



## Sheriff's Honor Recruit Recognized

At the April 2007 Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department graduation, Officer Cesar Aguilar of the Pasadena Police Department (second from right) was recognized as Honor Recruit for Academy Class #357, a distinction earned for the highest numerical average based on leadership qualities, social relations and personal traits, practical performance, academic attainment, marksmanship, and physical performance throughout the 18-week training period. The honoree's fellow deputy sheriff trainees nominate the winner during the last week of training.

On hand to present the award, from the left: Sheriff Lee Baca; Deputy Chief Chris Vicino, Pasadena Police Department; Officer Cesar Aguilar; and Board of Supervisors' Chairman Zev Yaroslavsky, who delivered the commencement address.



## 2007 Employee Computer Purchase Program

*Significant Discounts on Selected Computers Available to County Employees!!!*



From now until October 15, 2007, the County and leading computer manufacturers have teamed up to offer County employees and their families discounts on selected new desktop, laptop, and tablet personal computers (PCs).

These discounts were negotiated with manufacturers through a consolidated County purchase involving multiple departments. Only seven PC business models as used by the County are available through this offer.

Visit <http://web.co.la.ca.us/lacounty/ecpp.htm> for more information on the program.

## HIGHLIGHTS

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# EVENT CALENDAR

## 10<sup>th</sup> Annual “Remembering Our Veterans and Their Families Past, Present and Future”

sponsored by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

May 26, 2007  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Arcadia County Park  
405 S. Santa Anita Avenue  
Arcadia, CA 91006

For information, please call (626) 967-1441

## 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Keep L.A. Running

5K Walk/Run, 10K Run and Coastal Fun Bike Cruise

Sunday, July 15, 2007

Dockweiler Beach, Playa Del Rey (end of Imperial Highway at Vista Del Mar)

[www.villagerunnerracing.com](http://www.villagerunnerracing.com)

Time: 7:30 a.m., Fun Bike Cruise

8:00 a.m., 5K Run/Walk

8:30 a.m., 10K Run

9:30 a.m., Kids-K Fun Run

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

&

Department of Parks and Recreation

present

### *The Beach Boys*

*also featuring*

Chubby Checker

&

The Diamonds

Sunday, June 24

Noon to 7 p.m.

Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park

120 Via Verde Drive

San Dimas, CA 91773

(Next to Raging Waters)

Advanced Reserved Tickets \$20

Advanced General Admission Tickets \$12

Children Under 12 Receive “Free” General Admission

Parking \$5

For information, please call (909) 599-8411

## Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden

301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia 91007

For a list of seminars, workshops and classes, please visit [www.arboretum.org](http://www.arboretum.org) or call (626) 821-4623.

## Los Angeles County Museum of Art

5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90036

(323) 857-6000

[www.lacma.org](http://www.lacma.org)

## Music

May 29 – L.A. Sounds and Sights – Xtet

June 12 – Mexican Baroque – Members of the L.A. Master Chorale, with Alex Acuña, percussion

Every Friday, April through Thanksgiving – Friday Night Jazz “L.A.’s Treasures” (free admission)

## Exhibitions

Through June 3 - The Modern West: American Landscapes, 1890-1950

Through June 3 - Re-SITE-ing the West: Contemporary Photographs from the Permanent Collection

## Music Center

135 N. Grand Ave., Los Angeles 90012

(213) 972-7211

[www.musiccenter.org](http://www.musiccenter.org)

## Ahmanson Theatre

Through Aug 5 - Jersey Boys

## Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

Through May 26 - The Merry Widow

June 3 - June 16 - Luisa Fernanda: Frederico Moreno Torroba

July 12 - July 15 - American Ballet Theatre (ABT)

## Mark Taper Forum

Through July 1 - Yellow Face

## Kirk Douglas Theatre

June 17 - July 15 – Come Back, Little Sheba

## Music Center Speaker Series

June 7 – Kurt Vonnegut Jr.

June 8 – Bob Woodward

EVENTS

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## County of Los Angeles Marks 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Chávez Week



This year marked the County of Los Angeles' sixth annual César E. Chávez Community Service Week. We couldn't be more proud of the 183 who honored the life lessons of our beloved César by volunteering time to make a positive difference in our community. L.A. County employees donated close to 23,000 pounds of food to local shelters. They spent hours volunteering at County parks, libraries, community centers, animal shelters, and probation camps. Volunteers participated in 15 beautification projects, cleaned up Dockweiler State Beach, and held six arts & crafts workshops plus two storytime sessions for local kids. Staff from 13 Probation Department camps held poetry, arts, and essay contests for both incarcerated youth and local schoolchildren, including students from Bridge Street Elementary School in East Los Angeles. Supervisor Gloria Molina also volunteered. This year, Supervisor Molina spoke about César's life to a class of fourth grade students at Laurel Elementary School in Whittier after receiving a letter from young Vanessa Chicaiza. Her teacher, Diane Wolven, had instructed the class to gather information on California's Counties. Vanessa selected the County of Los Angeles and, after encountering some unexpected difficulties, asked for Supervisor Molina's help obtaining data. Supervisor Molina happily obliged Vanessa and her classmates with a civics lesson and a crash course on César's importance to the history of Los Angeles County, our State, and our nation.

*Supervisor Gloria Molina enlightens students from Laurel Elementary School in Whittier about Chávez's life.*



*Probation Department staff teach students from Bridge Street Elementary School in East L.A. about César E. Chávez.*

- Contractor Improprieties
- Abuse of Work Hours
- Missing Equipment
- Computer Fraud
- Vendor Fraud
- Internet/E-mail Abuse
- Missing Cash
- Management Improprieties
- Other Improper Activities

**STOP FRAUD**

**REPORT IT!**

**Los Angeles County Fraud Hotline**  
**www.lacountyfraud.org**  
 E-mail: [hotline@oci.co.la.ca.us](mailto:hotline@oci.co.la.ca.us)  
**1-800-544-6861**  
 You may remain anonymous • 24 hours a day • 7 days a week  
 Write to: Los Angeles County Fraud Hotline  
 1000 S. Fremont Ave., Unit 51  
 Alhambra, CA 91803-4737  
 Fax: 1-626-457-9797

Sponsored by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

Visit <http://dhr.lacounty.info>  
 for information on  
 employment opportunities  
 with the  
 County of Los Angeles

# RETIREEES

*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:*

**ASSESSOR:** Margaret M. Natsume

**CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES:** Hiep T. Do, Ronald W. Sherlock, Floyd E. Williams

**FIRE:** Oscar H. Gutierrez, Michael J. Meier, Fred L. Sherburn

**HEALTH SERVICES:** Celestine Allen, Saundra J. Johnson, Ann Johnson, Debbie Chen, Henny M. Datoon, Zosima V. Gilles, Erma J. Hall-Wood, Saundra I. Johnson, Arthur L. Kidd, Dollie Kirks, Mai N. Maitam, Gerald F. Rachal, Faye Robertson, Eugene M. Robinson, Olga M. Santiesteban, Theresa J. Serrano, Roger L. Wazdatskey, Margarita A. Ramirez

**HUMAN RESOURCES/OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Frederick E. Williams, Ronald Workman

**INTERNAL SERVICES:** Anthony G. McCoy, Ruthie L. Norman, Luis S. Sierra

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** Dwight Williams

**PROBATION:** Gladys Crittendon, Donald R. Hunnicutt

**PUBLIC HEALTH:** James Wilson

**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Cynthia L. Richardson, Jesus F. Villaflores

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Brenda C. Daniels, Louella P. Lumalang, Luther Washington

**REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK:** Linda J. Parks, Robert P. Tornez

**SHERIFF:** Thomas M. Hindman, Milton D. Lee, Ronald E. Trujillo, Richard S. Maddalena, Oscar T. Magante

**SUPERIOR COURT:** Louise Garner, Penelope T. Louise, Elizabeth Schwartz, Annette Waller

**TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR:** Willie M. Pleasant, Emma J. Ross, Betty L. Rose

*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 AND FAMILY SERVICES:** Bettie A. Hookfin, Erna M. Sprowl

**CORONER:** Rodolfo B. Enriquez

**FIRE:** Robert S. Davy, Craig R. Smith, Bennie G. Taulbee, Pecoliar Williams

**HEALTH SERVICES:** Tanya Brownlow, Ann Johnson, Willie Vallejos, Joel I. Ward, Vera M. Whitaker, Jessie M. Wilson

**HUMAN RESOURCES/OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Carol A. Kocar

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** Charles Barreras

**PROBATION:** Roosevelt Linear

**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Josie Clark

**PUBLIC WORKS:** The H. Tran

**REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK:** Cindy T. Chautran

**SHERIFF:** Michael M. Koch, Carlos R. Romero, Richard G. Smale

## EVENTS

*continued from page 2*

### Walt Disney Concert Hall

111 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles 90012

(323) 850-2000

wdch.laphil.com

### May

22 - The Philadelphia Orchestra

24 - Russian Chanson

26 - A Medieval Journey: Knights, Troubadours and Princesses

25 & 27 - Shadow of Stalin - Music pre-Pravda article

26 - Pravda

27 - YMF Debut Orchestra - Shadow of Stalin

31 - Shadow of Stalin - Music from behind the Iron Curtain

### June

1 - Shadow of Stalin - Music from behind the Iron Curtain

2 - 3 - Shadow of Stalin - Alexander Nevsky with film

5 - Burt Bacharach

27 - Helene Grimaud in Recital

### Los Angeles Master Chorale

Jun 3 & Jun 7 - Lift: Beglarian, MacMillan and Pärt

Jun 4 - Shout: Luckman Jazz Orchestra joins the Chorale for Mary Lou Williams' Mass

## EVENTS

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## County DIGEST

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

County DIGEST Editorial Offices  
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3333 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1000 (10th floor)  
Los Angeles, CA 90010

(213) 738-2352

(213) 639-0940 FAX

Available online at: [dhr.lacounty.info](http://dhr.lacounty.info)

## Martin Luther King, Jr. - Harbor Hospital Opens Newly Renovated “OASIS” HIV/AIDS Clinic

Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke was joined by County health officials, Dr. Bruce Chernof, Department of Health Services Director; Dr. Jonathan Fielding, County Health Officer; Dr. Wilbert C. Jordan of OASIS; MLK Jr.–Harbor Hospital CEO, Antionette Smith Epps; community leaders and AIDS activists as they participated in the grand opening ceremony of the newly renovated and expanded 6,800 square foot OASIS HIV/AIDS clinic located on the grounds of the MLK Jr.–Harbor Hospital.

The outpatient clinic was opened by Clinic Director, Dr. Wilbert C. Jordan in 1985. This new innovative clinic will offer primary healthcare services to patients battling HIV and AIDS in the greater South Los Angeles area, with additional space for the exam, laboratory and triage areas. It is anticipated that there will be 1,200 to 2,000 visits per month at the new facility.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, an estimated one million people are currently living with HIV in the United States, with approximately 40,000 new infections occurring each year.

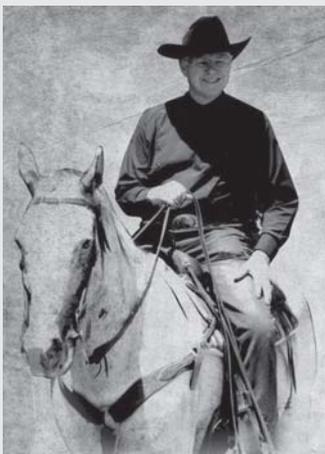
Supervisor Burke said, “This facility is really very important. It’s an increase by some 300 percent in square footage and the kind of services they’ll be able to provide are really needed.”

MLK Jr.-Harbor Hospital is committed to improving the health of medically underserved residents in South Los Angeles.

The OASIS clinic offers primary care HIV treatment and mental health support services, with expansion plans to include specialty clinics for women and adolescents.



*MLK Jr.–Harbor Hospital CEO Antionette Smith Epps, Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, OASIS Clinic Director Dr. Wilbert C. Jordan, Health Officer Dr. Jonathan Fielding and County Department of Health Services Director Dr. Bruce Chernof at the grand opening of the newly renovated OASIS HIV/AIDS Clinic in South Los Angeles.*



### Antonovich Trail Ride 2007

- Date:** Sunday, June 10
- Time:** 7 a.m. check-in and pancake breakfast  
9 a.m. kick-off
- Location:** Placerita Canyon Nature Center
- Cost:** \$25 per person
- Event Info:** (626) 575-5526
- Horses for Rent:** Graham Bros  
(760) 245-7695
- Registration Deadline:** June 7

Registration is a must!

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## Venice Photographer Jim Hubbard Honored

Venice photographer Jim Hubbard, Creative Director of “Venice Arts: In Neighborhoods,” a California-based nonprofit mentoring organization, was honored by Supervisor Yaroslavsky and his Board colleagues on March 13, 2007 for his receipt of the 2007 Distinguished Service Award from the National Child Labor Committee. Hubbard was recognized for his innovative program in which professional photographers, digital artists, and filmmakers are paired with at-risk, low-income youths, teaching them how to tell their life story through film, assemble a portfolio, and pursue college studies or a professional career in the field.

Hubbard, an award-winning and Pulitzer-nominated social documentary photographer and photojournalist in the tradition of the legendary Lewis Hine, honed his craft over the past 40 years, covering global assignments for United Press International such as the 1972 Munich Olympics massacre, the Cambodian genocide by the Pol Pot regime, the death of 10,000 people during a Calcutta cyclone, the siege at Wounded Knee, and countless other events. His “Shooting Back” photo exhibits have been mounted throughout the world, and his photographs and those of his subjects may be found in the books “Shooting Back,” “Shooting Back from the Reservation,” “American Refugees,” and “American Photography 2003.”



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## Summer Beach Bus Services Start Soon!

Summer is nearly here and it will soon be time to gather our beach gear and head to the shore! The Department of Public Works is making that trip easier for everyone living in several unincorporated areas. Come join the fun. How? It's easy... RIDE the SUMMER BEACH BUS!

◆ Services from the following areas travel to Santa Monica State Beach:

- Altadena
- Antelope Valley
- Charter Oak
- East Los Angeles
- La Crescenta & La Canada Flintridge
- Santa Clarita Valley
- Topanga Canyon (also serves Topanga State Beach and Will Rogers State Beach)



◆ Service from South Whittier travels to Long Beach.

You can call our toll free number (888) 769-1122 or visit [www.LAGoBus.info](http://www.LAGoBus.info) starting June 2007 for more information on individual routes, schedules, and fares.

This year, many routes are starting as early as Memorial Day, Monday, May 28, 2007!

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich sponsors the Altadena, Antelope Valley, and Charter Oak services. Supervisor Antonovich and the City of La Canada Flintridge sponsor the La Crescenta/La Canada Flintridge service. Supervisor Antonovich and the City of Santa Clarita sponsor the Santa Clarita Valley service. Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky sponsors the Topanga Canyon service. Supervisor Gloria Molina sponsors the East Los Angeles service. Supervisors Gloria Molina and Don Knabe sponsor the South Whittier service.

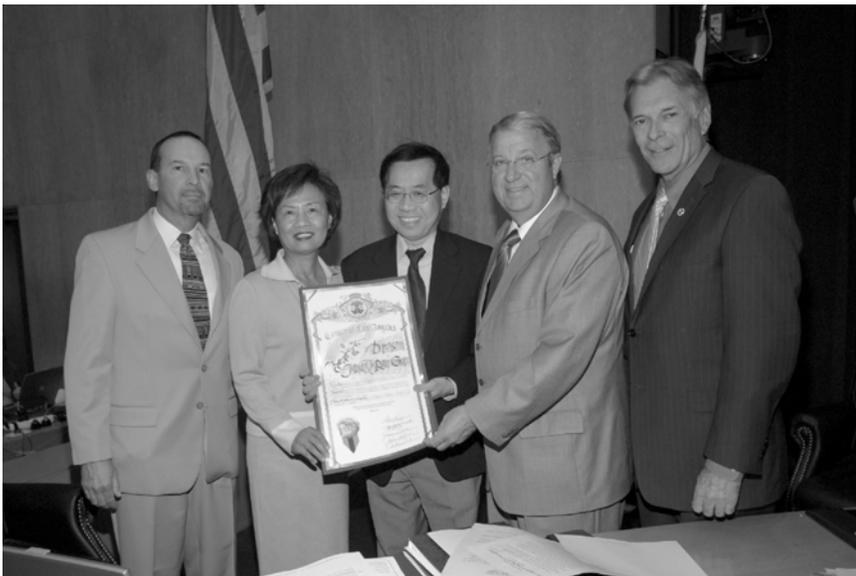
## Rowland Heights Couple Donates Cherry Trees and Stone Memorial Marker to Schabarum Regional Park

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors accepted a donation of 120 cherry trees and a stone memorial marker to Schabarum Regional Park with an estimated value of more than \$10,000.

The donation was made by Dr. Jane Gu and Dr. Ron Gu who are physicians residing in Rowland Heights. In 2003, their son, Jeffrey Ron Gu, died in a hiking accident in South America. In their son's honor, they made this donation to the County. Jeffrey Ron Gu will be remembered for his passion for God, love for people, enthusiasm for life, love of his family and friends and dreams of improving our world through philanthropy.

"This is a very touching tribute to their son, and I am honored that the Gu family has chosen Schabarum Park for this memorial," said Supervisor Knabe. "Visitors to the park will be able to enjoy these beautiful trees for generations to come, and we are very grateful."

The Gu family was honored by the Board of Supervisors for their generous donation at a Board of Supervisors' meeting in April.



### LACERA Elections

Safety Members are encouraged to vote in the upcoming Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association (LACERA) elections for the Fourth Member of the Board of Investments and the Seventh Member and Alternate Member of the Board of Retirement. The elections will be held on Tuesday, July 31, 2007.

Using the Safety Member employee's address on the Auditor-Controller's master file, the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk will mail ballots to eligible Safety Members via US mail by Friday, June 29, 2007. If you do not receive an original ballot, you may request a duplicate ballot through your Departmental Election Coordinator no later than Tuesday, July 17, 2007.

The Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk must receive voted ballots before 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 31, 2007. The Board of Supervisors will certify the election results at its meeting on Tuesday, September 4, 2007.

For more information, you may visit the Board of Supervisors' LACERA Election Information web page at [http://bos.co.la.ca.us/lacera\\_election.htm](http://bos.co.la.ca.us/lacera_election.htm) or contact your Departmental Election Coordinator.

# ENRICHING LIVES...

## Marina del Rey Summer Concerts Begin 7th Year of Free Musical Events



Are you looking for an evening of great classical music with a 75-musician symphony orchestra and world-class soloists? Are you looking for jazz or musical theatre or the American Songbook interpreted by some of the greatest names in entertainment? Are you seeking all of this for free? And in a dream-like setting?

You'll find all these and more each summer at the Marina del Rey Summer Concerts in beautiful Burton Chace Park, alongside the waters of the Marina's Main Channel. You can picnic, entertain your friends, watch the sun go down, and at the same time enjoy your choice – or all – of the musical variety that these eight concerts have to offer every week from mid-July through the Labor Day weekend.

The concert series was conceived in August of 2000 with a pilot concert of orchestral music presented in the Park by the Westchester-Marina del Rey-Culver City Symphony and its conductor Frank Fetta. The night was not particularly conducive to comfort – very cold temperatures and a high wind, but several hundred stalwarts attended and vowed afterwards that if the Department of Beaches and Harbors (DBH) would offer these

concerts on a regular basis, they would tell their friends and come to every one.

Armed with this kind of enthusiasm, the Department approached Supervisor Don Knabe with a proposal for one season of four symphonic concerts on Thursday and four pop concerts on Saturday evenings. Supervisor Knabe became the godfather of these concerts, with assistance from the Quality and Productivity Commission's Productivity Investment Fund, seeing to it that the first season was funded. That summer proved to be a roaring success – so much so that Nestlé Waters North America agreed to become Presenting Sponsor of the series as part of a long term sponsorship contract with the DBH.

The concerts, also funded by the DBH, have grown through the years until the classical and pops concerts draw almost equally from surrounding communities, as well as visitors from throughout Los Angeles and as far away as the East Coast, Florida, the Midwest and other areas of California, who come to Marina del Rey to visit and enjoy the music.

Now called the Marina del Rey Summer Symphony and still conducted by its Music Director, the dynamic Frank Fetta, the 75-member orchestra each year presents classical concerts that have become so exciting that people who formerly came to enjoy only the pop evenings have also moved over to embrace the classical.

Last season, visitors from throughout the nation came to the Marina to hear organist Samuel Soria play the great "Symphonie Concertante" by Joseph Jongen, one of the signature works for organ and orchestra, in what was only the second performance of this work in an outdoor setting. This season will present another first – the first time a concert choir has appeared in the Marina with a symphony orchestra. On Thursday, July 12, at 7:00 p.m., 80 members of The Southern California Master Chorale, conducted by Sheridan J. Ball, will be heard with Maestro Fetta and the Orchestra in works by Ralph Vaughan-Williams,





John Ireland, and the epic “Carmina Burana” by Carl Orff. Other highlights of the classical season will be the beautiful and talented young violin virtuoso, Lindsay Deutsch, playing Prokofiev and Gershwin with the orchestra on July 26; “An Evening with the Los Angeles Opera” on August 9, with four exciting singers from the company in a special preview of arias and ensembles from the Opera’s 2008 season; and on August 23, the brilliant young Chinese pianist Xin Xin playing the much-loved Rhapsody on a theme of Paganini by Sergei Rachmaninoff.

Such world-famed pop artists as Patti Austin, Judy Collins, Patti Page, Steve Tyrell, James Darren, Diane Schurr, Jane Monheit, Doc Severinsen, Davis Gaines and Cleo Laine and John Dankworth have appeared in concert at the Saturday Marina del Rey Summer Pop Series. This coming season, the list will be enhanced with concerts by Amanda McBroom (July 21); Lorna Luft appearing with The Marina del Rey Summer Symphony (August 4); one of the founding figures of the Bossa Nova movement in Brazil, Oscar Castro-Neves and Friends (August 18); and a return visit from the English “Royal Family of Jazz” Dame Cleo Laine and Sir John Dankworth (September 1).

We invite all County employees to visit the DBH website <http://marinadelrey.lacounty.gov> to learn more about the concerts, as well as the novel opportunities to travel to and from them by water on the Marina del Rey WaterBus or by land on the Playa Vista Beach Shuttle. Both modes of transportation offer special service on concert nights. The WaterBus costs \$1 each person each way. The Beach Shuttle is free.

Kicking off the summer concert season will be our exciting 4th of July Fireworks Show, which can be seen from any vantage point in the Marina. The fabulous Zambelli display will begin at 9 pm and run for 20 minutes. You won’t want to miss it!

# County of Los Angeles Strategic Plan



## County Vision

“Enriching Lives”

Our **purpose** is to improve the quality of life in Los Angeles County by providing responsive, efficient and high quality public services that promote the self-sufficiency, well-being and prosperity of individuals, families, businesses and communities.

Our **philosophy** of teamwork and collaboration is anchored in our **shared values**:

- **A can-do attitude** - we approach each challenge believing that, together, a solution can be achieved.
- **Accountability** - we accept responsibility for the decisions we make and the actions we take.
- **Compassion** - we treat those we serve and each other in a kind and caring manner.
- **Commitment** - we always go the extra mile to achieve our mission.
- **Integrity** - we act consistent with our values.
- **Professionalism** - we perform to a high standard of excellence.
- **Respect for diversity** - we value the uniqueness of every individual and their perspective.
- **Responsiveness** - we take the action needed in a timely manner.

Our **position** as the premier organization for those working in the public interest is established by:

- A capability to undertake programs that have public value;
- An aspiration to be recognized through our achievements as the model for civic innovation; and a pledge to always work to earn the public trust.

## County Mission

*To enrich lives through effective and caring service*

## Strategic Plan Goals

- |                                 |                                      |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Service Excellence           | 5. Children and Families’ Well-Being |
| 2. Workforce Excellence         | 6. Community Services                |
| 3. Organizational Effectiveness | 7. Health and Mental Health          |
| 4. Fiscal Responsibility        | 8. Public Safety                     |

Gloria Molina Supervisor First District	Yvonne B. Burke Supervisor Second District	Zev Yaroslavsky Supervisor Third District	Don Knabe Supervisor Fourth District	Michael D. Antonovich Supervisor Fifth District
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## It's a Fine County Day!

Lee Dunham, Supervising Clinic Nurse I, at High Desert Health System working in the South Valley clinic in Palmdale, has a unique way of motivating employees. His enthusiastic motto “It’s a Fine County Day,” is changing the entire clinic, for the better. On March 29, 2007, he walked into the clinic to find everyone wearing t-shirts emblazoned with his picture and *It’s a Fine County Day!*

*Front Row: (Left to Right) Sylvia Urbina, Violeta Tusalem, Maria Perez*

*Back Row: (Left to Right) Annette Thomas, Lyn Engels, Jamie Wolfe, Lee Dunham, Jennifer Pongpungam, Satie Montemayor*



## Department of Public Works’ Third Annual “Technology Exposition”

The Department of Public Works’ Information Technology Division (ITD) sponsored its Third Annual “Technology Exposition” on January 25, 2007. Several of the Department’s major technology vendors, including Dell, HP, and Verizon Wireless exhibited their wares and demonstrated new technologies for employees. ITD personnel filtered in and out throughout the event, answering questions from departmental employees. Public Relations Group’s award-winning Business Outreach program offered an exhibit that highlighted their Business Services Web site. Carmen Navarro, program coordinator, said, “It was great to see first-hand how we can increase productivity with the use of technology now in the market. Moreover, employees found it interesting to learn how we are using technology to reach the small business community.”

Director Donald L. Wolfe kicked off the afternoon’s activities with a speech that touched on consumer products, emerging products, and the importance of technology in fulfilling our mission. Following Mr. Wolfe was a presentation on “best e-mail security practices,” sponsored by Securtek. ITD Infrastructure personnel also guided employees on tours of the Department’s vaunted Data Center, which keeps Public Works systems running 24/7. Rudy Marquez, ITD Infrastructure Manager, said that the tour groups “were amazed at the extent of our infrastructure and the resources required to maintain 99 percent uptime.”

Employees and vendors expressed positive feedback about the Technology Exposition. Tarek Mohamed of the Department’s Design Division stated that he found the vendor booths informative and “learned a lot by asking questions about [their] products.” Robyn Correa, representing Verizon Wireless, stated that Public Works employees are more focused on emerging trends than most other County employees: “They know what they want, what they need to fulfill their tasks on the business side. They’re pretty tech-savvy.” Overall, department employees and our business partners praised the Exposition for bringing together people who require technology to help “enrich the lives” of the citizens and “enhance the communities” that Public Works serves.



*Nabeel Zehlif of ITD questions Hewlett Packard representatives about printing solutions.*

## Supervisor Antonovich Joins School Children to Plant 150 Trees in Celebration of “Earth Day”

Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich joined 150 students from Ocotillo Elementary School in Palmdale to plant 150 trees and shrubs in celebration of Earth Day.

“Earth Day provides an opportunity to educate our young people about environmental preservation and instill good stewardship of our natural resources,” said Supervisor Antonovich. “By taking pride in our community and creating innovative public private programs, we can reduce pollution, sponsor recycling events, stop illegal dumping and raise environmental awareness.”



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## Supervisor Yaroslavsky and the Board of Supervisors Mark “Child Abuse Prevention Month”

On April 3, 2007, Supervisor Yaroslavsky and his Board colleagues proclaimed April as “Child Abuse Prevention Month” in the County of Los Angeles, marking the occasion with a scroll presentation to Deanne Tilton, Executive Director of the County’s Inter-Agency Council on Abuse and Neglect (ICAN). Child abuse and neglect impacts children and families from all cultural, ethnic and socioeconomic groups, leaving lasting scars on victims and communities.

There were 162,711 cases of child abuse and neglect reported to the County’s Department of Children and Family Services in 2006, and countless children are suffering permanent mental and physical disabilities as a result of physical, mental and sexual abuse. Supervisor Yaroslavsky noted that parents who abuse and neglect their children are often victims of child abuse themselves, and that bringing public focus to the tragedy can help create an atmosphere conducive to preventing such abuse in the future. More information on ICAN’s efforts may be found by visiting <http://ican.co.la.ca.us>.

Pictured with Supervisor Yaroslavsky (from left to right) are Deanne Tilton, Executive Director of ICAN; Beverly Kurtz, Poster Contest Chairperson for ICAN Associates; and Calvin Huang, 4th grader at Castlebay Elementary School in Northridge, the Grand Prize winner of the ICAN / ICAN Associates 22nd Annual Child Abuse Prevention Month Poster Contest, “Let’s Take Care of Our Children.”



## Celebrating Cesar Chavez: DCFS Employee Honored with “Si Se Puede” Award

Ethnic dance and a dramatic production about the lives of modern Hispanic people highlighted a program Saturday at the Palmdale Playhouse as the Antelope Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce celebrated César Chávez. The event, titled “César Chávez “Si Se Puede” (literally “Yes, you can”), marked the migrant worker advocate’s birthday.

At the close of the afternoon program, the Chamber honored Jose Luis Orozco with the “Si Se Puede” award. He heard of his nomination Friday and prepared a speech, but when his name was called the words fled, he said. As a community director for foster and probation youth at the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Orozco works closely with young people leaving the system through the emancipation process. His current work rises directly from the struggles of Orozco’s own life.

Born premature and severely hard of hearing in Uruapan, Michoacan, Mexico, Jose Luis Orozco emigrated to California with his family as a small child. In 1986, he was taken into protective custody by DCFS and grew up in the foster care system. He was emancipated in 1996 after graduating from high school and became a citizen of the United States a month before 9/11 in 2001.

Soon after his emancipation from foster care in 1996, Orozco joined DCFS, helping other young people transition to independence. He attends night classes at the Lancaster campus of the University of Phoenix, pursuing a degree in Human Services, and plans to go on to the college’s graduate program in Mental Health Counseling. Both will be instrumental as he continues to work with youth, he said. “Young people are important,” Orozco said. “They’re the future of America.” His message to young people: “Be the change you want to see in the world,” he said.

“The ‘Si Se Puede’ Award is given by the Hispanic Chamber, but limited to Hispanic recipients,” Chamber President Sylvia Duarte said. “It’s for anyone in the [Hispanic] community who is making a difference,” she said.



*Jose Luis Orozco, visibly moved, received the trophy from the hands of Jenny Garibay (right), organizer of the event and Vice President of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.*

### EVENTS

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#### Hollywood Bowl

2301 North Highland Avenue  
Hollywood, CA 90068  
(323) 850-2000  
[www.hollywoodbowl.org](http://www.hollywoodbowl.org)

#### June

22 - Opening Night at the Bowl  
24 - Jurassic 5  
30 - Sing-A-Long Sound of Music

#### July

2 - 4 - July 4th Fireworks Spectacular  
7 - The Decemberists with the Los Angeles Philharmonic  
8 - Mozart’s Magic Flute  
10 - Tchaikovsky Fireworks (Classical Tuesdays)

11 - Queen Latifah (Jazz at the Bowl)  
12 - Haefliger Plays Ravel (Classical Thursdays)  
13 & 14 - John Williams: Maestro of the Movies (Weekends Fridays)  
15 - Café Tacuba  
17 - Classics under the Stars  
18 - 50 Years of Stax  
19 - Beethoven & Brahms  
20 & 21 - Cool Britannia! with Jamie Cullum  
22 - Savion Glover: On Tap  
24 - Sultry Spanish Nights  
25 - Jazz at the Movies  
26 - Chang Plays Bruch  
27 & 28 - Viva Las Vegas: An Evening with Gladys Knight with Fireworks  
29 - Spirit of Armenia!  
31 - Beethoven’s 9th!

### EVENTS

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## Municipal Green Building Conference

Board of Supervisors' Chairman Zev Yaroslavsky (center) accepts the 2007 Municipal Green Building Conference and Expo "Building Program Award" in recognition of the County's energy-saving and resource-conservation initiatives. Supervisor Yaroslavsky has championed the County's efforts to incorporate Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) principals in its building construction. Presenting the award, from the left, are Bharat Patel, Board Chair of the U.S. Green Building Council's Los Angeles Chapter, and Rick Fedrizzi, President and CEO of the U.S. Green Building Council.



In his remarks, Supervisor Yaroslavsky cited the tremendous policy impacts of such actions by the County of Los Angeles, the nation's largest county. He also emphasized the fiscal benefits of building "green" and credited County staff for developing and implementing the County's energy-saving programs embodied in the Countywide Energy and Environmental Policy adopted on January 16, 2007.

## Supervisor Antonovich Hosts "Arbor Day" with Dedication of Oak Tree to Fallen Hero



Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich joined the Crescenta Valley Town Council and Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation to host the "31<sup>st</sup> Annual Crescenta Valley Arbor Day Ceremony" at Two Strike Park. This year's celebration took on a solemn note as community leaders joined to pay their respect to Army Specialist Nicholas Steinbacher, a local hero who tragically lost his life fighting with American forces in Iraq last December.

Supervisor Antonovich presented a certificate to Nicholas Steinbacher's parents, Paul and Carolyn, in recognition of their son's sacrifice to his County, State, and Nation.

Since 1995, a tree has been dedicated to a respected member of the community.

County DIGEST is  
also available online at  
<http://dhr.lacounty.info/county.pdf>

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## Department of Public Works Launches a New Mentoring Program to Improve Work Life, Job Satisfaction and Happiness Quotient at Work

To satisfy the needs of employees who have wondered how to move their career forward and to provide employees an environment that will encourage their personal and professional growth through the sharing of knowledge and personal experience in a safe and trusting environment, the Public Works Women's Council is launching an employee mentoring program.

The Women's Council was formed in order to establish an open dialog on women's issues. Since inception, the Council realized that mentoring was among the top needs for female as well as male employees. As a matter of fact, a mentoring questionnaire circulated online to all employees in January 2007 validated that everyone is truly on the same page, looking for a guided process to enhance his or her Public Works careers. An overwhelming 73 percent of respondents are interested in either being or having a mentor. Whether thinking about, finding, being or extending vast experience through mentoring, there is always much to learn. Now, employees can participate in a new state-of-the-art Mentoring Program, kicking off in June 2007 allowing a variety of mentor/protégé relationships.

Public Works is striving to meet new organizational goals and prepare for the pending retirement of a substantial group of knowledgeable, well trained employees. Best practices in similar organizations find that mentor/protégé relationships build business skills resulting in competitive, dynamic organizations. The Mentoring Program will start with a pilot group of participants from various classifications and jobs. The Mentoring Program will then be expanded and offered to all employees.

For more details on the Mentoring Program, please contact Menerva Ariki at (626) 3004623, [mariki@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:mariki@dpw.lacounty.gov) or Patrice Gibson at (626) 458-4052, [pgibson@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:pgibson@dpw.lacounty.gov).

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### EVENTS

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**Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County**  
**900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles**  
**(213) 763-3466**  
**[www.nhm.org](http://www.nhm.org)**

Meet Our Curatorial Staff - Join our Research and Collections staff for weekend lectures and presentations:

- Saturday, May 26; 1 p.m.-2 p.m.- *What Are All These Parrots Doing Here?*

Los Angeles and other urban regions of Southern California are now home to at least a dozen species of parrots living freely in the wild. Learn how they got here and why they're thriving in an illustrated lecture by Ornithology Collections Manager Kimball L. Garrett.

Celebrate Asian-Pacific Heritage Month

Saturday, May 26, 2007; 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Celebrate Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month at the Natural History Museum! Join us for music, hands-on activities, and stories of the Asian American experience in Los Angeles. *Supported by the Julian C. Dixon Institute for Cultural Studies, a Museum-linked think tank that addresses cultural issues related to the diverse populations of Los Angeles.*

First Fridays: Point Break  
June 1

5:30 p.m., Tour: Angel Valdes

6:30 p.m., Discussion: Nancy Knowlton, Margaret Wertheim, Hope Schneider (moderator)

8:00 p.m., Music: TBA

On the last evening in this season's First Fridays series, we will look at life at the edge. In this case, our life at the edge of one of the most compelling and yet daunting biodiversities on the planet: the oceans. Although humans live in cities like Los Angeles and elsewhere all along the coast of this environment, and venture into it for economic reasons and pleasure, almost 99.9% of all species, including those who ever did exist, are found in either one or the other realm. Will humans be able to cross, or blur, this seeming border in our world?

What innovations, interfaces, and know-how must we develop - either natural or technological - if our species' inclination to adapt is to be realized in this very different place?

## Supervisor Antonovich Joins D.I.S.A.R.M. Officers on Probation Compliance Sweep

Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich joined D.I.S.A.R.M. (Developing Increased Safety through Arms Reduction Management) officers on an early morning drugs and weapons sweep of probationers in the Antelope Valley. The compliance operation resulted in the arrest of two probationers, the seizure of a handgun and gang paraphernalia, and five children were taken into protective custody.



During the month of March, D.I.S.A.R.M. officers confiscated 37 weapons, including 79 rifles/shotguns, 16 handguns and \$56,564 in illegal drugs, and 176 probationers were arrested in 752 unannounced searches of residences, persons, vehicles, and businesses.

The Probation Department's D.I.S.A.R.M. program was initiated by Supervisor Antonovich. The program followed the tragic August 1999 shootings at the North Valley Jewish Community Center, and the murder of a postal worker by Buford Furrow, an armed felon on probation from the State of Washington.



The D.I.S.A.R.M. program entails pairing Deputy Probation Officers with local law enforcement personnel to perform unannounced searches of probationers and their homes, as a condition of probation, and targets the confiscation of guns, drugs, and other contraband.

Since its implementation in February of 2000, the D.I.S.A.R.M. program has seized 2,429 weapons and more than \$37 million in illegal drugs and drug money, and resulted in 7,127 arrests. Forty percent of probationers in this program have been out of compliance with their terms of probation.



## The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Amistad Gala

Supervisor Don Knabe serves as Master of Ceremonies and Auctioneer at the 21st Annual Amistad Gala, the major annual fundraiser for the non-profit Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center Foundation. This year's Gala raised over \$100,000 in donations, which the Foundation will use to support programs such as wheelchair sports, the Rancho Computer Therapy Lab, the Spinal Injury Games, the Art of Rancho, and the Pediatric Arts Program.

# Share It

## A Child is Waiting for Someone Like You



In the County of Los Angeles, there are over 20,000 youth living in foster care. The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department make every effort to reunify these children with their parents when possible or find a relative willing to care for them. There remains a large number of youth in foster care who lack a significant adult connection who can provide them with some measure of permanency.

Mentoring can significantly change this dynamic. All children need the guidance and support of caring adults to help them transition into adulthood. Children in foster care can derive great benefit from a strong positive mentoring relationship which will provide consistent support, guidance and friendship that are often lacking in our youth's lives. This will hopefully lead to a significant reduction in the numbers of failed placements, missed opportunities for success and children left without a long-term, caring relationship. With the encouragement and support of a healthy, trusting relationship between a committed, caring adult and a youth in foster care, there is the promise of an easier and more successful transition out of the child welfare system to independence.

Mentoring is a relationship between an adult and a youth where the adult volunteers their time to provide a youth with support, guidance and help. Noteworthy is that the adult mentor is often the only person interacting with the youth that is not being paid. The key emphasis is on experiences between two people and the development of the relationship over time. This one-on-one relationship helps to develop the mentee's (youth) sense of importance, self-esteem and confidence.

One foster youth who had been abandoned by her family, taken to the streets and stopped trusting others said of her mentors, "Their interest in my education and their unselfish desire to show me the world motivated me to achieve and become the honor student I am today."

There are many unexpected benefits to being a mentor besides the obvious positive impact you'll have on the life of a child. Mentors find their own lives enriched by rediscovering the simple joy of sharing an activity they enjoyed while growing up themselves. With mentoring comes an appreciation for cultural diversity and a reexamination of personal values promoting self growth.

If this sounds appealing and you'd like to learn more about becoming a mentor to a youth in foster care, please contact the DCFS Mentoring Section at (213) 351-0106 or Probation Mentoring at (213) 351-0222. Make a difference in the life of a child waiting for someone like you.



### Members of the Board

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**Gloria Molina**  
First District

**Yvonne B. Burke**  
Second District

**Don Knabe**  
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**Michael D. Antonovich**  
Fifth District

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