



## Remarks by Outgoing Board Of Supervisors Chairman Zev Yaroslavsky



I want to say how very much I appreciate the support I've had from my colleagues during the course of the last year. To make this little organization work smoothly, it requires everyone to be pushing in the same direction, and for the most part, that's characterized every year in every chairmanship.

I especially want to thank my own staff. As all of you know, members of the public probably don't, but the added workload on a member of the staff of a Board Chair is considerable at every level. And they have stepped up during the course of the last year, and I appreciate them and their work very much.

I would also note what a pleasure it's been to work with our Executive Officer Sachi Hamai and her staff. I think there's a new esprit in that office, they are thinking ahead, keeping us out of trouble and making real improvements. I know it's been a very difficult year for her department, with all the changes that have gone on around here, but I want to thank Sachi and her staff for all the cooperation they've shown us. They're doing a great job.

I would like to highlight a few of the things that this last year has brought as we've worked together. Perhaps the single most significant development this past year has been the change in our government structure and the hiring of our new CEO, Bill Fujioka - and the retirement of really one of the great public administrators that I've ever had the pleasure of working with, David Janssen.

Thanks to David's fiscal stewardship and our Board's committed spending discipline, the County will save millions of dollars in lower borrowing costs since Standard & Poor's Rating Services raised our credit ratings in June, noting the County's improved long-term general creditworthiness, healthy general fund reserves, improving use of discretionary revenues and strong economic performance. Taxpayers will be reaping the benefits for years to come, and that's quite a legacy to be leaving us.

For his part, Bill quickly stepped in to fill those shoes and hit the ground running. At the same time, with a new governance structure that has attempted to change the way we do business, so that we're acting in a more organized and efficient fashion, it's a work in progress. We still have a long way to go, but I think we're moving in the right direction.

**CHAIRMAN**  
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# EVENT CALENDAR

## 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 Boulevard, Los Angeles 90036

(323) 857-6000

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

### Arts

Through December 30 – Highlights of Spanish Colonial Art from the Coleccion Patricia Phelps de Cisneros

Through Jan 6 – Dali: Painting & Film

Through Feb 19 – Japanese Prints: Word/Poem/Picture

Through Feb 19 – Japanese Painting: Calligraphy and Image

Through Mar 3 – SoCal: Southern California Art of the 1960s and 70s from LACMA's Collection

## Disney Concert Hall

111 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles 90012

(323) 850-2000

[wdch.laphil.com](http://wdch.laphil.com)

### January

4 - 6 - Concrete, Frequency I

6 - Organ Recital: Anthony Newman

8 - Concrete Frequency: Songs of the City

8 - 11 - Concrete Frequency II

12 & 13 - Concrete Frequency III

15 - Green Umbrella: Salonen Conducts Messiaen

17 - Concrete Frequency: Man-Machine in the Digital City

18 - 20 - Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 5

20 - Itzhak Perlman in Recital

22 - Chamber Music

24 - 27 - Britten's War Requiem

29 - Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra Amsterdam - I

30 - Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra Amsterdam - II

### February

1 - 3 - Pearlman conducts Brahms's Fourth

1 - Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis

3 - Organ Recital: Olivier Latry

6 - Tafelmusik

9 - 10 - Mahler's Sixth

12 - Chamber Music

13 - Christopher Columbus: Lost Paradises

14 - 16 – Tchaikovsky's Suite No. 3

15 - George Benson - "A Tribute to Nat King Cole"

17 - Bernadette Peters - "Just a Broadway Baby"

21 - The Chieftains

22 - 24 - Conlon conducts Shostakovich

## Music Center

135 N. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles 90012

(213) 972-7211

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

## Center Theatre Group

Through Mar 9 – The Color Purple

## Los Angeles Opera

Jan 19 – Feb 10 – Tristan und Isolde

## Los Angeles Master Chorale

Feb 10 – David O, De Victoria and De Zumaya

## Natural History Museum

900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles 90007

(213) 763-DINO

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

Jan 4 - First Fridays: Conscious Minds and the Minds of Others

Jan 12 - Critter Club: Roach Appreciation Day!

Jan 13 - Earth Expedition Series: The Smaller Majority

Jan 19 - Family Fun Day: It's Sensational!

Jan 20 - An Afternoon with Johan Reinhard

Jan 26 - Calling All Junior Scientists!

Jan 27 - A Serendipitous Dinosaur Discovery

## 48th Annual L.A. County Holiday Celebration

December 24 from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, 135 N. Grand Ave., Los Angeles 90012

or live on KCET

[www.holidaycelebration.org](http://www.holidaycelebration.org) or (213) 972-3099

## Marina del Rey Fireworks Spectacular

December 31

<http://beaches.lacounty.gov/bandh/Events/December.htm>



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

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## Supervisor Antonovich Works with PATH Achieve Glendale to Expand Services for the Homeless

Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich was honored by PATH Achieve Glendale for his grant of \$200,000 last September, in support of homeless services in the Glendale community.

“PATH Achieve Glendale is a vital public/private partnership that provides a wide array of services for homeless families at its emergency shelter, including beds, job training skills, and mental health and substance abuse treatment,” said Supervisor Antonovich.

This program is designed to provide safe, stable, short-term housing, up to 90 days, for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. It is also one of the few shelters located in the County of Los Angeles with the ability to accept single homeless fathers and their children.

The program rules also require residents to save money, find work, and address any barriers to establishing permanent housing. Additionally, residents must also meet with a case manager to establish a service plan and work towards goals that increase their income and housing opportunities.



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## Supervisor Burke Receives Prestigious Honor



UCLA alumni and distinguished guests gathered at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion on October 29 to welcome the new chancellor of UCLA, Dr. Gene Block, and to pay special tribute to fellow UCLA alumni, Los Angeles County Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, who was honored with the “UCLA Local Legislator of the Year” award. Notable guests included Los Angeles City Council members Jan Perry, Wendy Greuel, and Ed Reyes.

UCLA Chancellor, Dr. Block, presented the “UCLA Local Legislator of the Year” award to Supervisor Burke, as he reflected upon Supervisor Burke’s dedicated service to the Los Angeles community, particularly in the areas of children’s welfare and education. Chancellor Block noted that there was no one more deserving of this prestigious honor than Supervisor Burke.

Supervisor Burke is currently serving her fourth four-year term as Los Angeles County Supervisor for the Second District. Supervisor Burke became the first African American woman elected to the California Legislature in 1967, the first African American woman elected to the U.S. Congress from California in 1972, and the first to serve as Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in 1993. She also served as Vice Chair of the 1972 Democratic National Convention and was Vice Chairman of the 1984 U.S. Olympics Organizing Committee. Supervisor Burke was also honored as “Alumni of the Year” by UCLA in 1996.

# 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:*

- CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES:** Barbara Edwards, Leora Turnbo  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** Josie Bartlett  
**FIRE:** Gill A. Aguilera, Leonard Fontes  
**HEALTH SERVICES:** Joann J. Boyd, Carl Buck, Leo Bryan, Linwood J. Casey, Lois Goss, Cheryn K. Kovach, Alvaro Moreira, Jacqueline Motobo, Ramona Osorio, Gregoria Pablo, Ramona Padilla, Raul Reveles, Wayne M. Sewake, John E. Skoglund, Elizabeth White  
**HUMAN RESOURCES:** Nancy Eiser  
**MENTAL HEALTH:** Susan F. Morris  
**PROBATION:** Melissa J. Calime, Miguel A. Gonzalez, Betty N. Taylor  
**PUBLIC HEALTH:** Richard E. Browne  
**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Antonietta Gervasi, Ralph A. Levy, Corine Thornsburg  
**PUBLIC WORKS:** Dorothy L. Traylor  
**SHERIFF:** Arthur J. Davis, Hiram N. Komoto, Dennis J. Saenz, Danny W. Tucker, Richard H. Wright, B. McLellan Jr., Patti A. Minutello, Robert J. Minutello, Frank A. Yrineo  
**SUPERIOR COURT:** Arthur C. Fisher, Geraldine M. Pettway, John D. Sweet

*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:*

- ALTERNATE PUBLIC DEFENDER:** Myra Thomas  
**ASSESSOR:** Antionette Castaneda  
**CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES:** Hazel C. Foster, Louella Sidney-Copeland  
**HEALTH SERVICES:** Jon A. Covey, Rolando J. Florendo, Rosario A. Garcia, Sharon F. Grigsby, Lilly M. Juinio, Barton L. McNabb, Christine V. Myers, Christine O. Eager, Vernell D. Johnson  
**INTERNAL SERVICES:** Herbert Prioleau  
**LACERA:** Audrey Long  
**MENTAL HEALTH:** Oscar A. Mendiola  
**PROBATION:** Rosemarie Guerrero  
**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Richard P. Chey, Christine Johnson, Dianne Lackey, Roger Lorenzo, Nga V. Nguyen, Robin Robberson, Carina Suarez, Su M. Urbano, Sandra M. Walker  
**REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK:** Yong K. Son  
**SHERIFF:** Darrel D. Brown, Stephen R. Gonzalez, Zenaida D. Villa, Mark J. Vrabel, Patrick D. Quinn, Laura C. Rangel-Beard, David P. Thomas, Thomas W. Thomas, Ronald F. Wilton  
**SUPERIOR COURT:** Karen E. Barlow-Burto

**CHAIRMAN**  
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The closure of King-Harbor Hospital was a very painful experience for all of us, but there's a silver lining to that cloud, and I am hopeful – all of us are hopeful – that the work now being done to get a new governance structure there, a new leadership there, ultimately will enable us to reopen that hospital sooner rather than later. Then we can resume providing the vital hospital and emergency room services that the community of South Los Angeles desperately needs and deserves.

We approved and initiated the Title IV-E waiver program, which gives us significantly more spending flexibility in our federal funding to assist abused and neglected kids. It's a significant development, and if we manage it properly, it should yield great dividends to the children who through no fault of their own find themselves on the margins in our County.

In the environmental arena, we have agreed to sign the "Cool Counties Initiative," and have taken steps here in our own County to construct our new buildings in a manner that meets "Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design" (LEED) standards, emphasizing renewable energy resources to make us part of the solution rather than part of the problem. As the largest employer in the County, with more than 100,000 employees, when Los Angeles County makes a decision to "go green" it has ripple effects throughout the region. When we don't do something that is positive and constructive, it also has an adverse impact. So the decision that this Board has made to move in that direction aggressively, I think, has a tremendous impact on our community and on society as a whole.

We've made strides this year in our efforts to address the problems of homelessness. Earlier this year, the Board approved a framework in which all 88 of our cities can essentially plug into the County's human resources delivery system if they want to, and we'll provide the vital human services that are necessary to bring people out of homelessness and into permanent supportive housing. Supervisor Molina's initiative for the children in Skid Row has been critically important in making a difference for kids who again through no fault of their own find themselves on the streets of our County, especially in that neighborhood. I think that's really been the pace-setting initiative on the part of this Board, thanks to her.

**CHAIRMAN**  
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## Supervisor Gloria Molina Urges ‘Green Grant Program’ Participation

Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina is urging residents living in unincorporated areas to participate in the Green Grant Program. The goal of this \$600,000 federal initiative is to reduce energy costs for low-income homeowners while simultaneously decreasing carbon emissions – which are a significant contributor to the Southern California region’s notoriously polluted air. Green Grant Program recipients will receive up to \$20,000 to install a three kilowatt photovoltaic system in their home. These units typically cost \$26,000 – and they actually generate electricity.

“In fact, if no electricity is used in a home with a photovoltaic system, the electricity will flow back into the grid causing the energy meter to go in reverse!” said Supervisor Molina.

Since local power companies provide rebate incentives and a three kilowatt photovoltaic system generally qualifies for an average of \$8,000, homeowners investing in a \$26,000 system actually will spend only \$18,000 total. Typically, homeowners will see energy savings from 30 percent to 80 percent within a year. And each photovoltaic unit will eliminate 5,549 pounds of carbon dioxide emission in the first year of use.

Green Grant Program recipients will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis. Individuals interested in participating should go to [www.enterprisecommunity.org](http://www.enterprisecommunity.org) or call (213) 833-7988 extension 24 and ask for Patricia Mejia, a program officer with Enterprise Home Ownership Partners, Inc., which administers the program in conjunction with the LA County Community Development Commission and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.



*Green Grant Program recipients may qualify for low-cost photovoltaic systems like the one pictured here.*

## Supervisor Antonovich Test Drives Hydrogen Vehicle to Promote Clean Energy Technology



Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich test drove BMW’s new Hydrogen 7, the first hydrogen-powered car designed for everyday use, in an effort to illustrate the vital need for clean energy technology to improve air quality and create economic growth.

“The technological advances employed by BMW to create a zero-emission luxury automobile are a testament to the fact that market-based incentives can improve air quality, create economic growth and reduce our dependence on foreign oil,” said Supervisor Antonovich.

The new BMW Hydrogen 7 runs on hydrogen or gasoline and can reach 0-62 mph in less than six seconds while emitting zero emissions.

An advocate for clean energy technology and the environment, Supervisor Antonovich has led the effort to promote sustainable building practices, convert the MTA’s bus fleet to natural gas, and employ tougher truck emission regulations.

## Supervisor Knabe Hosts Annual Public Safety Appreciation Luncheon

Supervisor Knabe hosted his annual Public Safety Appreciation Luncheon for over six hundred attendees. This annual event honored law enforcement personnel who serve the unincorporated communities of the Fourth District, including the Los Angeles County Office of Public Safety, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the Los Angeles County Fire Department, and the California Highway Patrol.



### CHAIRMAN

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The County of Los Angeles has demonstrated that there are a lot of things it does right and does well, and among them is emergency response. In my own district, I've had two major fires in the last month. We have been victimized by these high Santa Ana winds, the dry conditions and brushfires, but we have also been blessed with incredible response from our fire department and neighboring fire departments from all over the region, as well as our law enforcement personnel, Sheriff Lee Baca and his department, the California Highway Patrol and local law enforcement. We have gotten so much better at what we do in emergency response. One of the reasons we do not have the kind of devastation that we used to have – part of it is luck, no question – but a major part of it is preparedness, and I want to commend our first responders, once again, for demonstrating that they are some of the very best in the world.

And we have some other exciting projects underway. I'll be a little parochial for a second, but the Los Angeles County Museum of Art is not a Third District institution, it is a countywide institution. The new Broad Contemporary Art Museum at LACMA will open on February 9th. Under the Master Plan for the Museum of Art, the next phase is well underway. The new leadership of Michael Govan, president of the Museum, has been spectacular. The fundraising there has been unprecedented, and the involvement, more than the fundraising, of people who now have a stake in that museum will elevate that museum into one of the finest institutions of its kind in the United States and in the world. It's very exciting what's going on there.

At the Natural History Museum, under the leadership of Jane Pisano and her Board, finally the work towards remodeling and rebuilding the Natural History Museum at Exposition Park is upon us. And that will be a great boon to

kids and adults throughout the region, and to Exposition Park in particular.

Arts and culture, as we all know, are so critical to our region, economically and otherwise. The Hollywood Bowl reached its highest attendance this past summer, and the Walt Disney Concert Hall continues to be a huge success. The medium-sized and small cultural organizations and theaters in the Los Angeles County area continue to flourish.

Los Angeles continues to be the place in this country, if not in the world, where the cutting edge of the arts and culture and thinking in this area exists. We employ today more people in the arts, and have for several years, than we employ in the defense industry, which is something that if we had said 20 years ago, we would have all been committed to an institution. It's a very, very exciting time, and these are truly the golden years of the arts in Los Angeles. We're very fortunate as a Board and as residents of this County to be here at this time.

Finally, I'm really thrilled that in her last year, Supervisor Burke – who has served with great distinction as a member of this Board – will serve out the final year of her term as Chair of the Board. I don't think there's anything that's more appropriate than that. Supervisor Burke is a historic figure in this country, and I had to pinch myself when I was first elected to this body to make sure that I wasn't dreaming, and really would be sitting on the Board with somebody who served with great distinction as a member of the Legislature, as a member of Congress, and who achieved so many historic firsts in her career. It's been a privilege to serve with her these last 13 years. I'm looking forward to the next year, I know we're all excited about capping her career in this way, she's a great conciliator and a great leader, and we all wish her well. Thank you again for allowing me to chair this Board with such apparent relative ease.

## Emhurst International Hotel and Resort Condominium Development Anticipated to Open in Koreatown in 2010

On Wednesday, October 31, Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke and Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the new 555,000 square foot Emhurst International Hotel and Resort Condominium Development. Also in attendance were City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo, City Councilmen Herb Wesson, Bernard Parks, Jose Huizar, and the Developer, Alexander Hugh, of CIC Group.

The new hotel and condominium development will consist of two towers at Hobart Boulevard and Seventh Street in Koreatown. One of the 21-story towers will have 104 condos and 138 hotel rooms, and the other will be inclusive of office space, a gym, nightclub, and a karaoke lounge.

Under the leadership of Mayor Villaraigosa, this is an exceptional example of foreign investment in the City of Los Angeles. Eighty percent of the funding for the \$155 million project is from foreign investors.

The developer, Alexander Hugh of CIC Group, was one of the 45 Los Angeles business leaders who accompanied Mayor Villaraigosa on a 14-day trade mission to China, South Korea, and Japan last year.

“This is going to be the tallest building in the Wilshire and Koreatown areas. The idea of having a hotel and condo project is one that is going to be a big winner and establish a new way of doing things in our whole region,” Supervisor Burke stated.



*Supervisor Burke and Developer, Alexander Hugh of CIC Group discuss the highly anticipated completion of the Emhurst International Hotel and Resort.*



*(From left to right) Supervisor Burke, Councilman Herb Wesson, Developer Alexander Hugh, and Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa participated in the groundbreaking ceremony for the Emhurst International Hotel and Resort on October 31.*

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



## ATTENTION L.A. COUNTY EMPLOYEES!!!



# EARN YOUR SALARY PLUS EXTRA CASH! BE A POLLWORKER ON FEBRUARY 5, 2008!

## COUNTY POLLWORKERS (CPW's) ARE CRITICAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE 2008 ELECTIONS!

The L.A. County Employee Pollworker Program was approved, by the Board of Supervisors as a response to a nationwide Pollworker shortage. The program enables County employees to serve on Election Day as a Pollworker while still earning their regular daily salary.

### CPW's are IMPORTANT!

- ☆ CPW 's are often willing to serve in areas where Community Pollworkers are hard to recruit.
- ☆ CPW's are willing to travel to a polling location close to their work site or to a community near their home.
- ☆ CPW's, who speak a language in addition to English, help fill the language requirements at the Polling Places.

### Program Benefits...

- ☆ Receive your daily departmental salary PLUS the Pollworker stipend of up to \$175.
- ☆ Meet MAPP goals through County Pollworker Service.
- ☆ Help your community in a time of need.
- ☆ Attending a Pollworker training session is important and it accounts for \$25 of your total stipend.

### Requirements

- ☆ County Pollworker must be:
  - ☆ A U.S. Citizen.
  - ☆ 18 years or older.
  - ☆ A registered voter in California.
  - ☆ Have supervisor approval on their application.

### How to Apply...

- ☆ Apply on-line at: [www.lavote.net](http://www.lavote.net)
- ☆ Call the Registrar Recorder/County Clerk at 800-815-2666 option 7
- ☆ Contact your department's County Pollworker Program Coordinator
- ☆ Fill out an application and fax it to the Registrar recorder/County Clerk (fax) 562-868-3457. (Be on the lookout for an application sent out with your pay stub.)

## Safe Surrender Protected by Governor’s Veto for Second Consecutive Year

Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe offered his thanks to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger for vetoing a bill that would have placed the success of the statewide Safe Haven Law in jeopardy.

Under the proposed legislation, Assembly Bill 81, the Safe Haven window would have been extended to seven days from its current 72 hours. Currently, the program allows mothers and fathers of unwanted newborns to surrender their babies at Safe Surrender sites, such as fire stations and hospitals, up to three days after the child’s birth. The person who surrenders the newborn is protected from prosecution, No Shame, No Blame and No Names.

This is the second consecutive year the Governor has vetoed similar legislation. A similar version in last year’s legislative session proposed extending the window from 72 hours to 30 days.

“While on the surface it may seem that a longer surrender window is better for newborns, extensive research and statistics show the danger zone for these babies is within the first hours of life. Extending the window from 72 hours to seven days could have created serious medical issues” said Supervisor Knabe, who championed the formation of Safe Surrender, the Los Angeles County version of the Safe Haven Program, over six years ago.

“Access to quality medical care in the first hours of life is an absolutely critical component that could have been placed in jeopardy had this legislation gone through,” said Supervisor Knabe. “Many infants who are safely surrendered have received no prenatal care or medical care at all – services that are critical for these newborns to receive in the first hours after birth. That is a risk we simply cannot afford and we appreciate the Governor’s veto.”

The County of Los Angeles has been at the forefront of implementing the Safe Haven Law. Since its enactment in 2001, 62 babies have been safely surrendered in the County.

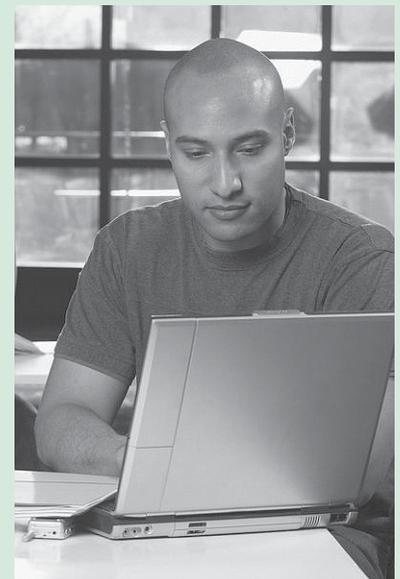
## County of Los Angeles Public Library Goes WiFi

The County of Los Angeles Public Library is now offering free wireless Internet access in the 84 community libraries operated by the County Library. Two \$1 million grants provided from the Los Angeles County Quality and Productivity Commission and from the County’s Information Technology Fund, approved by the Board of Supervisors, has made WiFi possible in the County libraries.

The County Library’s WiFi service enables County library card holders who own Internet ready laptops to use these devices in their local County libraries to connect to the Internet and use the Library’s broad range of online resources.

WiFi users now have no reservations, no waiting, and no time limits. And, when some customers use their own portable wireless devices, the demand on the Library’s public computers is reduced and the computers are freed-up for users who don’t own laptops. Although the County Library works to upgrade and expand computer resources available for public use, it is not able to keep pace with the growing public demand for time online. WiFi increases access without the constant need to purchase additional computers and without losing bookshelves or expanding library facilities to house additional equipment.

“The wireless revolution is spreading in months, not years, and the County Library is pleased to provide wireless Internet access in our 84 County Libraries,” states County Librarian Margaret Donnellan Todd.



# ENRICHING LIVES...

## County Employees Brightens Lives of Many

### Children and Family Services' Spark of Love



Department of Children and Family Services Director Patricia S. Ploehn and Santa welcome youngsters to the annual Spark of Love holiday event.

### Military and Veteran Affairs' "Operation Reindeer"

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has been supporting the Military Order of the Purple Heart's "Operation Reindeer" program for more than 15 years. In-kind donations bring joy to needy veterans and their families during the Christmas season. This event supports the County's Strategic Plan in the areas of Service Excellence & Children and Families' well-being.



### Mental Health Supports Los Angeles County NAMIWALKS

Team Southard, co-captained by Marvin Southard, Director of Mental Health, and Robin Kay, Acting Chief Deputy, led the show of support by the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health for the 2007 NAMIWALKS (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Los Angeles County event held in Santa Monica on October 6. Organized by NAMI, NAMIWALKS raises funds and awareness to make a difference in the lives of people with mental illness, support mental illness advocacy, research, education and support programs both locally and nationally.

Mental Health held a competition at headquarters and in the directly operated clinics and the Department was able to raise more than \$20,000 through online and in person donations.



## An Ombudsman Employee's Yearly Tradition



As a yearly tradition, Department of Ombudsman employee Myrian Rangel served meals at Union Station Foundation's Thanksgiving Dinner-in-the-Park. The event provides hot meals and holiday cheer to all attendees, many of whom are homeless, senior citizens, and low income families. Over 5,000 meals were served last year.

If you are interested in joining Myrian next year, please visit [www.unionstationfoundation.org](http://www.unionstationfoundation.org) or call (626) 240-4550.

## LAC-USC Brings Holiday Cheers



LAC+USC Medical Center Registered Nurse Maria J. Cortez, Supervising Custodian Sidney Pearson and Administrator Margaret Beruman take their overflowing cart of Christmas trees to decorate the outpatient clinic areas and bring holiday cheer to patients.

**ENRICHING LIVES**  
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# 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
2. Workforce Excellence
3. Organizational Effectiveness
4. Fiscal Responsibility
5. Children and Families' Well-Being
6. Community Services
7. Health and Mental Health
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

## Sheriff's Department Brings Cheers to Children and Families



*Sheriff Lee Baca presents the children of the Belvedere Early Education Center with hand made dolls created by the female inmates of the Century Regional Detention Facility.*

*Sheriff Lee Baca presents holiday baskets to the family members of Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department personnel who are military reservists deployed to serve our Country overseas, as well as the family members of deputies who were killed or critically injured in the line of duty the year.*



## Los Angeles County District Attorney's 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Holiday Gift Giving Drive

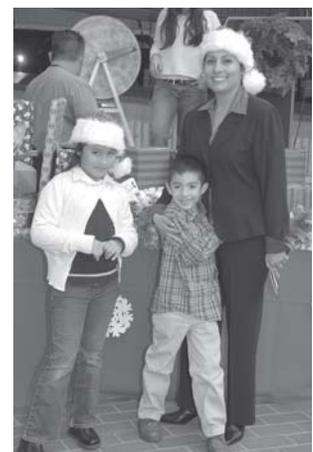
*Three-year-old Cheyenne Copeland, pictured, sings Christmas carols for Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley and others at a news conference for the Holiday Gift Giving Drive.*



*Mr. Cooley and his staff presented Cheyenne and hundreds of other crime victims with toys, food and clothing last holiday season. Cheyenne's mother, Ashley Cheval, 23, was fatally wounded in an August 2006 drive-by shooting.*

*To contribute to the District Attorney's 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Holiday Gift Giving Drive, please contact Narine Zardarian at [nzardarian@da.lacounty.gov](mailto:nzardarian@da.lacounty.gov) or Wayne Mack at [wmack@da.lacounty.gov](mailto:wmack@da.lacounty.gov). They also can be reached at (213) 974-7401.*

## Public Works' Annual Holiday Celebration



*Public Works employee Emma Ayala and her children enjoy Public Works' annual Holiday Celebration at DPW headquarters.*

## Human Relations Commission Hosts 200 Youths

On Saturday, December 1, the Human Relations Commission (HRC) put together a “journaling” symposium at Paramount Studios. The event was a collaborative venture between the studio, the Media Image Coalition partners, and the HRC.

The HRC screened the movie “Freedom Writers” based on the inspiring story of a local teacher, Erin Gruwell, who transformed the lives of her students at Woodrow Wilson High School, most of whom had been dubbed as “at risk” teens, by teaching them to rethink rigid beliefs about themselves and others. With her steadfast support, her students became critical thinkers, aspiring college students and successful adults. Ms. Gruwell was also one of HRC’s John Anson Ford honorees in 2004.

The HRC brought more than 200 youth from the Zerohour schools as well as other youth groups to the studio. They learned about how to channel their emotions through the written word, and to express their feelings in a positive way. They were coached by past Freedom Writers, as well as prominent filmmakers, poets, writers and scholars, who shared their writing and creative expertise with the youth currently going through HRC’s Campus Action Team programs.



*Two of the more than 200 County-sponsored zerohour school students pose for a photo as they enjoy their all-day excursion to Paramount Studios, where they saw the movie “Freedom Writers” and met with writers on the importance of journaling their life experiences. The students were also thrilled to meet with three of the young actors who were in the film. The event was sponsored by both the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission and its support group for fair media depictions, The Media Image Coalition.*

ENRICHING LIVES  
continued on page 14

## Christmas Tree Recycling Program from Public Works

Recycle your Christmas tree this year after the festivities end. This will help preserve our natural resources and reduce waste. Follow these quick and easy steps to have your Christmas tree recycled into compost, mulch, or ground cover. Remove all items from your tree (e.g., water containers, tree stands, ornaments, tinsel, and nails).

1. Place your tree at curbside on your regular collection day from December 26 through January 19.
2. Watch as your tree is collected for recycling by your neighborhood waste hauler.

Here are other ideas that can make a huge difference in the amount of trash that gets generated during the holiday season. Remember, many of these ideas work well the whole year through!

- Use old newspapers to wrap your presents. Or, place your presents in gift bags, which can be reused.
- Recycle household items you no longer need and use them to create personalized, homemade gifts for your loved ones.
- Save postage and trees by e-mailing holiday greetings to family and friends instead of sending them a card in the mail. Or, use holiday cards and gift tags printed on recycled paper.
- Reuse Styrofoam® packing “peanuts” or donate them to your local packaging or shipping company, which you can find by visiting [www.Earth911.org](http://www.Earth911.org).
- Set your table with linens and china instead of disposable plates and plastic cups, and utensils.
- Purchase rechargeable batteries rather than disposable ones.
- Replace larger, old-fashioned lights with energy-efficient mini lights. Save energy by putting your lights on a timer or turning them on only when someone is around to enjoy them.
- Save gift boxes, ribbon, and bows for the next holiday season.



Visit [www.888CleanLA.com](http://www.888CleanLA.com) or call 1(888)CLEAN LA for more information on the Christmas tree recycling guidelines for your area of residence.

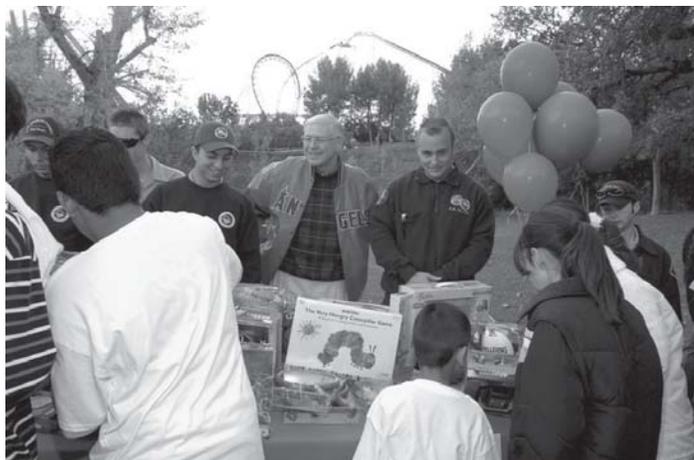
## Supervisor Antonovich Hosts the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Party for County Foster Children

Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich hosted the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Party for the County's foster children at Six Flags Magic Mountain in Valencia. Christmas music provided background as caregivers, foster parents and children were greeted with food, presents, holiday cheer, and a free day inside the Amusement Park.

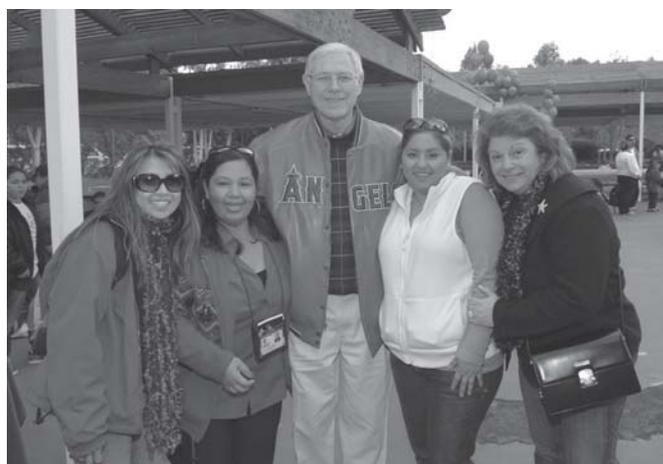
"The holiday season can be difficult for these children and this party really brightens their spirits," said Supervisor Antonovich. "We need families to adopt and provide loving homes for these wonderful children."

There are currently more than 20,000 children in county foster care, with approximately 900 waiting to be adopted. These children are waiting for families to give them the love and support they need with the opportunity to grow up in stable and loving homes.

To adopt a foster child, please call (888) 811-1121.



*Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich joins Los Angeles County Firefighters in passing out presents to foster youth*



*(From left to right) Clara Lee, DCFS; Beverly Vansen, DCFS; Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich; Arlen Innocente, DCFS; Helen Berberian, Deputy, Supervisor Antonovich's Office*

### ENRICHING LIVES

*continued from page 13*

## Homeless CalWORKs Families Project (HCFP) Bringing Joy During the Holiday Season!

The HCFP is a collaborative effort between the Los Angeles County Departments of Public Social Services and Mental Health, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, and the Housing Authorities (City and County). The HCFP provides intensive case management for up to 350 families who are receiving CalWORKs, are homeless, and have a mental health issue. Some of the services offered by the HCFP are: emergency shelter, movement to transitional housing, transportation, child care, job and training opportunities, mental health services, assistance with obtaining Section 8 vouchers, assistance with finding permanent housing and DPSS homeless benefits.

Throughout the year, the HCFP staff work diligently to help families remove barriers in order for them to become self sufficient and ultimately move into permanent housing. In keeping with the spirit of the holiday season, each HCFP site (a total of six) will be hosting Christmas celebrations for the families who are enrolled in the project during the month of December. At the holiday celebrations, the families are served a free lunch, participate in fun activities and each family member receives a gift. Santa Claus makes a special appearance to distribute the toys to the children. These holiday celebrations allow families to enjoy the holidays with the HCFP staff and other HCFP families.

# All About Us



Employees of the County of Los Angeles



## LA COUNTY STARS!

### September - December Recipients



**Service Excellence Award:**  
**Chief Executive Office's**  
**Jane Tsukamoto**



**Service Excellence Award:**  
**Mental Health's**

**Long Beach Asian Pacific Mental Health Program, Adult Psychiatrists Team**



*Dr. Ted Tokaji, Dr. Luzminda Lachica, Dr. Ida Lodriquito*



**Service Excellence Award:**  
**Public Social Services'**  
**Restaurant Meals Program for the Homeless, Elderly and Disabled Team**

*Brenda Silas, Rosueta Rodriguez, DeLlora Ellis-Gant, Keysa Rancharan, LaTanya Lee, Sharon Brown*



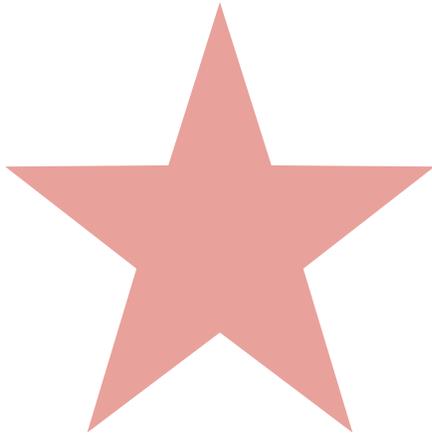
**Organizational Effectiveness Award:**  
**Mental Health's**  
**Sussan Hivand**



**Workforce Excellence Award:**  
**Health Services'**  
**EMS Agency - Disaster Management Section**



*Roel Amara, Candy Arizmendi, Kathy Baker, Gertha Benson, Gary Chambers, Chiyaukaa Archer, Dr. John Celentano, Maricela Corlew, Jim Crabtree, Jerry Crow, Laura Debler, Jim Eads, Kay Fruhwirth, Dolores Hill, Peggy Matthews, Floyd Neal, John Ospital, Steven Rosales, Jackie Rifenburg, Sandra Shields, Dr. Millicent Wilson, Dr. Richard Zoraster*



**Organizational Effectiveness Award:**  
**Auditor-Controller's**  
**Cindy Lee**



**Service Excellence Award:**  
**Sheriff's**  
**James Bickel**



**Service Excellence Award:**  
**Regional Planning's**  
**Field Offices Team**



Todd Clark, Jaime Cuevas, James Knowles, Uriel Mendoza, Cesar Rincon, Michael Tripp

**Workforce Excellence Award:**  
**Treasurer and Tax Collector's**  
**Unsecured Personal Property Tax Delinquent Accounts Investigators**



Vivian A. Resendez, Billie Towns, Oscar Estrada, Charles M. Amador, David F. Lorenz, James A. Gomez, Yolande Mayers, Jesse R. Solem, Alfonso C. Salazar, Sandra F. James, Robert J. Kelly

**Organizational Effectiveness Award:**  
**Child Support Services'**  
**Central Civil West (CCW) Court Check-In System Team**



Roy Bradley, Wilford Chin, Barbara Catlow, Morrison Hwang, Dennis Yang, Hong Lim

**Service Excellence Award:**  
**Public Library's**  
**Joanna Ward**

**Organizational Effectiveness Award:**  
**Mental Health's**  
**Norma Fritsche**



**Fiscal Responsibility Award:**  
**Consolidated Computer Purchase Program Team**



Sir Clark (Chief Information Office),  
 David Hamamoto (Chief Information Office),  
 Lillian Fong (Internal Services),  
 Theodore Lo (Internal Services),  
 Sally Luu (Internal Services),  
 John Guendling (Public Social Services),  
 Rudy Rivera (Assessor),  
 Art Babakhanian (Treasurer and Tax Collector),  
 Migell Acosta (Public Library),  
 Sylvia Contreras (Human Resources)

**Service Excellence Award:**  
**Public Social Services’**  
**Civil Rights Unit**



Gail Esfahaniha, Alma Calvelo, Marjorie Ancla, Jose A. Martinez,  
 Alfredo Gonzalez, Lula Hill, Kyeong Chang, Lesia Starling, Thanh Nguyen,  
 Pablo Marin



**LA COUNTY STARS!** is an exciting new Countywide employee recognition program which replaces the Employee of the Month Program in order to expand the opportunity to recognize and celebrate exceptional achievements of County employees and to promote and reward performance consistent with the organizational goal categories of the Countywide Strategic Plan, Shared Values and Collaboration.

For more information, please contact the Department of Human Resources at (213) 738-2352 or go to the Web site at <http://stars.lacounty.gov/>.

# Share It

## Holiday Season Safety



The Sheriff's Department and the National Safety Council offers these suggestions to help make your holiday season merry and safe.

**Decorations:** Wear gloves while decorating with spun glass "angel hair." It can irritate your eyes and skin. A common substitute is non-flammable cotton. Both angel hair and cotton snow are flame retardant when used alone. However, if artificial snow is sprayed onto them, the dried combination will burn rapidly. When spraying artificial snow on windows or other surfaces, be sure to follow directions carefully. These sprays can irritate your lungs if you inhale them.

**Fireplaces:** You should not try to burn evergreens or wreaths in the fireplace or in a wood stove to dispose of them. They are likely to flare out of control and send flames and smoke into the room. Also, do not burn wrapping paper in the fireplace because it often contains metallic materials which can be toxic if burned.

**Candles:** Never use lighted candles near trees, boughs, curtains/drapes, or with any potentially flammable item.

**Toys and Gifts:** Be especially careful when you choose toys for infants or small children. Be sure anything you give them is too big to get caught in the throat, nose or ears. Avoid toys with small parts that can be pulled or broken off. If you are giving toys to several children in one family, consider their age differences and the chances that younger children will want to play with older kids' toys.

**Older adults:** Select gifts for older adults that are not heavy or awkward to handle. For persons with arthritis, make sure the gift does not require assembly and can be easily opened and closed. Choose books with large type for anyone with vision impairment.

**Plants:** Small children may think that holiday plants look good enough to eat. But many plants can cause severe stomach problems. Plants to watch out for include: mistletoe, holly berries, Jerusalem cherry, and amaryllis. Keep all of these plants out of children's reach.

**Food and Cooking:** The holidays often mean preparing large meals for family and friends. Wash hands, utensils, sink, and anything else that has come in contact with raw poultry. Keep in mind that a stuffed bird takes longer to cook. For questions concerning holiday turkey preparation and cooking call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-800-535-4555. Refrigerate or freeze leftovers in covered shallow containers (less than two inches deep) within two hours after cooking. Date the leftovers for future use.

**Alcohol, Parties and Driving:** Being a smart party host or guest should include being sensible about alcoholic drinks. More than half of all traffic fatalities are alcohol-related. Use designated drivers, people who do not drink, to drive other guests home after a holiday party.

**Stress:** The holiday season is one of the most stressful times of the year. You can't avoid stress completely, but you can give yourself some relief. Allow enough time to shop rather than hurry through stores and parking lots. Only plan to do a reasonable number of errands. When shopping, make several trips out to the car to drop off packages rather than trying to carry too many items. Take time out for yourself. Relax, read, or enjoy your favorite hobby at your own pace.



### Members of the Board

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**Gloria Molina**  
First District

**Zev Yaroslavsky**  
Third District

**Don Knabe**  
Fourth District

**Michael D. Antonovich**  
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**Michael J. Henry**  
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Editor