

County DIGEST



APRIL 2008

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles County Exhibit Observing Women's History Month

'The Life of Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke'

In celebration of March being dedicated as Women's History Month, the Los Angeles County Commission for Women unveiled "A Woman of Firsts" exhibit featuring the personal life and political career of Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, (*pictured*) which was displayed at the County's Hall of Administration throughout the month of March.

Supervisor Burke is serving her final term representing the Second Supervisorial District and will be retiring later this year. The exhibit, produced by the Public Information Office's Photo Unit and Graphic Arts Department, will be displayed throughout the County up until her retirement in December.

Some of the remarkable accomplishments made by Supervisor Burke over the course of her long public service career, in which she has amassed numerous "firsts" and innumerable awards and honors, both as an African American and a woman, include the following:

- The first African American woman elected to the U.S. Congress from California in 1972
- Served as Vice Chair of the 1972 Democratic National Convention
- In 1993, became the first African American to serve as Chair of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
- Vice Chairman of the 1984 U.S. Olympics Organizing Committee
- In 1953, became the first African American woman admitted to USC's School of Law since 1928



- First African American woman elected to the State Legislature in 1967 and was one of only three women in the legislature
- In 1973, became the first member of congress to give birth while in office
- First woman to serve on the Los Angeles Federal Reserve Bank

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INDIVIDUALS
AND
TEAMS

Coming on May 6!
Watch the Board of Supervisors
Meeting for the Awards

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

EVENT CALENDAR

**Supervisor Antonovich and Los Angeles County
Present the 11th Annual Remembering Our Veterans:
Past, Present and Future**

Saturday, May 24 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Arcadia County Park

405 S. Santa Anita Avenue, Arcadia 91006

(626) 967-1441

**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 or call (626) 821-4623

Natural History Museum

900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles 90007

For a list of events, please visit www.nhm.org or
call (213) 763-DINO

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles 90036

(323) 857-6000

www.lacma.org

Arts

Through June 15 - Kanemitsu in California during the 60s & 70s

Through August - A Connoisseur's Delights: Indian Paintings
from the Nasli and Alice Heeramanek Collection

Through August - A Masterpiece Restored: LACMA's Tibetan
Painting of Yama and Yami

Through September - BCAM Inaugural Installation

Through Nov 2 - Tradition as Innovation in African Art

Music

June 12 - Taikoproject

May through September - Latin Sounds, Saturdays 5-7 p.m.

Through Nov - Friday Night Jazz, 6-8 p.m.

Sundays Live - Every Sunday at 6 p.m.

For more information on LACMA's Music Programs,
please call (323) 857-6115

Music Center/Disney Concert Hall

(323) 850-2000

Los Angeles Philharmonic

www.laphil.com

April

24 - 26 - Bruckner's Sixth

27 - Asha Bhosle

May

1, 2 & 4 - Andsnes Plays Brahms

3 - Kronos Quartet: 'Nunavut'

6 - Philharmonia Orchestra - I

CALENDAR

continued on page 15

Public Service Recognition Week May 5-11, 2008

CELEBRATE PUBLIC SERVICE

Public Service Recognition Week • May 5 - 11, 2008

THE COUNCIL FOR
Excellence
IN GOVERNMENT

www.excelgov.org/psrw

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County DIGEST

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

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1-800-87-FRAUD**

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

Lakewood Sheriff's Station Expansion Completed

A multi-million dollar expansion project was completed at the Lakewood Sheriff's Station. Supervisor Don Knabe pledged \$2 million in capital project funds to the remodel, which included the construction of a 15,400 square-foot, two-story addition, remodeling two existing buildings, and enlarging one of them by 2,300 square feet. The station serves a population of about 260,000 in five cities, including Lakewood, Artesia, Bellflower, Hawaiian Gardens, and Paramount.



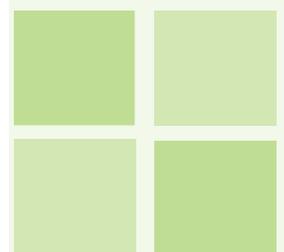
125 Arrests, 64 Weapons and \$28,000 in Illegal Drugs Confiscated in February D.I.S.A.R.M. Searches

During the month of February, D.I.S.A.R.M. officers confiscated 64 weapons, including 22 handguns and 12 rifles/shotguns, seized over \$28,000 in illegal drugs, and arrested 125 probationers during 1,200 unannounced searches of residences, persons, vehicles, and businesses, announced Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich.

The searches were conducted through the Probation Department's D.I.S.A.R.M. (Developing Increased Safety through Arms Reduction Management) Program, initiated by Supervisor Antonovich following 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 Washington State.

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 2000, the D.I.S.A.R.M. program has seized 3,873 weapons and more than \$289 million in illegal drugs and drug money, and resulted in 9,003 arrests. Twenty percent of probationers in this program have been out of compliance with their terms of probation.



D.
I.
S.
A.
R.
M.

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:

ASSESSOR: Matthew P. Azzara, Terrence P. Curtis, Manuel Delgado Jr, James R. Hosking

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER: Jack Skadsem

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE: Helen B. Graeber

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: John Emerich, Frank Schiavone

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES: Claudine Crank, Steven Flerman, William E. Gay, Ye J. Keem, M J. Maguire

COMMUNITY AND SENIOR SERVICES: Leamon Scott

COUNTY COUNSEL: Donovan M. Main

FIRE: James E. Cota, Jim L. Jacobson, Craig R. Leinen, Donald S. Meramble, Richard G. Rossetti, Jess R. Solis, Gary A. Sonkur, John A. Tabak

HEALTH SERVICES: Gloria Anaya, George Austin Jr, Diane L. Burkholder, Armando Carrillo, Naomi Corros, Judy A. Cunningham, Enrique Duque Jr, Karla L. Ellis, Anna M. Farias, Clarice Green, Gordon A. Green, Lucille Griffin, Patricia E. Jasper, Robert W. Knouse, Karen L. Leamons, Lynn Loufek, Linda S. Martin, Jo V. Mathieu, Nora Medearis, Earl D. Ramsey, Dolores Rodriguez, Victoria Shepherd, Alice M. Trotter, Darlene C. Washington, Nancy S. Wolfe, Yun T. Yoo

HUMAN RESOURCES: Shirley L. Butler, Lucille La Farga-Takeuchi

INTERNAL SERVICES: James M. Duffy, Robert W. Gunyon Jr, Glover Keetin, David Saavedra III, Emma J. Tucker

LACERA: Virginia G Adkins

MENTAL HEALTH: Frieda A. Galles, Flora Miles, Linda R. Woodruff

MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY: Karen J. Himes

PARKS AND RECREATION: Dennis Heimbach, Peter G. Zabriskie

PROBATION: Curtis A. Amundson, Peter N. Andersen, Willie R. Blakely, Arvis P. Bruveris, Willie A. Doyle, Luciano Duran Jr, Rodney A. Gilmore Jr, Johnnie Howard, Nancy N. Imperial, Roberta A. Mc Gehee, William C. Nienhuis, Guillermo Reyes Jr, Richard A. Richardson, Johnny L. Roberson, Ollie O. Smith, Jose M. Vejar, Judith M. Watson, Ralph B. White

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Wendy S. Edmisten, Rebecca A. Schreiber

PUBLIC HEALTH: Masimita Cantu, Soon I. Jang, Joe Nash, Rosa L. Pechersky

PUBLIC LIBRARY: Sandra Novoa, Wendy J. Romano, Rachael H. Williams, Joseph K. Zagami

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Rudolph Aguilar, John M. Armour, Barbara J. Burford, Rosalina M. Cruz, Yolanda De La Rosa, Gail L. Dershechwitz, Hosny Gad, Mary E. Galloway,

Frances M. Jackson, Phyllis Lane, Linda D. Leung, David Martinez, Barbara J. Mason, Dianne B. Murray, Grecia M. Nanasca, Ngocle T. Nguyen, Jenny St. Mark, Consuelo Villagran

PUBLIC WORKS: Alfred Chow, Frank M. Quinn, Kazem Salehpour, Carlton Tolliver, Eric P. Wickland, Richard V. Wilson

REGIONAL PLANNING: Francisco Meneses

SHERIFF: Henry J. Aguilar Sr, John T. Banks, Richard L. Castro, Anthony A. Deleon, Robert W. Fowler, Linda J. Francis, Stanley E. Garrett, Lawrence P. Gump, David B. Hall, Kenneth L. Handcox, William L. Hines Jr, Benjamin J. Jackson, Johnny G. Jurado, Richard P. Lichten, Allen Makorow, Dorothy J. Malloy, Richard Sottile, Russell F. Sprague, Frank Terkelsen, Benjamin R. Venegas, Stephen J. Webb, Stephen A. Weireter, James L. Whitten

SUPERIOR COURT: Mike Chavarela, Richard A. Curtis, Kerry K. Padilla

TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR: Erma J. Blake

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:

ASSESSOR: Robert P. Golisch

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER: Jerry W. Kril

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Virginia Kiehl

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES: Olivia A. Jordan, Carmen Nava, Tamie C. Wariner

COMMUNITY AND SENIOR SERVICES: Phuoc N. Pham

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Mildred L. Bennett

FIRE: Richard Diaz, Albert A. Escamilla, David Estey, Keith K. Imamoto, Deborah A. Lawrence, Alfred W. Little, James H. Makuta, Gary A. McAdam, Donald C. Olson, Richard K. Shima, Mark C. Spruill

HEALTH SERVICES: Joann M. Bacay, Ernest Bontrager, Muriel M. Brown, Wen G. Huang, Helen Jackson, Josephine Marasigan, Mary E. Moreland, Enedina Varela

PARKS AND RECREATION: James A. Bauml

PROBATION: Mamie V. Bell, Themla Byrd

PUBLIC LIBRARY: Sarala Blair, Olivia C. Curry, Donna L. Serra, Melvin C. Tyler

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Coralia Gavilan, Guirguis G. Guirguis, Oanh T. Tran

PUBLIC WORKS: Robert H. Sakai, Henry Wan

SHERIFF: Russell L. Bailey, Gerald W. Berry, Michael H. Hansen, Jack D. Husebo, Robert Y. Ramirez, James R. Tichenor, Philip M. Vartanian, Alfonso S. Verduzco Jr, Anthony R. Wade

SUPERIOR COURT: M.J. Jones, Lily Ko-Lee, Leoncio M. Rivas

TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR: Sharon L. Page



Supervisor Antonovich Unveils New Palmdale Flyer Bus at Antelope Valley Board of Trade

Convenient, free bus service to LA/Palmdale Airport for Santa Clarita and San Fernando Valley’s residents

To provide San Fernando and Santa Clarita Valley travelers a convenient, reliable and inexpensive alternative to commuting to LAX, Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich unveiled a new dedicated express bus service – “the Palmdale Flyer” – at the Antelope Valley Board of Trade Outlook Conference.



James C. Ledford (left), Palmdale Mayor, and Supervisor Antonovich

Fashioned after the successful LAX “FlyAway” service administered by Los Angeles World Airports, the Palmdale Flyer pilot project will connect residents in the San Fernando Valley and Santa Clarita Valley to LA/Palmdale Airport by way of two central locations – the Via Princessa Metrolink Station at 19201 Via Princessa in Santa Clarita, and the Van Nuys FlyAway Bus Terminal at 7610 Woodley Avenue.

United Airlines currently connects LA/Palmdale Airport to San Francisco International Airport, an international hub – on twice daily flights.

“LA/Palmdale Airport is the future economic hub of the high desert in the heart of the fastest-growing area in California and will generate future development, interstate commerce, job creation and an estimated \$65 million in economic benefit to the community,” said Supervisor Antonovich. “A dedicated bus service will be an additional transportation alternative for air travelers of LA/Palmdale Airport to avoid the long check-in lines and traffic congestion of LAX.”

“Having a reverse shuttle back into Palmdale and away from the traffic congestion leading to LAX provides unprecedented access from the San Fernando Valley and the Santa Clarita area to the LA/Palmdale Airport. This is all about changing the habits of the traveling public,” said Palmdale Mayor James C. Ledford.

“Ground access is a prerequisite to development of the regional airports so they are able to take an ever increasing share of the demand for air service in Southern California. I applaud Supervisor Antonovich for sponsoring express bus service to LA/Palmdale Regional Airport,” said Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. “The Palmdale Flyer will encourage use of LA/Palmdale and help reduce traffic volumes on the Southern California freeways. This is a prime example of how government agencies can work together to achieve a regional solution to meeting aviation demand.”

The Palmdale Flyer is a collaboration of Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, the County Department of Public Works, Antelope Valley Transit Authority, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles World Airports, and United Airlines.

The Palmdale Flyer coach buses will accommodate 53 passengers and 2 wheelchairs. The twice-daily service became effective April 2, 2008.

To the Bay and Beyond
 Express Bus to LA/Palmdale Regional Airport
 from Van Nuys and the Santa Clarita Valley.
www.lawa.org/pmd (661) 266-7600

ATTENTION L.A. COUNTY EMPLOYEES!!!



EARN YOUR SALARY PLUS EXTRA CASH! BE A POLLWORKER ON JUNE 3, 2008!

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

**NEW!
BALLOT BUCKS**

Earn a \$75.00 bonus
for serving as a Pollworker for all 3
Statewide Elections in 2008

- ☆ February 5
- ☆ June 3
- ☆ November 4

County Pollworkers 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 \$150 for working on Election Day.
- ☆ All employees who work Election Day earn an additional \$25.00 for attending training.
- ☆ Meet MAPP goals through County Pollworker Service.
- ☆ Help your community in a time of need.

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 via the intranet at: www.lavote.net.
- ☆ Download an application from the Web site.
- ☆ 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 at (562) 868-3457 (Be on the lookout for an application sent out with your pay stub).

Irma Resendez: First District “Woman of the Year”

Supervisor Gloria Molina proudly named Irma Resendez, co-founder of Familia Unida Living with Multiple Sclerosis, the First District’s “Woman of the Year” at the County Commission for Women’s 23rd Annual Awards Banquet. Irma Resendez’ story is inspiring. She was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis in 1990. The disease left her completely paralyzed from the waist down and substantially limited her upper extremities. During her difficult, year-long rehabilitation period, she was stunned to discover that culturally appropriate, expert information about services and resources for people with Multiple Sclerosis were not available in Spanish from local or national organizations. So Irma Resendez and co-founder Edmundo Castellanos launched Familia Unida Living with Multiple Sclerosis. They have committed their lives to this organization, which, for the past four years, included an annual “wheelchair wash”—held last October in East L.A. Attendees got a free wheelchair wash plus free makeovers—including a hairstyling and manicure. They and their family caregivers also



sampled delicious food, enjoyed live entertainment, and were connected with the latest County, state, and national social services for people living with Multiple Sclerosis. Recently, Irma Resendez produced the first-ever bilingual, English/Spanish, culturally diverse educational video for individuals with Multiple Sclerosis titled, “You are not Alone/No estás Solo” with the support of Gloria Estefan Enterprises and Sony Records. She also is a HOPE Leadership Institute graduate. Familia Unida Living with Multiple Sclerosis is located at 4716 Avenida Cesar Chavez, Bldg. A in East L.A. For more information, go to www.msfamiliaunida.org.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky’s Motion Spurs County Registrar-Recorder to Complete Crossover Vote Tally and Include 80% of Previously Uncounted Crossover Votes

Voter confusion was widespread over the “double bubble” ballots used by registered non-partisan crossover voters in the February 5 Democratic presidential primary. In response, the Board of Supervisors on February 12 quickly adopted Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky’s urgency motion directing the County’s Acting Registrar-Recorder to conduct a thorough review of the situation and take all measures to tally and record as many unsuccessful crossover ballots as possible. Supervisor Yaroslavsky’s motion also directed the Acting Registrar-Recorder to redesign the ballot before the June state primary to eliminate the confusing “double bubble” party-selection requirement for crossover voters in all future elections.

On March 4, after exhaustive efforts to discern voter intentions, elections officials certified the final official results, which included some 95% of the 226,000 non-partisan ballots cast, and 80% of the 60,000 initially unsuccessful crossover ballots. The Acting Registrar-Recorder has also released an exhaustive Unofficial Summary of Undetermined Non-Partisan Crossover Ballots for the remaining 12,000 uncounted crossover ballots for which voter intent cannot be definitively determined. For more information, read the Acting Registrar-Recorder’s non-partisan voter review memo, and visit the Department’s Web site at www.lavote.net and scroll down to PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION for additional reports on the vote-tabulation process.

ENRICHING LIVES...

Los Angeles County Commission for Women Honors “Women of The Year” Awardees

On Monday, March 10, at 11:30 a.m., the Board of Supervisors and the Commission for Women held its 23rd annual Women of the Year Luncheon at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles. The reception and silent auction began at 11 a.m. The multi-talented artist and producer Rodri J. Rodriguez was the Mistress of Ceremonies and the trio Sweet Harmony graced the stage with song. Celebrating “Women of Service,” female officers from the United States Air Force stationed at the Edwards Base led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following women were honored for their work to bring about social and economic change:

First Supervisorial District: Irma Resendez, MSW, Founder and Executive Director of Familia Unida Living with Multiple Sclerosis. Resendez’s personal trial with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) inspired her to devote the past 10 years to assist MS sufferers to obtain healthcare, educational services and resources that ultimately encourage maximum quality of life.

Second Supervisorial District: Commander Willie J. Miller, a 30-year veteran of the Sheriff’s Department currently assigned to Field Operations Region II, where she is responsible for a budget that exceeds \$250 million. Commander Miller was the first African American female Captain to oversee the Operations Safe Streets Bureau. During her career, she has recognized the value of mentoring and developed long term mentoring programs for youth at risk. She, also, sets aside time each week to mentor deputies and professional staff who seek her advice.

Third Supervisorial District: Honorable Fran Pavley, former State Assemblywoman and educator, has had over 70 of her bills and resolutions become law. Concerned with the environment, her landmark tailpipe emission reduction bill was the first global warming law in the nation and has become a model for other states. “Pavley Clean Car Regulations” bill have been adopted by 11 other states and many provinces in Canada.

Fourth Supervisorial District: Colleen Mooney, for the past 25 years, has served as Executive Director of the South Bay Center for Counseling (SBCC), an incorporated non-profit mental health agency providing services to the residents of the County of Los Angeles. Under Mooney’s leadership, SBCC has progressed from a small counseling center to a multi-disciplinary agency. Through community activism and her work at SBCC, Mooney has been able to partner with many organizations to enhance the lives of the residents in the Fourth District.

The Fifth Supervisorial District: Awardees are as follows: Education Spectrum co-founders Cathy Gott, a mother of two special needs children; Diane Howard, Executive Director, with 40 years of experience in special education; and Kathy Hollimon, Director of Training, working specifically with individuals with autism. These dedicated women of Education Spectrum and their staff have been leading the way in developing innovative strategies for working individuals with autism spectrum disorders.

Dixie Eliopulos, a second Awardee from the Fifth Supervisorial District, credits her strong values as the key to success in life and business. Moving to Lancaster in 1959, Eliopulos purchased and successfully operated the Antelope Valley Escrow Company until retiring in 2001. With over 40 years of community activism, this has given her the opportunity to effect change in Lancaster and the Antelope Valley. Eliopulos freely gives her time to the Women’s Ministries at her church and is the founding member of Antelope Valley Christian Business and Professional Women’s Council.

Community Awardees:

Commander Lynda Castro is a 30 year veteran of the Sheriff’s Department and has served as the Equity Commander overseeing the Bureau of Labor Relations and Compliance. Commander Castro has played a significant role in providing leadership to the Department in preventing gender discrimination, focusing on areas of assignment, transfer, training and promotion of women in the Sheriff’s Department.

Nancy Chand, Public Defender IV of the Public Defender’s Office, has made numerous contributions to benefit incarcerated and impoverished women and children. She was instrumental in the implementation of the Second Chance Women’s Re-Entry Court program for women parolees charged with a new felony and the first gender-response mandatory training for judges and lawyers assigned to treatment courts in the County of Los Angeles.

Honorable Laura Chick, the 17th Controller of the City of Los Angeles, is the first woman in history to hold citywide office. Controller Chick is an example of strong women’s leadership advocating for all women in the City. In addition to being an advocate and mentor to women, she also runs a program of women’s dialog bringing together leading women in California, such as business professionals and journalists, to discuss issues affecting women today.

Denise Dador, Eyewitness News Health Specialist, ABC 7, is a strong advocate for the rights of all to quality healthcare and is committed to promoting women’s health. She has won numerous awards for excellence in journalism and community service. Her ABC 7 Eyewitness News “Healthy Living” targets campaigns to promote a healthy lifestyle to keep the community informed, empowered and motivated.

Maria Leyva, Director of Services for Domestic Violence, Valley Family Center, in San Fernando, works tirelessly to improve the lives of women survivors of domestic abuse. Early in life, Leyva had a passion to empower women, especially victims of domestic violence. She continuously involves herself in educating the public on this very serious issue.

Event sponsors included ABC 7, QueensCare, LA Care Health Plan, and Supervisors Don Knabe and Gloria Molina. The Commission for Women also thanks all table sponsors. For more information about the Commission please call their staff at (213) 974-1455 or visit the Commission’s Web site at www.laccw.org.

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

Military Women in Need Presents its First Veteran Leadership Award at Annual Luncheon

Nonprofit Honors Long-Time Director of the County's Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Military Women in Need (MWIN), which has been providing vital assistance to female military veterans and widows of veterans in Southern California for more than 80 years, bestowed its first Veteran Leadership Award at its fifth annual luncheon on March 11 at The Palm Restaurant in Los Angeles. Colonel Joseph Smith, Director of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs for the past 20 years, was the award recipient.

“We are thrilled to present our very first Veteran Leadership Award to such a distinguished and hard-working member of the Los Angeles veteran community,” said Ranlyn Tilley Hill, J.D., Executive Director of the West Los Angeles-based nonprofit, Benevolent Vision. “Colonel Smith works tirelessly to benefit and improve the lives of military veterans – male and female – in this city. A former Marine, he is a highly decorated war hero who now serves as a hero to the veterans who are struggling with issues such as homelessness in our community.”



Arthur J. Swerdloff presenting Inaugural Veteran Leadership Award to Col. Joseph N. Smith

Colonel Smith responded to news of the award by saying, “I’m honored and grateful to receive this award on behalf of my Department staff, US VETS, The Salvation Army and all the great people who know of the superb service and enormous sacrifices of our women in the Armed Services. They demonstrate the highest form of patriotism by their willingness to give their lives, if needed, for our wonderful country.”

The event’s Notes from the Field was delivered by Boyden E. Rohner, LT, USNR, Department of Homeland Security, who spoke about her work as the Operations/Intelligence Briefer to the Secretary of Department of Homeland Security.

Additionally, there was a peer organization presentation from the nonprofit Operation Gratitude, which procures and sends care packages to current U.S. military personnel all over the world.

Fundraiser sponsors included Supervisors Michael D. Antonovich, Yvonne B. Burke and Don Knabe. The luncheon was entirely underwritten by an anonymous donor. All ticket sales and sponsorships directly benefited the programs.

Military Women in Need has been preventing homelessness among female veterans and the widows of veterans, aged 55 or older, in both Los Angeles and Orange Counties for more than 80 years. The nonprofit provides housing assistance, resource and referral services and home visits that allow these women to live out their lives with continued independence and dignity.



Board Honors Heroes in Lifesaving Kanan Road Rescue

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky honors (from left to right) Scott Hanna, Deputies Edward Harrold and Christopher Chavez, and Don Roberts for their heroic rescue of a trapped firefighter from the flaming wreckage of a vehicular accident. On October 24, 2007, a semi-tractor hauling two trailers of gravel down Kanan Road lost its brakes. The runaway vehicle plowed into an intersection, striking two vehicles and pinning one against a vertical cliff at the edge of the road.



The semi and one of the cars burst into flames, killing both drivers. The other car, driven by off-duty County Firefighter David Wise (third from left), was partially crushed by the trailers and gravel. Wise, knocked unconscious, was pinned in the wreckage. Passing motorists Scott Hanna and Don Roberts witnessed the collision and rushed to the trapped firefighter's aid. They were assisted by Sheriff's Deputies Harrold and Chavez, who saw the plume of black smoke from several hundred yards away and immediately drove to the location. Together, the two good samaritans and the sheriff's deputies pulled the unconscious firefighter, covered in diesel fuel and gasoline, from the burning wreckage and saved his life.

Popular "AG DAY LA" Expands



The annual AG DAY LA event has become so popular that this "day" is being expanded to two days this year. On Wednesday, May 14 and Thursday, May 15, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., third and fourth grade students and their teachers will enjoy hands-on exhibits celebrating and showcasing agriculture at the Fairplex in Pomona.

Even though California is a worldwide agricultural leader and the County of Los Angeles has a rich agricultural heritage, it is easy for people living in population centers to miss the connections between what we eat, drink, and wear, the environment, and how various agricultural professions contribute towards producing our goods while preserving the environment.

Organized by the County's Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights & Measures, Los Angeles County Farm Bureau, California Women for Agriculture, and the 48th District Agricultural Association, AG DAY LA will be held at the 48th District Agricultural Association School's Agriculture and Nutrition Fair at the Fairplex in Pomona. The fair itself will take place May 14-18 with the theme, "Watch Your Garden Grow."

For our seventh year, third and fourth grade students and their teachers are invited to discover how water, plants, bees, fiber, food, and dairy elements are some of the pieces of the agricultural puzzle that impact our everyday lives. Getting hands-on with interactive activities, seeing a mobile dairy, meeting farm animals up close, and visiting with agriculture professionals will leave a lasting impression on the students, most of whom live a city life disconnected from the source of their food and clothing. This is their chance to learn about farming and the preservation of a healthy food supply. The fair will also have a display of student entries and class projects based on the event's theme.

For more information, please visit <http://www.AGDAYLA.com>.

Deputy Stephen Bohnert Honored in Corral Fire Rescue

Sheriff's Deputy Stephen Bohnert was honored by Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky and his colleagues for Deputy Bohnert's selfless rescue of an elderly disabled man as flames from the November 2007 Corral Fire were bearing down on the man's home in the El Nido residential area in the Santa Monica Mountains above the City of Malibu. When the fire broke out and began its march toward the Pacific Ocean in the early morning hours of November 23, Ben Kennedy, 96 years old and wheelchair-bound, was reluctant to evacuate. By the time his caregiver persuaded him to leave, virtually all public safety personnel had already left the

vicinity. Fortunately, Deputy Bohnert was the last to leave – and learning of Kennedy's predicament, the deputy drove back into the man's neighborhood and, flagged down by the caregiver, was able to physically carry the man into his squad car and ferry him to safety. When it was all over, Kennedy's home had burned to the ground – the charred remains of his abandoned wheelchair standing as mute testimony to the fact that Kennedy would have perished but for the courageous actions of Deputy Bohnert.



2008 Multicultural Conference

Each year, hundreds of County of Los Angeles employees and residents come together at the County of Los Angeles Multicultural Conference to share a day filled with inspiration and hope. The essence of the Conference thrives on its participants' diverse ethnic background, age, creed and gender, generating an atmosphere of cultural wealth. In celebration of its 10th anniversary, the theme for this year's Conference is "Reaching the Vision, Continuing the Journey 2008: Adapting to Change in a Culturally Diverse Society." This one-day event is scheduled to take place at the Hilton Los Angeles Universal City Hotel on Thursday, May 15.

Endorsed by the Board of Supervisors, the Conference endeavors to enhance the participants' ability to share commonalities, enabling diverse groups to co-exist within their communities and work atmospheres by addressing issues of cultural competency in a changing and increasingly diverse society. In support of the Board of Supervisors' Policy on Diversity, workshops and presentations are designed to equip participants with new skills in cultural competency. With several workshops, plenary speakers, vendors and exhibit tables, as well as plenty of culturally diverse programs, participants enjoy a day of gained knowledge and celebration. In addition, it offers participants the opportunity to network with hundreds of business professionals, community leaders, and private citizens. Several of the Conference workshops offer Continuing Education credits.

The Conference originated in 1999 through the efforts of Dr. Alex Aloia, who has given over 40 years of community service at the County, State and National level. Dr. Aloia envisioned designating a day for all County employees and



residents to come together to find common ground. Due to its high success rate, Conference participation has grown over the years from approximately 300 participants in 1999 to over 1,000 County and non-County participants in 2007. Currently, the Conference receives support from 31 County departments and over 40 co-sponsors from public, private, and non-profit sectors, making this event one of the largest and most comprehensive government sponsored conferences in the nation. It also reaches out to a diverse population encompassing the five Southern California Counties of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside and Ventura.

County department heads and community leaders address and welcome Conference attendees as they kick off the event, reminding us about the importance of building a community based on mutual respect for differences. For more information regarding the 10th Annual Multicultural Conference, including registration, continuing education credits information or sponsorship, please visit www.lacmc.net or call Luis Escalante at (213) 251-6882.

Supervisors Antonovich and Molina Proclaim March 29th as “THINKCURE! DAY” Throughout the County of Los Angeles

Supervisors Michael D. Antonovich and Gloria Molina proclaimed Saturday, March 29 as “ThinkCure! Day” throughout the County of Los Angeles to help increase awareness about cancer prevention and support for cancer research.

Launched in July 2007, by the Dodgers, the McCourt Family, City of Hope in Duarte and Children’s Hospital, ThinkCure! is the official charity of the Los Angeles Dodgers. ThinkCure! is dedicated to raising funds for critical cancer research, treatment, and ultimately to finding a cure for cancer.

On March 29, the Los Angeles Dodgers played host to the 2007 World Series Champion Boston Red Sox in an exhibition game celebrating their 50th Anniversary in Los Angeles. The game was played in the historic Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, the site of the Dodgers home games from 1958 to 1961. Net proceeds from the game went to ThinkCure!



From left to right: Dr. Bruce Chernof, Department of Health Services; Supervisor Gloria Molina; Dr. Jonathan Fielding, Department of Public Health; Kevin Koga, City of Hope; Janet Clayton, ThinkCure!, Dr. Marvin Southard, Department of Mental Health; Dr. Stewart Sigel, Children’s Hospital; Diego De La Graza, City of Hope; Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

New Graffiti Prevention Program Launched

Supervisor Don Knabe, in partnership with Helpline Youth Counseling, the Sheriff’s Department, the Cities of Downey, La Mirada, Norwalk, Santa Fe Springs, Whittier, and unincorporated Whittier, recently launched the Aware Teens Against Graffiti or A.T.A.G Program at the STAR Center, located in the City of Whittier.



A.T.A.G is an innovative delinquency prevention program that targets first time tagging and vandalism offenders between the ages of nine to 15 and their parents. The weekend-long program focuses on parents receiving an intensive two-day skill-building training, and the youth offenders participating in community service projects and group discussions while being supervised by law enforcement. The program is a unique and proactive effort in the County of Los Angeles as it brings elected officials, law enforcement, the court system, community-based organizations and families together in a collaborative effort to combat tagging and vandalism in the community.

“Graffiti is a huge problem in many of our neighborhoods and communities, and it is reducing the quality of life, property values, business growth and development in these areas,” said Supervisor Knabe. “A.T.A.G works to prevent and eliminate this growing problem by providing parents with necessary skills, support and resources to help their kids and it teaches young offenders about accountability, responsibility, respect, values and future consequences.”

HONORING ALL Who Served

Please join

**Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich
Los Angeles County**

at his 11th annual event

“Remembering Our Veterans and Their Families Past, Present and Future”

Saturday, May 24, 2008

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Arcadia County Park
405 S. Santa Anita Avenue, Arcadia 91006

A special tribute to our Armed Forces will be held at 11:30 a.m.

Bring a duplicate of a military photo
to be placed on the “Wall of Remembrance”

FREE ADMISSION

For more information, call 626-967-1441 or 909-394-2264.
Event will be held rain or shine.

Skydivers
Fly over by WWII Fighter Planes
Food Booths
Live Music

Free
Immunizations
Haircuts/manicures
Health screenings

Obtain
Employment information
Veterans benefits information
Legal assistance information



Community & Senior Services
Adult Protective Services
HOT LINE: (877) 477-3646



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

**Natural
History
Museum**
of Los Angeles County

22nd Annual Bug Fair

Saturday-Sunday, May 17-18, 2008; 10 am-5 pm

The Museum’s hugely popular Bug Fair is North America’s largest celebration of our multi-legged friends. In addition to many live specimens, many of which visitors can touch and hold, the Fair features animals for purchase and an endless array of bug-related toys, gift items and art. Staff from our Research and Collections department will be at interactive tables where visitors can ask questions and discuss science. *FREE with Museum admission.*

For more information, visit the Museum’s website at www.nhm.org or call (213) 763-DINO.

Supervisor Burke Honors CBS 2 and KCAL 9 Television Stations



At the March 4 Board of Supervisors meeting, Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke honored CBS 2 and KCAL 9 television stations for their incredible design and development of a mock newscast used during the County’s Operational Area’s annual exercise, Operation Higher Ground, held in February.

Supervisor Burke was joined by news anchors, Kent Shockneck (*pictured*) and Josh Rubenstein; Stephanie Rodriguez; and CEO – Office of Emergency Management staff, Joyce Harris, PIO; and Assistant Administrator, Keith Harrison.

CBS 2 and KCAL 9 donated their staffs’ time and resources for the design, development and production of these newscasts, which were extremely crucial and beneficial in creating a realistic environment for the Operation Higher Ground participants.

The exercise was a tremendous success and all participants were able to respond effectively and efficiently to the scenario.

CALENDAR

continued from page 2

- 7 – Philharmonia Orchestra - II
- 9 - 11 – Mahler’s Das Lied von der Erde
- 11 – High School Jazz Ensembles
- 13 – Chamber Music with Eric Owens
- 15 - 18 – Beethoven’s Eroica
- 16 – The Movement Revisited
- 21 – Baroque: Ades & Couperin
- 22 – China Philharmonic Orchestra
- 23 - 25 – Bartok and Stravinsky
- 25 – Organ Recital: Terry Riley
- 27 – Green Umbrella with Thomas Ades
- 29 - 31 – Salonen’s Piano Concerto

Center Theatre Group

www.centertheatregroup.org
 May 11-June 8 – Keep Your Pantheon
 May 11-June 8 – Duck Variations

Los Angeles Opera

www.losangelesopera.com
 May 17 – June 21 – Tosca
 June 7-28 – La Rondine

Los Angeles Master Chorale

www.lamc.org
 May 4 – Almost a cappella
 May 18 – Great Opera Choruses

THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SECRETARIAL COUNCIL

Presents its

2008 Annual Seminar Freedom For Professional Growth Thursday, May 8, 2008

Embassy Suites—Arcadia
 211 E. Huntington Drive, Arcadia, CA 91006

Registration and Continental Breakfast: 7:30 am – 8:30 am
Program (Lunch included): 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Cost: \$43.00 Member/Associate Member
\$53.00 Non-Member

For more information, please contact one of the following:

Mary Villegas
 Fifth Supervisorial District
 Phone (909) 394-2264
 MVillegas@lacbos.org

Elva Espinoza
 Parks and Recreation
 Executive Office
 Phone (213) 381-8347
 eespinoza@parks.lacounty.gov

Cathy Carrillo-Cox
 Parks and Recreation
 Administrative Services, 4th Floor
 Phone (213) 368-5822
 ccarrillo@parks.lacounty.gov

Share It



Share Your Heart and Home With a Waiting Child

Did you know that there are over 600 children waiting to be adopted in the County of Los Angeles?

For those of us who were raised by a parent or two, we knew where we were going to be on Thanksgiving. We knew who was going to be there for us each year on the first day of school, and knew there was someone who cared that we wanted to play soccer, ate our vegetables, or were afraid of the dark. It is hard to imagine what life is like for children who don't have a family to call their own. At age 18, our children who were never adopted find themselves on their own: they have no family to share their joys and sorrows with, no family traditions to create, no one to support them when they fall and celebrate with them when they succeed.

The *County DIGEST* will feature a waiting child in future editions and encourage County employees of any age, ethnicity, or marital status to consider adopting a waiting child. It is easier than ever to adopt and there are financial and supportive services available to all families.

So, consider adopting a waiting child like Ember. Once you meet Ember you are likely not to forget her. Born in 1992, this outgoing and spirited young lady dreams of becoming a police officer one day or making it in the entertainment industry. Ember does well in school and is particularly proud of her academic achievements. She has lots of charisma and is a natural when posing for photographs. Ember enjoys many typical "teenager" things like hanging out with friends and listening to music. She is also athletic and plays basketball, football, soccer and is currently on the volleyball team.



Ember desires to find an adoptive family to love and support her as she tackles life's challenges as well as encourage her to pursue her dreams. With the support and encouragement of a loving and permanent family, Ember will be able to do just about anything she sets out to do.

If you are interested in adopting Ember or becoming an adoptive parent, please call the Department of Children and Family Services at (888) 811-1121.



Employee **Group Banking Benefits** have been updated. See the changes at <http://web.co.la.ca.us/lacounty/> or obtain them from your Human Resources Division.



Members of the Board

Yvonne B. Burke
Chair
Second District

Gloria Molina
First District

Zev Yaroslavsky
Third District

Don Knabe
Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District

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