondra Boulevard, Chatsworth

MARINA DEL REY CONCERT SERIES

Thursdays and Saturdays, beginning July 11
Burton Chace Park, Marina del Rey
(310) 305-9545
beaches.co.la.ca.us

SANTA CECILIA ORCHESTRA

July 27 at 8 p.m.
Ford Amphitheatre
(323) GO-1-FORD
www.FordAmphitheatre.org

LE CORSAIRE (The Pirate)

July 11, 12, 13 at 8 p.m.; July 13, 14 at 2 p.m.
Dorothy Chandler Pavilion
(213) 972-0711
www.MusicCenter.org

THE ALLERGIST'S WIFE

June 18 through August 11
Ahmanson Theatre
(213) 628-2772
www.TaperAhmanson.com

THE HOUSE OF BERNARDA ALBA

July 14 through September 1
Mark Taper Forum
(213) 628-2772
www.TaperAhmanson.com

PAVILION OF WINGS

A Live Butterfly Experience
Through September 2
Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
(213) 763-DINO
www.nhm.org

LACMA FRIDAY NIGHT JAZZ

(free concert series)
Fridays from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., beginning April 5
Los Angeles County Museum of Art
(323) 857-6000
www.lacma.org

TRANSFORMING LACMA:

Museum at the Crossroads Exhibition
Showing Daily
Los Angeles County Museum of Art
(323) 857-6000
www.lacma.org



Marina del Rey Summer Concert Series

The second season of the County's waterside "Marina del Rey Summer Concert" series continues through August in Burton Chace Park, Marina del Rey.

Four classical concerts, featuring the 75-member Marina del Rey Summer Symphony, conducted by Maestro Frank Fetta, will be presented on Thursday evenings, while four pops concerts, featuring top stars of the contemporary music world, will be presented on Saturday nights. Concerts are free and open to the public.

The exciting pops lineup features: July 20 - Sheila E. and the E-Train; August 3 - Oscar Castro-Neves and Friends in an evening of Bossa Nova; August 17 - new singing sensation Steve Tyrell; and August 31 - a return visit from jazz star Diane Schuur, appearing with the Gregg Field Big Band. The much-heralded symphonic series, which began July 11, will focus on orchestral music July 25th. On August 8, the concert will feature Lori Stinson as soprano soloist. The final concert, on August 22, will again focus on orchestral music.

Chace Park is located at 13650 Mindanao Way, Marina del Rey. Parking, at \$2 for the evening, is available near the Park in County Lots 4 on Mindanao Way and 5 on Bali Way. Reasonably priced picnic suppers can be ordered from the Park food concession at (213) 739-9913. Chairs, cushions, and blankets are available for rent at the concert site. For further information and a listing of music to be played at each symphonic concert, call the Department's information line at (310) 305-9545 or visit the Department Web site at beaches.co.la.ca.us. 

SAVINGS BONDS:

A Safe Way to Save for the Future

"If you're looking for a safe and secure way to invest towards your future financial needs and goals, consider buying U.S. Savings Bonds," Board Chairman Zev Yaroslavsky advises County employees.

As the County's 2002 Savings Bonds campaign chairman, Supervisor Yaroslavsky encourages County employees to also consider buying bonds as a one-time gift. Savings Bonds earn competitive rates of return when compared to other forms of savings. There are two types of bonds available for purchase: the new inflation-indexed Series I or the traditional market-based Series EE.

I Bonds are designed for investors who wish to protect the purchasing power of their savings from inflation and enjoy a guaranteed *real* rate of return over and above inflation for up to 30 years. Series EE bonds earn market-based interest and are purchased for half their face value; for example, the price of a \$100 bond is \$50.

Series EE bonds reach face value (double their purchase price) in approximately 12 years. Series EE Bonds can be purchased for as little as \$25 for a \$50 bond. The I Bond can be purchased at full face value for as little as \$50.

SAVINGS BONDS
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**Department of
Human Resources**
500 W. Temple Street, Room 375
Los Angeles, CA 90012

(213) 974-1301
(213) 613-4789 FAX

Available online at:
hr.co.la.ca.us

Articles and other submissions to the County Digest may be edited or otherwise altered for clarity.



A Salute to the Spirit of Volunteerism

Chairman of the Board Zev Yaroslavsky recently joined fellow Supervisors Yvonne Brathwaite Burke and Michael D. Antonovich in saluting the County's 52,000 volunteers, who on a daily basis donate their time and talents to help make a difference in the lives of County residents. The Board also proclaimed the week of April 21 through 27, 2002 as "Volunteer Recognition Week" throughout the County of Los Angeles.

Leading off the week's celebration, the Board sponsored the County's 20th annual Volunteer Awards Luncheon at the Grand Hall of the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. Joining in the salute to 21 outstanding youth volunteers and 50 adult volunteers were KTLA-TV News Anchor and event master of ceremonies Larry McCormick, newly appointed Peace Corps Director Gaddi Vasquez, County department heads and County Volunteer Directors.

Fourteen-year-old Emily Anderson, the youngest of the honorees, volunteers as a Junior Naturalist at the San Dimas Nature Center and states, "My favorite animal at the Center is the opossum. I like showing him to visitors."

Juanita Curtis, a volunteer at the Natural History Museum, and Virginia Robertson, a La Canada Flintridge Library volunteer, tied as the most senior volunteers, at age 84. Curtis made a lasting mark in the field of mineral sciences by identifying a new mineral, which was named in her honor, "Juanitaite."

"I volunteer because I enjoy community activity and community service," Robertson said.

For additional information on County volunteer opportunities, call the CAO Office of Workplace Programs at (213) 974-0187. ✉

JULY RETIREES

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

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Timothy Coomes, Michael Pargament

FIRE: Robert Carnall, Ralph Carey, Marvin Karsten

HEALTH SERVICES: Janet Baker, Marvel Broughton, Robert Cortez, John Crawford, Willie Davis, Adelaida Hipolito, Mildred Holland, Eugene Leggins, Robert Lindsay, Keiko Matsunaga, Mary Ostash, Gerard Schoettel, Mable Starks, Samuel Williams, Wendell Williams, Nora Wozniak, Henry Yancey

HUMAN RESOURCES/OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY: Matthew McCosar Jr.

INTERNAL SERVICES: Thomas Knox, Rodney Sakemiller, Orrie Wilner

MENTAL HEALTH: Thelma Young

PROBATION: Garnette Brown, Raymond Chavira, Cloyce Jones, Raymond Marin

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Stuart Rosen

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Margaret Bloebaum, Jimmie Davis, Etheline Ealy, Susanne Herrmann, Connie Juarez, Patricia Shuey, Will Stewart

PUBLIC WORKS: Marshall Fulbright Jr., Kenneth Lee

SHERIFF: Henry Aldana, Daniel Aleman, Ronald Bell, William Fillpot, Diane Lee, Peter Loomis, Mary Parker, Reinaldo Rodriguez, Salvador Saiz, Hugh Scanlon, James Seulke, Cora Shaw, Larry Tomes, Warren Wadkins, Evelyn White, David Zabokrtsky

SUPERIOR COURT: Virginia Gallucci

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

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Exaltacion Cudiamat, Maria Rubio

FIRE: Arvel Chappel Jr., Larry Speaker

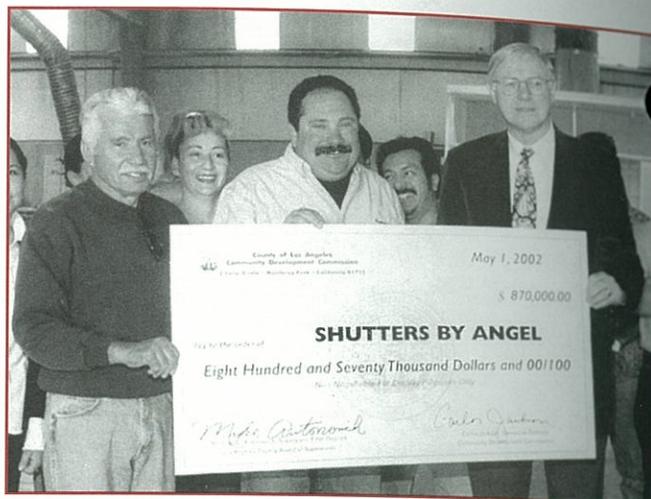
HEALTH SERVICES: J. R. Bragonier, Lillie Brown, Leila Claudio, Idolina Estrada, Sylvia Mayott, Marlene Naumann

HUMAN RESOURCES/OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY: Linda Wulfestieg

PARKS & RECREATION: James Benefiel

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Radha Haupt

SHERIFF: Thomas Anderson, Mary Bice, Thom Bradstock, David McKindley, Lenora Ballou, Janis Chester, Eduardo Parica, William Silva



Antonovich Rolls Out Business Loan Program to Foster Small Business

On May 1, Supervisor Mike Antonovich presented a check in the amount of \$870,000 to Ralph and Angel Arellano of the Antelope Valley's "Shutters by Angel." The business loan was made possible by a program under the auspices of the Los Angeles County Community Development Commission.

In business since 1967, Shutters By Angel both manufacture and installs custom wooden shutters. The small operation moved to the Antelope Valley in 1992 and was hit hard by the economic fallout of the 1994 Northridge earthquake.

"I was ready to close the business, lay off all our employees and sell the machines," Angel Arellano said. With the business in crisis, Arellano eventually discovered the CDC small- and medium-sized business funding program. With an \$870,000 business loan, "Shutters by Angel" is now back on track. "Instead of making shutters, our business would be shuttered right now if the CDC hadn't made us a loan," he said.

Through this loan and others, the CDC has assisted more than 140 firms with loans totaling more than \$24 million and has saved or created over 1200 jobs.

"By supporting our existing small and medium-sized businesses, we bolster our County's economic health and provide jobs for our citizens," Supervisor Antonovich said.

Economic studies have found that the best return on our economic development dollars comes from retaining our existing businesses. For more information on the Community Development Commission, please call (323) 890-7001. ☞

Higher Ed at the Hall

CSUDH Program for County Employees

WHAT IS PACE?

The Program for Adult College Education offers an accessible liberal arts bachelor's degree to working adults: accessible in time, in place, and in the sequence of courses. In partnership with the County of Los Angeles, California State University, Dominguez Hills and several campuses of the Los Angeles Community College District will offer the various components (general education courses, an Interdisciplinary Studies Major and a Public Administration Minor) leading to a bachelor's degree. Most courses will be offered at County worksites or adjacent locations; the rest will be held at participating campuses on weekends.

PACE allows County employees to:

- a) pursue a college degree.
- b) continue their County career.
- c) both

PROGRAM LOGISTICS:

Classes will be held after hours one or two nights a week and two or more weekends a month on college campuses. The pilot program offered by CSUDH is targeted for departments in the downtown Civic Center complex. Participants will take classes after regular work hours and be expected to do class reading, assignments and studying on their own time. A typical class schedule for six units at CSUDH will be 6 to 8:45 p.m., two nights per week, or one night per week, plus two Saturdays at CSUDH per month.

A typical schedule for the lower division general education classes offered by East Los Angeles College (ELAC), for example, will be 6 to 10 p.m., one night a week, plus two Saturdays per month at ELAC. Commonly it takes two and one-half years to complete the college-level general education classes at ELAC, though this may be shortened by college work already completed.

PROGRAM COSTS:

At CSUDH the current fees are \$610 per semester for six or fewer units and \$910 per semester for more than six units. Community college fees are \$11 per unit (or \$33 for most courses) plus a videotape fee of \$20 for most classes. Textbooks will also be required for all programs and are typically about \$75-100 per class.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

For information about a Bachelor's degree, call the PACE Office at CSUDH at (310) 243-3640. For information about an Associate's degree, or general education courses for the first two years of college, call the PACE Office at East Los Angeles College at (323) 265-8603.

The appropriate PACE Office will then call you to schedule a counseling appointment with a college counselor to evaluate your course work and transcripts and to recommend the courses you will need to meet your goals.

PACE

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"Wrapped Up In Reading"

County Public Library Summer Reading Program

The County of Los Angeles Public Library will offer its Summer Reading Program 2002 in all 88 County libraries through August. Kids can enjoy a variety of stories and activities, while earning prizes and certificates for reading. The program is free of charge and open to all children, preschool through 8th grade.

"Wrapped Up in Reading" is the Summer Reading theme for 2002. After reading one book, a child can join the Summer Reading team and receive a colorful reading record card. Children use the card to track their own progress by recording all the books they read or have read to them. Moreover, they can enjoy many activities planned for their fun and learning. In addition to wonderful adventures with books, the library summer programs include crafts, puzzles, films, and special guest performances. Magic, animals, pirates, jugglers, puppets and bubbles entertain and inspire participating children to make reading a habit.

Another County Library Summer Reading Program activity is a baseball-themed reading game. Youngsters who play the "Home Run Reader" game receive reading incentives as they round the bases on their playing card and are eligible

SUMMER READING
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SHARING A COMMITMENT

Service Improved Through Public Defender's Bi-Cultural Program

As an outgrowth of focus groups conducted by the Office of the Public Defender, the need for Spanish language instruction was first conceptualized in January, 1999. This type of program was discussed by department executives in response to staff comments that Spanish language competency was needed to facilitate communication with our many Spanish-speaking clients and their families. A further outgrowth of this was the desire to acquaint staff with Mexican culture and legal customs.

In response to staff concerns for providing better service to Spanish-speaking clients, the **Bi-Cultural Program** was initiated. It is comprised of two parts: the Spanish language instruction program and the Mexican Culture Seminars.

SPANISH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION PROGRAM:

The objective of the program was to meet the need of the staff, at all levels, to communicate with the large Spanish-speaking client population that the office serves. Because of a shortage of qualified interpreters who could assist when a Spanish-speaking client interacted with office staff, this program was developed to determine if, through language instruction, staff could improve their interactions with Spanish-speaking clients.

In setting up the program, three interested vendors were interviewed. The selected vendor, the Southern California School of Interpretation, had the best understanding of court processes and was able to develop a customized instruction manual covering terminology of justice system processes as well as general grammar and vocabulary.



The school then developed an instructional manual which has extensive sections on interviewing, obtaining information on interaction with police and probation agencies, drug terminology and many more specialized areas. A cassette tape was also provided for out of class practice.

The program was not intended to provide complete proficiency in the Spanish language, but to have staff become familiar with different areas of the criminal justice process in the Spanish language. Classes were taught exclusively in Spanish. The Southern California School of Interpretation developed an assessment test to determine skill level and participants were divided into beginner and intermediate classes.

Beginning in September 1999, five series of two-week sessions have been conducted, training approximately 240 employees. The cost of approximately \$100,000 was financed through a \$25,000 Quality and Productivity Commission grant, with the balance borne by the department budget.

MEXICAN CULTURE SEMINARS:

There are important nuances in Mexican culture, especially within Mexican legal procedures, which impact the way our clients and their families of Mexican heritage relate to Los Angeles County's criminal justice system. For example, Mexico has a tribunal system as opposed to a jury trial system. Also, statements made to police while in custody are inadmissible in court proceedings there, as opposed to practices here in California. The methods and standards used to adjudicate a criminal charge are quite different between the two cultures.

Due to the large population in Los Angeles County of Mexican heritage, many of our clients are more familiar with this culture and practices than with American legal practice. Also, department attorneys may not be familiar with the differences and may not understand some of the actions or statements of the clients of Mexican heritage without the context of their prior experiences in Mexico. Information was needed on Mexican culture and practices in order to facilitate communication and advice to our clients about the best way to protect their rights while dealing with the California justice system.

Five training sessions were given by the Mexican Consulate at our downtown Los Angeles department headquarters. They were given by Consulate personnel. All sessions were videotaped for later reference and for use by staff who were not able to attend the sessions in person.

The five sessions were:

- ❖ Duties and tasks of the Consulate General of Mexico in Los Angeles and how they can be of assistance to trial attorneys.
- ❖ Historical background on Mexican migration in the United States, education levels, socioeconomic origin and family context.
- ❖ Social network—the Mexican family—customs and traditions of the Mexican family; judicial framework.
- ❖ Mexican judicial procedure – detention, trial process, sentencing and judicial resources.
- ❖ Legal documents that can assist the trial attorney; locating witnesses, birth certificates, priors, and other civil documents.

Because the services of the Mexican Consulate were provided free, the cost of the program was minimal. All sessions were taped; the cost of ISD's services was borne out of the department's budget.

Both the Spanish language and Mexican culture programs have had a very positive impact on the understanding and interaction with our Spanish speaking clients. For example we are now aware of why our clients sometimes tell all to the police agencies while in custody—under the justice system in Mexico, it cannot be used against them in court.

The focus of the Mexican legal system on family background can likewise explain why clients sometimes answer attorneys' questions with a family history rather than focusing on the circumstances of the charges against them.

This type of awareness can help our attorneys best advise and warn our clients of actions to take and not to take to protect their legal rights in this country. Likewise it is a great advantage to be able to discuss the issues of the criminal charges in the client's native language and avoid having to use friends and relatives, especially children, as interpreters.



“Sharing a Commitment”

is a collaborative series brought to you by the County of Los Angeles Department of Human Resources and the Quality and Productivity Commission, with the Auditor-Controller, Chief Administrative Office, Executive Office, Internal Services, Public Works and Sheriff.

**Next issue:
Departmental
Achievements in
County Strategic Plan
Implementation**

The use of appropriate Spanish vocabulary helps to eliminate misunderstanding between the client and attorney about what actually happened and can open doors to defense strategies which would otherwise not be apparent. Also, the use of the client's native language enhances the client's feeling of respect from the Public Defender staff, which can lead to enhanced trust and greater justice. ✍

EOM

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a Charge Nurse and Team Leader in the center's Emergency Department and Trauma Center. That includes patients with diverse belief systems from a broad range of cultural backgrounds, including those who speak little or no English. Fluency in both English and Spanish, her colleagues say, makes Gonzales a valuable hospital asset.

"[Gonzales] is able to communicate effectively with the diverse population that we serve, showing sensitivity towards cultural beliefs and values," wrote Chief Nursing Officer Rosemary Haggins. "She is a caring and compassionate nurse and it is evidenced by the care she provides."

Her fellow nurses note her strong work ethic, dependability and tremendous adaptability to any work situation—characteristics that are invaluable in King/Drew's trauma unit.

King/Drew serves a population of approximately 1.2 million people across a 94-square-mile area. Located in an economically depressed region of Southwest Los Angeles County, the center includes Martin Luther King Jr. Hospital, a community-based state-of-the-art health care facility, and the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science. In 1995, the trauma unit at King/Drew treated 39 percent (1,276) of Los Angeles County's gun-related trauma victims and 22 percent (2,656) of Code Yellow trauma patients with vehicular injuries, life-threatening surgical admissions, and intentional injuries such as assaults and stab wounds. Gonzales is a graduate of the Los Angeles



Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke presents Employee of the Month Juana Gonzales with an official County scroll during a June meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

County—University of Southern California Nursing School and is currently completing a bachelor's of science degree in nursing at California State University, Dominguez Hills. She began her County career as a nursing attendant in 1985 at Hubert H. Humphrey Comprehensive Health Center and quickly moved up the ranks of professional nursing.

Spurred by the memory of her aunt, Concha Requelmé, a nurse in Mexico, she plans to combine years of emergency room experience with a master's degree in nursing to reach a clearly defined professional goal: becoming an emergency room clinical nurse specialist.

Outside of the emergency room, Gonzales spends any available free time with her family. Together, they enjoy a wide variety of outdoor activities or just spend quiet quality time with each other. ☺

SUMMER READING

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to win tickets to attend a Los Angeles Dodgers game.

Summer Reading activities support educational achievement. The more children read during their long school breaks, the better prepared they are when school resumes. It takes a teacher less time to reacquaint children with reading and studying if the children have been practicing as readers and listeners during their time away from school. This educational support is reflected in the outcomes of an evaluation of the 2001 Summer Reading Program, funded by the Los Angeles Times' *Reading by 9*. Students, parents, and teachers agreed that participating students had a high interest in reading, which was reflected in maintained and/or improved reading skills.

The 2001 program evaluation is available on-line at www.colapublib.org/about/Readingby9.pdf (address is case sensitive).

Reading is a productive and fun way to use free time, and County community libraries are ready to help children make the most of vacation time. Last year, almost 114,000 children participated in vacation reading programs at County of Los Angeles Public Library branches.

Summer Reading Program 2002 is sponsored by a collaboration of the Los Angeles Times *Reading By 9*, the Los Angeles Dodgers, Domino's Pizza, and the County of Los Angeles Public Library.

Specific Summer Reading Program times and information are posted on the County Library's Web site, www.colapublib.org, under Calendar & Events. ☺



MacLaren's Clinical Director Named One of America's Exemplary Psychiatrists

Dr. Charles Sophy, Department of Mental Health Clinical Director for MacLaren Children's Center in El Monte, was recognized recently by the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) for his substantial contributions and exhibited leadership in serving people with mental illnesses.

Dr. Sophy was one of only forty-six psychiatrists across the nation honored by NAMI with the Exemplary Psychiatrist award, presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychiatrists on May 22 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

"These are the doctors that have gone the extra mile in treating their patients by providing extraordinary care for often under-served populations," explained NAMI Executive Director Richard Birkel. "They reflect the cutting edge of the U.S. Surgeon General's most recent reports on mental health. They are helping our most vulnerable consumers and families

to regain their lives."

In October 2001, Dr. Sophy took on the post at MacLaren Children's Center, where he continued his contributions to improving mental health services to children at Los Angeles County's only emergency shelter for abused and neglected children.

"The honor of being recognized by this organization—knowing full well their distinguished contributions and the exemplary work they do—is in itself humbling and sincerely appreciated. There is still much work to be done and many people with serious challenges who critically need our services. I have to also credit the many associates I work with for helping me make a difference in the lives of our consumers. It is especially rewarding to work with people whose true dedication and mental health is as solid as those I work with. I am extremely honored to have received this award." ✍

Fire- and Injury-Safe Summer Barbecue Safety Tips

The County of Los Angeles Fire Department would like to wish everyone a safe and happy summer. To help prevent needless injuries and property damage as a result of unsafe barbecuing, we offer the following safety tips that will help ensure a fun time for all:

- Before using your barbecue, be sure that it is on a stable base to help prevent it from falling over.
- Avoid placing it under low hanging trees or patio covers and away from other combustible materials.
- When using barbecue starter fluid, never add fluid after the barbecue has already been lit.
- Once your barbecue has been lit, be sure that the starter fluid container is closed and that matches or lighters are stored in a safe place *AWAY FROM CHILDREN*.
- NEVER leave a barbecue unsupervised when there are small children present and never allow children to play around the barbecue area.
- When barbecuing, avoid wearing loose fitting clothing which may come in contact with fire.
- Remember to keep a bucket of water or garden hose close by to douse flames and let hot coals set over night before properly disposing them.

By following and sharing these barbecue safety tips with your friends and family, you will help ensure a safer summer for everyone. ✍

PACE

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The general requirement for admission to the CSUDH program is completion of 56 units of college courses, and completion of courses in: college level English, college-level mathematics, logic and critical thinking and speech.

Obtain a transcript from all colleges that you have attended and bring it with you to your counseling appointment. (Transcripts need not be official.) You may be asked to take placement tests in English and/or math.

Projected Schedule for Fall, 2002

Classes for California State University, Dominguez Hills, will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays, starting August 26, in room B-85H, Hahn Hall of Administration. Class time will be approximately 6:30 to 9:15 p.m.

Classes for East Los Angeles College will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting September 3, in room B-85H, Hahn Hall of Administration, from 6 to 10 p.m. ✂

Los Angeles County Employees Chess Tournament Winners

Congratulations to the following individuals who are winners of the annual Los Angeles County Employees Chess Tournament, held April 18 to May 23 at the headquarters of the County Department of Public Works in Alhambra.

Open Section Winners:

First-place: Eddie Concepcion, DPW
Second-place: Lowell Harter, CAO
Third-place: Ausbon Dew, Probation

Novice Section Winners:

First-place: Trent Houchins, DPSS
Second-place: Zhenya Markosyan, DPW
Third-place: Ricky Fariolan, RR/CC

POOL SAFETY from LACoFD

County of Los Angeles firefighters and paramedics have heard all too often, "I only looked away for just a few seconds!" Unfortunately, that's all it takes for a child to drown, just a few seconds.

Drowning accidents are a leading cause of death for children one to four years of age. Almost 70 percent of all drowning accidents occur in backyard swimming pools. Drowning accidents can occur in just a few inches of water, and most of these tragic accidents could have been prevented.

By following the pool safety checklist below, you can help to prevent drowning and near-drowning accidents:

- ❖ NEVER allow children to be alone when near water, make sure an adult is present.
- ❖ Make sure that the pool is secure at all times. The swimming pool "Fencing" ordinance in Los Angeles County requires that all swimming pools more than two feet in depth be surrounded by a protective fence of not less than five feet in height.
- ❖ Keep toys out of the pool or pool area when not in use.
- ❖ Keep items, which can be used for climbing into pool areas, away from fences.
- ❖ Mount approved flotation devices near the pool. Many toy flotation devices are thought to be lifesaving devices, they are not. They are toys!
- ❖ Remember, never dive into an above ground pool. Know the depth of the water before you attempt to dive.
- ❖ Keep a telephone outside near the pool. **DO NOT** leave children unattended to talk on the telephone.
- ❖ Post the 911 emergency telephone number on the telephone.

If a child or adult is in trouble in a pool:

- ❖ Don't panic, yell for help.
- ❖ Get the child/adult out of the pool immediately.
- ❖ Call 911 immediately for emergency medical service.
- ❖ Begin CPR, if necessary.
- ❖ If you are not trained in CPR, follow telephone instructions from the Fire Department until they arrive to assist you.



County Adopts 12-Point Plan to Protect Unwanted Infants

The 12-Point Plan of a special county task force, initiated by Supervisor Don Knabe, is quickly becoming a national model for the prevention of child abandonment, beginning here in the County of Los Angeles. The 12-Point Plan was approved unanimously by the Board of Supervisors in June.

The goals for the task force were to clarify inconsistencies of the Safe Haven Law and enhance its preventative aspects. It also looked at improving access for safely surrendering a baby through the expansion of Safe Haven sites and building greater public knowledge of the Safe Haven Law through a multimedia public information and education campaign. In addition, Supervisor Knabe's motion asked that the task force review enhancing services and support for parents who are at-risk for abandoning their babies.

Supervisor Knabe announced the completion of the first piece in the County's efforts to end child abandonment with the County's new "Safe Haven Hotline." The new hotline, (877) 725-5111, will help save lives, Knabe said. It will be available 24 hours per day, seven days per week and will be staffed by some 40 professionals who speak more than 160 languages. Mothers planning on abandoning their newborns can call the Safe Haven Hotline to receive information on the state's 72-hour safe haven law and the closest designated safe haven. The average wait time will be less than 1 minute.

"I have said our goal in L.A. County is zero babies thrown away, and I will continue to implement our 12-Point Plan to ensure we reach our goal."

Fourteen infants were found abandoned last year, 11 of which died. None of the 14 babies were left at safe havens. This year, to date, nine babies have been abandoned, two being surrendered at safe havens, but three were found dead.

WorkSource California

Supporting the Business Community

WorkSource California is the innovative regional collaborative represented by the Los Angeles County Community and Senior Services and Department of Public Social Services; City of Los Angeles, Community Development Department; eight Workforce Investment Areas (WIAs) including the County and City of Los Angeles WIAs; California Employment Development Department, and Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation and over 50 community-based organizations.

Businesses and career seekers were previously exposed to a number of local service providers known as One-Stops. Now, through WorkSource California, customers are provided with a single point of contact and a single point of entry. Businesses and career seekers can access the services through either the centralized call center by calling the toll-free number (888) 226-6300 or by visiting www.WorkSourceCalifornia.com.

Both public and private entities are recognizing the value of promoting WorkSource California as a unified system, creating a common face to the public. Their collective efforts are focused on achieving common goals and objectives through leveraging shared resources. Designed to strengthen the local economy by providing support services to the business community and the regional workforce, WorkSource California is being recognized by businesses and career seekers as the supplier of quality employment and training services. *✍*

"Two babies saved, and counting," said Knabe. "We still have work to do and we will continue to work until no baby is thrown away."

"Women who are abandoning their babies are in crisis," said Knabe. "We need to get them all the information they need in a quick, easy and accurate manner. This is about saving lives." *✍*

Commission for Women Fourth Annual 5k Run/ Walk for At-Risk Girls

On September 14,
the Los Angeles
County Com-
mission for
Women will hold
its 4th Annual 5k



Run/Walk and Health Expo for Girls At-Risk at the Rose Bowl. For the last three years, funds from this exciting race, which is the official warm-up for the City of Los Angeles Marathon, have provided over 30 scholarships for “at-risk” girls throughout the County.

At a reception earlier this year, several scholarship recipients reflected on how the scholarships provided the resources and encouragement they needed to succeed in school. In a televised ceremony, these young women received scholarship certificates from the Board of Supervisors.

The Commission for Women is currently seeking sponsors for the upcoming race and welcomes the participation and support of county departments, private corporations and individuals. The Northrop Grumman Corporation will be the title sponsor for the event and additional sponsors include Jafra Cosmetics, Dole Foods, and the Laugh Factory. In addition, the Sheriff’s Department, the Mental Health Department and the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors will be supporting the event.

For further race and sponsorship information, call (213) 974-1455 or the race hotline at (213) 974-0792. ✍

County Pollworkers Needed for November General Election

Critical shortages in the number of volunteer pollworkers and a rise in the number of Election Day “no shows” have caused election officials nationwide to turn to more creative ways of staffing election polls. The County Pollworker Program—implemented by the Board of Supervisors as a pilot program in November 1998 and approved as a permanent program on July 31, 2001—enables County employees to serve as regular pollworkers on Election Day.

Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk Conny McCormack requests the help of County employees in staffing the **November 5, 2002** General Election. County pollworkers help setup the polls, assist voters when signing in, issue ballots, and close the polls. County employees who are not registered to vote in Los Angeles County can still work at the polls on Election Day.

HOW TO APPLY: Applications are available in department personnel offices. Fax completed applications to (562) 462-3426 or apply on-line via County Intranet: <http://countypollworkerweb.co.la.ca.us> (County PCs only). ✍

SAVINGS BONDS

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Savings Bonds are a great way to finance a child’s future college education. If you qualify, you can exclude all or part of the interest on Savings Bonds from income as long as the proceeds are used to pay for tuition and fees for yourself, your spouse, or a dependent at eligible, post-secondary educational institutions. Savings Bonds also make great gifts for all occasions. You can have the bond sent to you so that you can present it personally or have it sent directly to the person receiving the gift.

Savings Bonds are exempt from State and local taxes, and Federal income taxes on the bonds may be deferred until they are redeemed or stop earning interest after 30 years. For current interest rates, visit the Treasury Web site at www.savingsbonds.gov. To sign up, contact your departmental savings bonds coordinator or call the Office of Workplace Programs, CAO, at (213) 974-2523. ✍



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