



The Office of Women’s Health Salutes Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke

On November 6 at the California Endowment, the Office of Women’s Health saluted Supervisor Burke for her many years of service on the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors at their 10th Anniversary Breakfast.

There is a sincere fondness by the Office of Women’s Health for Supervisor Burke because, in October 1998, she introduced a motion that was unanimously approved by the Board of Supervisors that led to the inception of the Office of Women’s Health.



Over the last ten years the Office of Women’s Health has hosted numerous community events on women’s health issues, including menopause, heart disease, cervical cancer, breast cancer, human trafficking, emergency contraception, and the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine.



HIGHLIGHTS

Volume 40 Issue 11

Knabe Hosts Youth Trauma Conference.....	3
Fraud and Identity Theft Prevention.....	3
Entertainment Stimulus Package.....	4
Antonovich Dedicates New Castaic Library.....	5
Holiday Boat Parade to Light Up Marina del Rey.....	7
ENRICHING LIVES: Productivity and Quality Awards.....	8-9
Kids Clinic at Harbor-UCLA is Expanded.....	10
County Night at Dodger Stadium.....	11
Fireworks Spectacular at Marina del Rey.....	12
Molina Unveils New Garfield High School Mural Extension.....	13
Public Defender Michael Judge Receives New Honor.....	14
County Aerial Firefighting Resources Arrive Just in Time.....	15

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 or call (626) 821-4623

Los Angeles County Museum of Art 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles 90036

(323) 857-6000
www.lacma.org

Arts

Through Jan 4 - Francis Alÿs: Fabiola
Through Jan 18 - Contemporary Projects 11: Hard Targets—
Masculinity and Sport
Through Feb 1 - Hearst the Collector
Through Feb 1 - A Story of Photography: The Marjorie and
Leonard Vernon Collection
Through March 1 - Vanity Fair Portraits: Photographs 1913-2008

Music Center 135 N. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles 90012

(213) 972-7211
www.musiccenter.org

Walt Disney Concert Hall

www.musiccenter.org
December 17-20 - Kirov Ballet: The Nutcracker
December 19 - Music Center Holiday Sing-Along
March 18-22 - Alvin Ailey Dance Theater

Los Angeles Philharmonic

www.laphil.com
(323) 850-2000

December

4-7 - Dudamel Conducts Mozart and Strauss
9 - Green Umbrella: Stockhausen and the Music of the Future
10 - Wayne Shorter Quartet & Imani Winds
12-14 - Alsop Conducts Brahms
16 - A Chanticleer Christmas
17 - Holiday Organ Spectacular
18-20 - Michael Tilson Thomas: The Thomashefskys
20-21 - 'Twas the Week Before Christmas
21 - Holiday Sing-Along
22 - The Count Basie Orchestra - A Swingin' Christmas
23 - Soweto Gospel Choir
31 - New Year's Eve with Pink Martini

Center Theatre Group

www.centertheatre.org

Ahmanson Theatre

Through Dec 7 - Spring Awakening
Jan 21-March 1 - Minsky's

Mark Taper Forum

Through Dec 14 - The School of Night

Kirk Douglas Theatre

Through Dec 21 - The Little Dog Laughed
Jan 21-Feb 22 - Taking Over

Los Angeles Opera

www.losangelesopera.com
Through Dec 14 - Bizet's Carmen
Jan 10-25 - The Magic Flute

Los Angeles Master Chorale

www.lamc.org

December 6 and 13 - Holiday Wonders
December 7 and 15 - Messiah Sing Along: George Frideric Handel |
Messiah
December 14 - Grant Gershon and Ariel Quintana conduct, Ottorino
Respighi | *Laud to the Nativity*, Daniel Pinkham | *Christmas Cantata*,
John Rutter | *Gloria*, Morten Lauridsen | *O Magnum Mysterium*,
Plus other yuletide fare

Natural History Museum

900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles 90007

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

County DIGEST

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

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

(213) 738-2352

(213) 639-0940 FAX

Available online at: dhr.lacounty.info

WeTip WELFARE FRAUD
1-800-87-FRAUD

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

Supervisor Knabe Hosts Youth Trauma Conference

Supervisor Don Knabe recently sponsored a conference for mental health professionals, probation officers, community workers, school administrators and teachers to examine how trauma and violence shapes the behavior of young people.

The one-day training was developed in partnership with the Probation Department, Department of Mental Health, Los Angeles Unified School District and the Children’s Council of Los Angeles County, and focused on those engaged in delinquent behavior and under the supervision of the Probation Department.



involved in the juvenile justice system, over 27,000 in Los Angeles County alone, from primarily a prosecutorial standpoint, and that really impairs our ability to help them move past their delinquent behaviors and overcome the significant obstacles they face,” said Supervisor Knabe. “The goal of the conference is to impart upon staff who work with these young people everyday specific, concrete practices that take into account the trauma and violence these kids grew up with and are continually exposed to. I hope that these new groundbreaking practices will be a positive and significant step towards improving their lives and ultimately eliminating violence and the pervasive influence of gangs in their communities.”

“For far too long, we have viewed kids



Fraud and Identity Theft Prevention

Typical Fraud Schemes Explained (continued from previous County DIGEST)

Bank Examiner

The suspect approaches you or may call you on the phone claiming to be a police officer who is investigating bank employees for embezzlement. You are asked to go to your bank and withdraw cash so the officer can watch the bank employees. You are told to give the money to a “detective” who will return the money to the bank for you. The suspect disappears with your money.

Sweetheart Swindle

This scam often involves an elderly man who is befriended by a young woman. She convinces him she truly cares about him and implies a romantic interest. She tells him she needs money for rent, food, furniture, her business, or she needs surgery. She may swindle him out of his life savings, often causing him to file bankruptcy. This is a very common fraud among Gypsy women.

Fortune-Telling / Psychic Fraud

You may be approached at stores, hotels, restaurants, etc., or when you go to a psychic reader. The psychic convinces you that you have an evil curse or evil spirits that must be “cleansed.” Cleansing is an ongoing process that requires you to pay thousands of dollars in cash, jewelry, vehicles, etc.

Lost Pet or Lost Property Scam

You place an ad in a local paper about a lost pet or lost property. You then receive a call from a long haul truck driver who says he found your lost item but he is now hundreds of miles away. He will return your property (or advise of the location of your pet) after you send a “reward” by Western Union.

FRAUD

continued on page 6

RETIREES

Congratulations to the following employee who is joining the ranks of the retired after 50 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:

PUBLIC HEALTH: Richard A. Brand

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 40 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES: Jeanne T. Fujioka

HEALTH SERVICES: Mildred Jones, Portia Roberson

PROBATION: Richard T. Miyake

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Ella L. McArthur, Betty S. Terrell

SHERIFF: Susan J. Coleman

TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR: Patricia Watts

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:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: Doris J. Lacour

FIRE: Dale Hast, Bradford W. Joyce, Jerry D. Vanden Berg

HEALTH SERVICES: Lorraine M. Arakaki, Debbera Culver, Sheryl Fry-Allen, Ruth Fukuchi, Pearlean Gilliard, Nancy Manby, Ida M. Morales

INTERNAL SERVICES: Jack Addison, Sylvia Cortez, Gilberto M. Pizano

PROBATION: Joel D. Colbert, Ronald E. Johnson, James O. Melton III, Linda D. Watkins

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Diana L. Dunning, Irene Hernandez, Toni J. Mosley, Sylvia Nelson, Dian Stegall, Ramona G. Valadez

SHERIFF: Mary H. Baltazar, Michael L. Fields, Walter S. Hart III, Dale R. Johnson Jr., John E. Radeleff, Thomas G. Sirkel Jr., Wayne A. Wallace, Eunice D. Johnson, Jeanne F. Klauk

SUPERIOR COURT: Rose M. Hernandez

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:

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Mary Jessup

HEALTH SERVICES: Mary L. Bustillos, Patricia A. Davis, George K. Owens Jr., Candelario A. Padilla, Cardella Turner

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Rebecca Green, Stephanie Potter

SHERIFF: Chris L. Christopher, Antonio Hernandez, James T. Morrow

SUPERIOR COURT: Connie D. Washington, Ross M. Klein

TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR: Charles M. Amador

NEW! 100,000 tickets at \$20 each

A new ticket discount program – the Center Theatre Group (CTG) Entertainment Stimulus Package – has been made available to the public, which will make 100,000 tickets available at a \$20 ticket price.

These \$20 tickets will be available at all performances in CTG’s three theatres — Ahmanson, Taper and Douglas — for CTG’s 2008-2009 season.

“We hope this offers a little escape from all the bad economic news,” said Michael Ritchie, CTG Artistic Director. “We recognize that the days ahead are belt-tightening days for all of us and we want to reach out to theatregoers to say you can be frugal and still see good theatre.”

“We have opened up our existing Hot-Tix discount program for this season,” said Ritchie, “increasing the number of \$20



tickets available and also making them available by phone, in person **and online.**” The \$20 tickets will be available from the first day of sale for each individual show. The tickets can be purchased online, by phone or in person at the box office. Unlike the Hot-Tix program, there is not a two-ticket limit to the number of \$20 tickets that can be purchased.

For additional information, please visit the Center Theatre Group’s Web site at www.centertheatregroup.org or call Audience Services at (213) 628-2772.

Supervisor Antonovich Dedicates New Castaic Library

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich joined County Librarian Margaret Donnellan Todd and members of the Castaic and Val Verde community (pictured) to dedicate the new Castaic library located at 27971 Sloan Canyon Road.



“In addition to the 20,000 books, magazines, audio books, computers and other educational materials, this vital facility will provide young people with access to a central community facility for study and research,” said Supervisor Antonovich.

The nearly 7,000 square foot library features:

- 22 public computers
- wireless connectivity
- a children’s book collection
- homework center and teen space
- internet and computer access
- and dedicated reading areas.

The library will be open 6 days a week: Monday and Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Friday from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The library will also be staffed by 3 full-time and 8 part-time employees.

To further assist students with their education, library staff will work closely with the William S. Hart and Castaic Union School Districts to provide students with school-related programs and curriculum-enhancing resources.

Board Approves Supervisor Yaroslavsky’s Green Building Initiative

On Tuesday, October 7, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky’s proposal to develop new laws applying in the County unincorporated areas to require “green building” principles, drought-tolerant landscaping, and Low Impact Development (“LID”) practices for the Board’s consideration no later than November 18. Approving the ordinances would put the County of Los Angeles at the forefront of national efforts to apply green-building

standards to all new construction, both public and private.

Based on recent development trends, these ordinances will also help the County reduce greenhouse gas emissions by roughly 2,138 tons after just one year, save more than 14 million gallons of water in the first year alone, improve indoor air quality, thereby reducing the incidence of asthma and other respiratory ailments; and lower utility bills for households by hundreds of dollars every single year.

New Fire-Fighting Apparatus Stationed in Calabasas

The County of Los Angeles has received five new “Type III Engines” from the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, part of 150 fire apparatus made available to communities statewide in response to the recommendations of a Blue Ribbon Commission that evaluated the state’s firefighting capabilities following the wildfires of 2003. The new engines are highly specialized, four-wheel-drive firefighting vehicles. Over 100 Los Angeles County firefighters recently trained on these new engines, and one has been assigned to Fire Station 125 located in the City of Calabasas.

FRAUD

continued from page 3

Lost / Stolen Purse

A “police officer” calls you to advise he found your purse (often before you realize it is missing or have reported the theft). The “officer” needs your personal information for his report. You, believing a police report is being taken, provide your personal information to the suspect and do not report the theft or cancel your accounts. The suspect then uses your personal information and credit cards to run up very large bills.

Mail Theft

Both incoming and outgoing mail can be stolen from your mailbox. Your checks can be “washed” to remove payee and amount information and altered so the suspect can cash them for more money. The thieves can obtain your name and credit card numbers from your outgoing bills and use this information to charge new purchases. Credit card applications can be stolen and altered. The suspect then applies for a new credit card in your name and goes shopping.

Home Repair

These suspects go door-to-door offering you a great deal on yard work, roof repair, chimney sweeping, house painting, etc. They may have “extra” supplies left over from their last job so they say they can save you money. Usually their products and labor are inferior. At the completion of the work, they claim to have used more supplies or there was more work than anticipated so they demand more money from you. They can be very intimidating.

Distraction / Impostor Burglary

A suspect comes to your house claiming to be from a city or county agency such as water or power. He needs to come into your house to check for problems. Once inside the suspect distracts you and steals cash and other valuables.

Canadian Sweepstakes

You receive a call from someone who says you have won a Canadian sweepstakes, but you must pay Canadian taxes before your winnings can be claimed. You are told to send a cashier’s check or wire money via Western Union to them in Canada. It’s a scam, your winnings never arrive. Also be advised, it is illegal for U.S. citizens to enter foreign lotteries (US Code Title 18, Part 1, Chapter 95).

Purchase of Lottery Tickets

You receive mail or calls from a company representative who will purchase lottery tickets for you in another state (usually Florida) and send you copies of your tickets. They keep the originals so they can collect for you if you win. You may even be conned into writing them monthly checks or allowing them to debit your checking account so they can purchase lottery tickets for you on a weekly basis. You have been scammed. The only one collecting anything is them.

Phishing

This is a term used when the identity thieves send out a very official looking e-mail to try and get you to provide them with your personal information. They will try to fool you into thinking your bank has sent the e-mail by placing the bank’s logo in the message. The e-mail will ask you to “verify” your personal information, i.e. your social security number or account number. Once the identity thieves have this information they may use it to apply for new credit in your name, or make a withdrawal from your account. Your bank already has this information and will never ask you to verify this information via e-mail. Be very aware of this type of scheme. Do not ever respond to this type of e-mail, and it is not necessary to report this alone as a crime.

If you have sustained a loss, immediately contact your local police or sheriff’s station to report the crime.

Holiday Boat Parade to Light Up Marina del Rey

The 46th annual Holiday Boat Parade, sponsored by the Marina del Rey community Boat Parade Committee and the Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors, sets sail in the Main Channel of Marina del Rey on Saturday, December 13 from 6-8 p.m. It is estimated that dozens of beautifully lighted and decorated boats will participate in the event that is free to the public.

Theme of this year's parade is "Santa Claus Is Coming To Town," with prize packages awarded to category winners. Fireworks kicking off the boat parade will be shot off the south jetty at 5:55 p.m.

County employees are invited to come to Marina del Rey for this festive holiday event. Best locations for viewing are Fisherman's Village on Fiji Way and Burton Chace Park, located at 13650 Mindanao Way.



For additional information, visit the organization's Web site at www.mdrboatparade.org.

CSAC Recognizes Innovative Projects

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) has awarded two Challenge and five Merit awards to the County of Los Angeles for innovative projects. Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke and CSAC Executive Director Paul McIntosh presented the awards at the October 21 Board meeting. "All of the County projects meet the CSAC criteria for innovation and creativity," said Supervisor Burke, before handing out the honors.

The Public Defender's Office received the California Counties Innovation Award for the "Assistance to Prisoners with Child Support Orders" Project. The project was honored for its innovation and creativity. The judging panel selected the project among Challenge Award recipients as one of the most innovative programs. Michael P. Judge, Public Defender, Stanley Shimotsu, Division Chief, and Ann Marie Braco, Project Manager, accepted the award.

Parks and Recreation was honored with the coveted Challenge Award for its "South County Crime Scene Investigation Teen Camp." Director Russ Guiney and Bryan Spragg, Recreation Services Manager, received the award.

County Departments receiving Merit Awards were Internal Services for "Environmentally Friendly Product Purchasing Policy in Public Agencies," Public Library for "Library Cards

for Probation Youth," Sheriff for "Pico Rivera Individual Development in Ethics Program," Mental Health for "Preserving Access to Medications for More People" and "The Innovative Navigator."

Also being honored is Chief Executive Office (CEO) employee Michelle Vercoutere, who received a CSAC "Circle of Service" award.

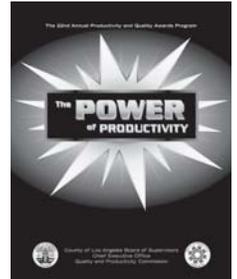
Ms. Vercoutere is being honored for "service above and beyond the norm." CSAC recognizes her "leadership in seeking improvements in the court facility transfer process for the benefit of all California counties." As Los Angeles County's representative, she worked with the other 57 counties as they negotiated separately with the State Administrative Office of the Courts. Monthly conference calls were held to resolve major impediments to the transfer process. Ms. Vercoutere remains a part of the work group on seismic safety, which shares information and potential solutions to common problems.

"This has been an enormous undertaking, but we have worked hard to build a collaborative relationship with the State staff and the Superior Court," Ms. Vercoutere said. "I've had tremendous support from staff and managers in the CEO, County Counsel, Internal Services, Public Works and Auditor-Controller."

ENRICHING LIVES...

Quality and Productivity Commission's 22nd Annual Productivity and Quality Awards *"The Power of Productivity"*

The Board of Supervisors, Chief Executive Office and Quality and Productivity Commission joined together to honor the 22nd Productivity and Quality award winners on October 22. Over 500 County employees attended the recognition ceremony and luncheon at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. The 2008 award-winning projects demonstrate the creativity, collaboration, and cost effectiveness that truly demonstrates *"The Power of Productivity!"* The dedication, innovation and hard work of County managers have produced many best practices that are often emulated across the nation. The Commission is committed to promoting, identifying, and honoring these best practices. Congratulations to all the 2008 PQA winners!



Gold Eagle and Mega Million Dollar Award Winner
"DHS System-Wide Pharmaceutical Management"
Department of Health Services



2008 Commission Chair Leadership Award
Pastor Herrera, Jr., Director
Department of Consumer Affairs



Silver Eagle Award Winner
"Wireless Traffic Management – It's the Real Thing"
Department of Public Works



Bronze Eagle Award Winner
"Information Technology Shared Services"
Internal Services with Chief Information Office

Top Ten Winners

Breathmobile Program

Department of Health Services with Los Angeles Unified School District and Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America

DHS System-Wide Pharmaceutical Management

Department of Health Services

Information Technology Shared Services (ITSS)

Internal Services Department with Chief Information Office

Language & Culture Resource Center/Video Medical Interpretation Project

Department of Health Services - Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center

Lease Transfer Fee: An Innovative Partnership

Department of Beaches and Harbors

Multidisciplinary Assessment Team (MAT)

Department of Children and Family Services with Department of Mental Health

Patient Visit Redesign in Ambulatory Care Clinic

Department of Health Services - Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center

Pico Rivera Station Vandalism Enforcement Team

Board of Supervisors First District, with Sheriff's Department, County Counsel, Office of the District Attorney, Probation Department, Department of Public Works, and City of Pico Rivera

Wireless Traffic Management – It's the Real Thing

Department of Public Works

Women's Reintegration Services

Sheriff's Department with Department of Mental Health, Department of Public Social Services, Department of Children and Family Services, and Child Support Services Department

County of Los Angeles

Strategic Plan



"Enriching Lives"

County Vision

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

KIDS Clinic at Harbor-UCLA is Expanded

Supervisor Don Knabe cut the ribbon recently at the highly anticipated expansion of the Kids in the Dependency System (KIDS) Clinic, located at the Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. The KIDS Clinic is operated by the Department of Health Services, in close collaboration with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS).

The KIDS Clinic is one of five “Medical Hubs” in the County, which provide mental health, forensic and medical screenings for children who are under the care of DCFS or at risk of entering the foster care system. By working in cooperation with other County departments, the complex medical and



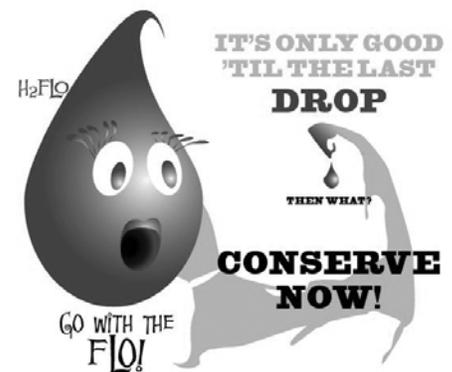
mental health concerns of children in the child welfare system are addressed through these hubs. The KIDS Clinic has received numerous community donations of funds, services and supplies to make the hub “kid-friendly.”

“The South Bay area has the highest caseloads of children and families involved in foster care in Los Angeles County,” said Supervisor Knabe. “Identifying potential problems these children are experiencing, particularly mental health issues, must be done as quickly as possible. Expansion of this clinic will go a long way to helping us meet this critical need.”

Water Conservation Ordinance Adopted for Unincorporated County Areas

In the face of statewide drought conditions, on October 7 the Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted a water conservation urgency ordinance for the unincorporated County areas. The ordinance’s provisions are as follows:

- Hosing or washing down sidewalks, driveways, parking areas or other paved surfaces is prohibited.
- Watering of lawns or landscaping is prohibited between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- Motor vehicles, boats, etc., may be washed at commercial carwashes; individuals wishing to wash their vehicles at home may only do so using reclaimed water, hand-held buckets or water hoses equipped with automatic shut-off nozzles.
- Restaurants may only serve drinking water to customers upon request.
- Decorative fountains must utilize recycled water.



A similar ordinance was adopted in response to severe drought conditions in 1991, and rescinded in 1993.

Savings Bonds Make Great Holiday Gifts



County employees who are early holiday shoppers may want to consider purchasing U.S. Savings Bonds. These are great gifts for people of all ages and especially during the holiday season.

County employees may purchase bonds as a one-time gift, the traditional fixed-rate Series EE Bonds for as little as \$25 for a \$50 bond. There also is the option of purchasing the inflation-indexed Series I Bond starting at \$50. These are gifts that keep on giving and with interest. U.S. Savings Bonds are a safe investment and are protected by the U.S. government.

To purchase Bonds, contact Ruben Rivero, CEO/Workplace Programs, at (213) 974-2523 or via e-mail at rrivero@ceo.lacounty.gov.

Drive Smart and Save Energy

On a motion by Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, the Board of Supervisors recently voted to support the nationwide “Drive Smart, Save Energy” campaign spearheaded by the National Association of Counties (NACo).

The campaign is designed to promote fuel efficiency, reduce vehicle use and encourage energy-efficient choices at home and at work. County employees may visit the Web sites, www.drivesmartchallenge.org and www.greencounties.org/changetheworld, and make a pledge.

NACo has initiated a competition among counties, which tracks the number of County residents by zip code who pledge to “Drive Smart and Save Energy.” The deadline is November 30, 2008.

County employees are encouraged to visit the Web sites and take the challenge. “Drive Smart” suggestions range from replacing air filters to Ridesharing, while the “Save Energy” options include sealing doors, windows and walls, using energy-efficient light bulbs and home insulation.

“Save the Date” County Night at Dodger Stadium

Once again, the County family will come together to support the March of Dimes in its fight against premature births and birth defects. Plan now to attend “County Night at Dodger Stadium” on Friday, April 17, 2009. Chief Executive Officer (CEO) William T Fujioka will throw out the first pitch at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Department heads and coordinators for the top three (3) County departments in ticket sales as of Monday, April 13, 2009, will be invited to join CEO Fujioka on the Dodger Stadium field. The County team, which raised \$350,000 this year, was again named the Top Public Sector team by the March of Dimes.



For more information, please contact your departmental March of Dimes Coordinator or Elaine Elizalde, County Team Leader, at (213) 974-2466 or via e-mail at eelizalde@ceo.lacounty.gov.

Supervisor Antonovich Dedicates New Santa Clarita Valley Mental Health Center in Valencia

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich joined Department of Mental Health Director Dr. Marvin J. Southard and members of the community in dedicating the new Santa Clarita Valley Mental Health Center located at 23501 Cinema Drive, Suite 210, in Valencia.



Nearly every family is impacted by mental illness, it is estimated that approximately five to nine percent of all individuals suffer from serious mental health problems. In Los Angeles County, close to one million people may need the care and support of mental health services.

“This first-class facility is a lifeline to get the people who suffer from mental health illnesses back on their feet,” Supervisor Antonovich said.



On December 16, 2006, a fire damaged the Valencia Medical Building located on Peachland Avenue in Newhall. The building housed medical and dental offices including three County Departments — the Department of Mental Health, Public Health/Environmental Health’s Valencia District Office and the Tax Assessor’s Public Services Satellite Office.

The new center is approximately 4,500 square feet larger than the one it replaced on Peachland Avenue. It features a larger lobby area, more parking spaces, as well as more individual and group rooms that will serve between 135-187 clients per day.

Fireworks Spectacular Greet the New Year in Marina del Rey

A brilliant display of fireworks will light up the skies over Marina del Rey on Wednesday, December 31, to greet the Year 2009. Beginning at the 30-second countdown to midnight, the fireworks will continue into the opening minutes of the New Year.

Zambelli Fireworks Internationale, which started business in Italy more than 100 years ago, will create the Marina del Rey Fireworks Spectacular. The famous fireworks can be viewed throughout the Marina, however, the best locations for viewing are Fisherman’s Village located at 13755 Fiji Way and Burton Chace Park at 13650 Mindanao Way

The Zambelli Fireworks Spectacular is presented by Supervisor Don Knabe and the Department of Beaches and Harbors. All County employees are invited to include the Marina del Rey fireworks as part of their New Year’s Eve celebrations.



Supervisor Molina Unveils New Garfield High School Mural Extension in East Los Angeles



Supervisor Gloria Molina and others listen as Lizeth Gutierrez describes the positive effects she hopes her mural project has on the surrounding East Los Angeles community.

Supervisor Gloria Molina recently joined James A. Garfield High School students, staff, faculty, and alumni—along with local residents from the surrounding East Los Angeles community—to celebrate the unveiling of a new mural adjacent to an existing one near the school. The mural extension is the brainchild of Lizeth Gutierrez—a Garfield High School alumna—who suggested it in response to an essay contest question, “How would you use \$5,000 to enhance the quality of life in your neighborhood?” Lizeth noted that a mural in an alleyway near the corner of Eagle Street and Atlantic Boulevard remained free of graffiti for over three years and suggested using the funds to extend it another 100 feet. The new mural addition includes depictions that, in Lizeth’s own words, “give the neighborhood youth a sense of pride and hope.” These include the iconic Whittier Boulevard arch; Aztec imagery; famous civil rights activists such as César E. Chávez, Martin Luther King, Jr., Gandhi, and Mother Teresa; Chicano veterans from the Vietnam War; plus students from the Eastside “blow-outs” marching with signs reading “¡Sí Se Puede!”



Supervisor Gloria Molina stops to observe images of Chicano veterans from the Vietnam War that are part of a new mural extension near James A. Garfield High School in East Los Angeles.

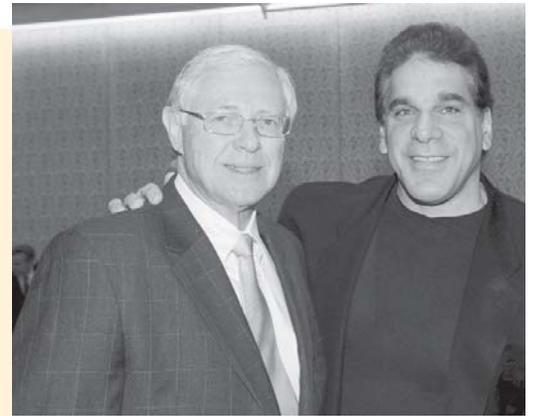
Supervisor Antonovich Honors Lou Bozigian For Work On Behalf Of People With Disabilities

Supervisor Antonovich honored former City of Lancaster Mayor Lou Bozigian (*pictured below*), a longtime Antelope Valley resident, businessman and community activist, for serving the needs of people with disabilities for the past 50 years.

“Lou is a hero within our community,” said Supervisor Antonovich. “He has made a tremendous difference in the lives of people with disabilities.”

In 1958, Mr. Bozigian and his wife of 60 years, Nellie (deceased), became involved with Desert Haven, a nonprofit organization that maximizes the potential and independence of persons with developmental disabilities through vocational training and job placement. Under his leadership, Desert Haven has blossomed into a thriving organization serving more than 400 customers within a 24,000 square foot vocational training facility. He has also helped raise over \$5 million through the Desert Haven Benefit Auction.

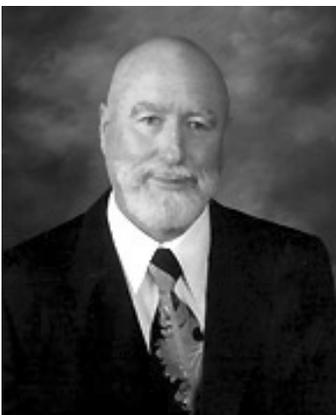
Among his other accomplishments, Mr. Bozigian served as an Ambassador for the American Cancer Society, and is currently serving as the Director of the American Cancer Society.



Supervisor Antonovich with Lou Ferrigno former Mr. Universe and co-star of The Incredible Hulk TV series



New Honor For Public Defender Michael Judge



Los Angeles County Public Defender Michael Judge received the prestigious Reginald Heber Smith Award at the annual convention of the National Legal Aid and Defenders Association in Washington, D.C. on November 21.

The award, known as the “Reggie,” recognizes the dedicated services and outstanding achievements of a civil legal aid attorney or an indigent defense attorney employed by an organization supporting such services.

James P. Fox, San Mateo County District Attorney and Chairman of the Board of the National District Attorneys’ Association, in a letter supporting Judge’s nomination for the award, said: “He really does exemplify, through his record of exceptional advocacy, leadership and dedication, the very best the equal justice community has to offer.” “I have always been impressed with Mr. Judge’s intellect and integrity. He is a passionate advocate with realistic goals.”

Michael E. Cantrall, Executive Director of the California Public Defenders Association, who also supported Judge’s nomination, called him “the most dynamic, energetic and effective leader in the defense community I have ever had the pleasure of working with.”

PUBLIC DEFENDER
continued on page 15

County Aerial Firefighting Resources Arrive Just in Time

On September 26, Fire Chief P. Michael Freeman, joined by Supervisor Yaroslavsky and other officials, presented a display of airborne firefighting resources available to the County for the 2008 Fire Season. The Fire Department's Air Operations Section has a fleet composed of three Sikorsky Firehawk Type I helicopters (1,000-gallon tank, crew of 14, ground- or hover-fill from numerous water sites), six Bell 412 Type II helicopters, two SuperScooper fixed wing planes leased from the Province of Quebec, Canada (1,620 gallon tanks), and one Sikorsky Helitanker leased from Erickson Air-Crane Incorporated (2,200-gallon tank); as well as "Helicopter 10," a Bell 412 that acts as Helicopter Coordinator.



From left to right, Los Angeles City Fire Chief Douglas Barry, Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky and Los Angeles County Fire Chief P. Michael Freeman recently hosted a Firefighting Aircraft Media Day at the Van Nuys Airport to showcase the County Fire Department's airborne arsenal, including Bell 412s, Erickson Air-Crane Helitankers and SuperScooper fixed-wing airplanes. Days later, as the 2008 fire season began, the Sesnon and Marek wildfires called the fleet into action.

The SuperScoopers and the Sikorsky are leased during the high-risk fire season from September to December to augment our aerial firefighting resources. Each helicopter is configured for multiple missions. In addition to aerial firefighting, they perform Emergency Medical Services (EMS) medical transport, search and rescue, hoist rescue, swift-water and ocean rescue, fire crew transport, and night operations. The Air Operations Section is comprised of 63 dedicated personnel who respond to approximately 1,600 calls for service every year.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

continued from page 14

"I have never met anyone in our community as effective as he has been in getting our colleagues from around the state to join in on a wide variety of criminal justice issues that brought about real and measurable effects," said Cantrall.

Daniel Swanson, counsel to Senator Richard J. Durbin of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, who also supported Judge's nomination, cited Judge's instrumental role in the 2008 passage of the John R. Justice Act. "The John R. Justice Act is one of the most significant pieces of federal legislation benefiting public defenders to have been enacted in recent years," said Durbin. The legislation encourages law school graduates to choose a public service career by providing student loan repayment assistance for public defenders and state and local prosecutors.

The new honor is Judge's fourth major recognition this year. The Daily Journal named him one of the top 100 lawyers in the state in September; California Lawyer Magazine named him one of its Attorneys of the Year in April; the State Bar of California selected him for its 2008 Diversity Award in July; and in August it was announced the Public Defender's Office was part of a six-agency California team chosen to participate in a select national effort to improve the legal system for indigent youth.

Judge, 64, joined the Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office more than 35 years ago and was named Public Defender by the Board of Supervisors in May 1994.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

Share It

49th Annual Los Angeles County Holiday Celebration



Each year, since 1959, the Arts Commission has produced a free Holiday Celebration on December 24th on behalf of the Board of Supervisors.

Community and professional choirs, music ensembles, and dance companies representing the diverse cultures and holiday traditions of the County perform in the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion at the Music Center while the program is broadcasted live on KCET. An average of 1,500 performers cross the stage and more than 6,000 people attend the program each year. About a million Southern Californian households tune in to the live broadcast.

This year, the 49th Annual Los Angeles County Holiday Celebration will be held Wednesday, December 24, 2008 at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion located at 135 N. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles 90012 from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The program will be televised live on KCET. Both the event and parking are free to the public.

Highlights from the six-hour Holiday Celebration tradition are selected for a one-hour program which is broadcast nationally on PBS. Artists selected for the 2008 live production will be considered for the 2009 national broadcast.

Doors open at 2:30 p.m. Patrons may come and go throughout the six-hour performance.

Reservations for tickets to the show or parking are not necessary. Those who can't make it to the Music Center can watch the live broadcast of Holiday Celebration on KCET.

For additional information, please visit www.holidaycelebration.org or call (213) 972-3099.



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

Michael J. Henry
Director of Personnel

Sandra Wallace Blaydow
Ombudsman/Community Liaison

John S. Mina
Managing Editor

Martina Abgaryan
Editor-in-Chief