



Supervisor Gloria Molina Leads Effort to Transition L.A. County as National Health Care Takes Effect



Board of Supervisors Chair Gloria Molina and her colleagues directed the County’s Chief Executive Officer to move forward with recommendations by Health Management Associates and hire L.A. Care to help the County transition seamlessly as national health care reform takes effect.

“Today’s action is absolutely essential,” Supervisor Molina said. “As the Obama Administration implements national health care, it

- DHS currently is not well-positioned to retain those patients who, if transitioned to Medi-Cal managed care, could choose to obtain their health care from outside the County’s system.
- The County health department’s Office of Managed Care (OMC)/Community Health Plan (CHP) does not have the personnel, expertise, or resources to develop a managed care approach—but L.A. Care, whose mission is to “protect the community safety net,” does.

will affect us profoundly—and Los Angeles County’s public health care network must evolve and transition. In just four years, thousands of patients who formerly lacked health care coverage will now have health insurance. Medi-Cal patients will flood our system—and we cannot afford to lose them. Otherwise, we will end up being just a set of emergency rooms and a few clinics caring only for the indigent and the most ill among us, while paying customers go to other plans. That set-up can’t sustain itself—and it’s an outcome we can avoid. Los Angeles County has some of the best specialty units in the state. Once our patients see a doctor or nurse, for the most part, they receive high-quality care. But how our patients actually get to their health care provider is not properly managed. So as America moves forward with national health care, it’s the perfect time for us to reconfigure Los Angeles County’s health care system with the end goals of profitability and better management of patients.”

‘Medi-Cal Patients Will Flood Our System—and We Can’t Afford to Lose Them’

The Board of Supervisors originally hired Health Management Associates in December 2009 to conduct an independent, top-to-bottom review of the County’s Department of Health Services (DHS)—and, specifically, to provide suggestions on how the County could benefit from national health care reform opportunities by April 2010. Health Management Associates’ report ultimately concluded that:

- A large number of previously uninsured individuals will be added to Medi-Cal rolls as a result of national health care reform—and a significant portion of those individuals will be assigned to managed care plans.

L.A. Care will now work with the County’s Chief Executive Office and DHS to formulate a new safety net delivery system comprised of the health

department, community clinics/PPP clinics, other safety net hospitals, and behavioral health providers. Ultimately—should negotiations prove successful—DHS would no longer directly manage patients’ health care via the OMC/CHP. A status report on the transition should be presented to the Board of Supervisors in six months.

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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 or call (626) 821-4623

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles 90036

(323) 857-6000

www.lacma.org

Art

Through May 9 - Renoir, after Impressionism (1890-1919)

Through May 23 - American Stories: Paintings of Everyday Life 1765-1915

Through June 6 - Robin Rhode

Music

Sundays Live – Every Sunday at 6 p.m.

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

Music Center

135 N. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles 90012

(213) 972-7211

www.musiccenter.org

Walt Disney Concert Hall

www.musiccenter.org

Los Angeles Philharmonic

www.laphil.com

(323) 850-2000

May

4 - Americas and Americans: Green Umbrella

6-8 - Dudamel Conducts Tchaikovsky

15 - Patti LuPone - Matters of the Heart 16 - Sonny Rollins

23 - Los Angeles Master Chorale: Americana

28-30 - Rachlin plays Sibelius

June

June 1 - Christine Brewer in Recital

Center Theatre Group

www.centertheatregroup.org

Ahmanson Theatre

Through May 16 - Alfred Hitchcock's The 39 Steps

May 27-July 17 - South Pacific

Mark Taper Forum

Through May 30 - Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo

May 6-June 6 - The Lieutenant of Inishmore

Sept 1-Oct 17 - The Glass Menagerie

Kirk Douglas Theatre

May 6-June 6 - Tynan

Los Angeles Opera

(performances in the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion)

www.losangelesopera.com

Through June 30 - *Ring Festival LA*

Los Angeles Master Chorale

www.lamc.org

Natural History Museum

900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles 90007

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



May is Mental Health Month in Los Angeles County
“50 Years of Hope, Wellness and Recovery”

May 6, 2010

Civic Mall of the Hall of Administration

9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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

Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)

Do you know someone who needs help with rent?

Assistance is available for eligible renters.

- The County of Los Angeles is offering financial assistance for eligible renters through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP).
- If you know of family, friends, clients, or community members who are experiencing financial hardship and need help with rent, HPRP can assist.

What does HPRP provide?

- The HPRP provides eligible residents with monetary assistance for such expenses as: security deposit; utility turn-on fee; and back-due rent and/or utilities.
- Monetary assistance is paid directly to one's landlord and/or utility company.

Who may qualify?

- The County HPRP serves the following geographic areas:
 - 1) the unincorporated areas of the County;
 - 2) 47 cities with a population of less than 50,000; and
 - 3) the cities of Alhambra and Huntington Park.
- **To find out if someone is eligible for the County of Los Angeles HPRP, a pre-screening tool can be found at <http://housing.lacounty.gov/HPRP> or one may call 2-1-1.** The pre-screening tool may be used to determine potential eligibility for the County's program based on income and geography requirements and directs potentially eligible residents to County locations to receive assistance.
- Other cities may also be offering this program; call 2-1-1 for more information or go to www.lahsa.org/hprp.asp to access the *HPRP Program Referral List*.



ATTENTION L.A. COUNTY EMPLOYEES!!!

**EARN YOUR SALARY PLUS EXTRA CASH!
BE A POLLWORKER ON JUNE 8, 2010!**

COUNTY POLLWORKERS (CPW'S) ARE CRITICAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE 2010 STATEWIDE ELECTIONS. The program enables County employees to serve on Election Day as a Pollworker while still earning their regular daily salary.

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 completing training.
- ★ Meet a MAPP Behavior Expectation 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 website.
- ★ 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).

Safety Member Elections to be held for the Board of Retirement and Board of Investments of LACERA

LACERA Elections will be held this year to elect the Fourth Member of the Board of Investments and the Seventh & Alternate Members of the Board of Retirement for the term of office commencing January 1, 2011. The elections will be held **Tuesday, July 27**.

Safety Members interested in running for these offices may obtain nomination packets from the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk at 12400 Imperial Hwy., Norwalk, CA 90650, beginning Monday, May 3. Nominating petitions must be signed by at least 50 active County employees who are Safety Members as of March 1, 2010. Petitions must be filed with the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, before 5:00 p.m. **Wednesday, June 2**.

For more information, contact your departmental election coordinator.

RETIREES

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 45 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:

INTERNAL SERVICES: Margo D. Noll

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:

ASSESSOR: Annie F. Porter

BEACHES & HARBORS: Lynn M. Atkinson

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE: William G. Lynes, Delta A. Uyenoyama

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES: Bette Andersen, Beth A. Ellis, Lydia R. Martinez, Barbara G. Miller

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Sharon Andrews

HEALTH SERVICES: Elizabeth C. Baca, Olivia Lubensky, Yolanda Peregrina, Mary F. Perrault

INTERNAL SERVICES: Charles M. Mayeda

MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY: Christy A. Evans

PUBLIC HEALTH: Barrington Hunt

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Rosalind A. Charles, Hector V. Gomez, Kay F. Redd, Kathleen R. Turner

SHERIFF: Michael A. Nativo, Eva M. Peeples

SUPERIOR COURT: Sharon L. Conway

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:

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/WEIGHTS & MEASURES: Ronald M. Allen

ASSESSOR: Richard L. Auerbach, Bienvenido R. Dimaano, Dale Edgington, Connie M. Foster, Henrietta M. Norris, Alfred E. Surabian, Linda Tomlin

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER: Godofredo R. Go, Sanford P. Johnson, Kristen R. Polley, Glenn V. Shaw

BEACHES & HARBORS: Cristina E. Coleman

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: Juventino M. Gomez, Doris K. Reed

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE: Larry M. Shiroma

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Levon Smith-Scypion

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES: Wondalotus Bell, Virgie Boykin, Mary L. Gilliam, Jacquelyn E. Hall, Joan Penland, Deloris J. Taylor, Mary H. Thomas, Michael Wrice

CORONER: Robert D. Budd

COUNTY COUNSEL: Steven J. Carnevale, Sharon M. Gallagher

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Maxine Abril, Dan Bazarian, Sandra G. Bryant, Allan C. Fork, Gloria A. Hattje, Charles R. Hazelton, Kenneth A. Loveman, Evelyn P. Tapia, Cynthia Wallace, Jean A. Wong

FIRE: Roy M. Ancira, David J. Carolan, Lillian R. Casselli, Shawn R. Green, Charles A. Gutierrez, Kent S. Hess, James W. Powers, Donald W. Schwaiger

HEALTH SERVICES: Alexandra Binns, Dolores M. Boiser, Marie Castillo, Reungrong Chamkrachang, Ngan C. Chau, Alice Chia, Yvonne M. Cope, Grace Corona, Soledad Garcia, Karen E. Graves, Alice M. Guerrero, George A. Halterman II, Charlotte R. Ha, Cmilton, Helen Jew, Barbara A. Lavelle, Sang P. Lee, Patria F. Lim, Andres C. Martinez, Rose Nakawatase, Theodore Nichols Jr., Erlinda L. Norman, Alice Prescott, Maria N. Rocha, Maria E. Rosas, Darrel Ross, Satwant Sidhu, Douglas Smith, Peik Y. Tan, Victoria I. Ware, Harvest G. Washington, Peter D. Weiss, Anna I. Wong

INTERNAL SERVICES: Charles E. Drake II, Robert Jones, Ashok K. Madan, Thomas Parra, Malury Silberman, Richard A. Torrez, Harold Woodson Jr.

LACERA: Frederick M. Whiting

MENTAL HEALTH: Marjie Borjon, Mary E. Henry, Dorothy H. Jackson, Elnore Jones, Ann Bu-Nga-Kichkla, Que T. Le, Carmen I. Loya, Denise V. Scates, Norma B. Smith, Bobbie Williams

OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY: Matthew Butler, Alexander Garcia, Rafael Hernandez, Mossell McCoy, Martha Reyes

PARKS AND RECREATION: John Farley, Francisco Hernandez, Robert Ramirez

PROBATION: Malvin J. Black, John F. Choquette, Judith R. Gillum, Marilyn M. James, Debbie Neeley, Octavio C. Rodriguez, Diane Sherwood, Arnell J. Smith, Anthony Tringale

PUBLIC HEALTH: Cristina T. Bautista, Glen S. Fujimoto, Sang H. Han, Michael Mina, Judith Mylan, Rosa R. Pinon

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Edith Berry, Eunice M. Carmouche, Joe Cordova, Joanne E. Durant, Catherine M. Ellis, Theresa D. Fawcett, Allen Fontenot, Angelina Gomez, Julia M. Green, Everon F. Hill, Linnie F. Kesssee, Alma Lozano, Lavonnie McDowell, Tanya L. McIntyre, Lydia J. Oertel, Irene Olivas, Mary A. Reid, Jimmie J. Wong

PUBLIC WORKS: Thomas W. Bowie, Normand L. Dandurand, Monica M. Haynes, Leonard D. Johnson, Mario Linan, Robert Mickey, Aida M. Pagan, Filemon Sandoval

REGIONAL PLANNING: John D. Calas

SHERIFF: John C. Baylis, Charles I. Blomer III, Vincent G. Burton, Harold A. Chilstrom, Jean M. Copes, James L. Corbin, Brian P. Corcoran, Paul R. Denney, James B. Dow, Gregory D. Embry, Sandra L. Engelbart, Benjamin L. Garcia, Daisy Gillette, Michael A. Gurrola, James P. Harris, Larry D. Hayes, Edward G. Herron Jr., Barbara J. Krueger, Arthur J. Lucas, David Magdaleno, George Martinez, Willie J. Miller, Richard L. Morgan, Armando Munoz, Vincent R. Ramirez, Sandra Rice, Marjan E. Serazio, Deedra A. Shaw, Thomas E. Spencer, Brenda E. Sutton, David Tellez, Alonzo E. Vargas, Stephen D. Vine, Daniel E. Waidner, Jeffrey B. Walley, Sharon K. Walton, James L. Winkelpleck

SUPERIOR COURT: Blanca E. Azpeitia, Marsha Keeling, Dennis G. Llyod, Winda S. Mapili, Christine Y. Oshima, Delia Rodriguez

TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR: Martha Duran

RETIREES

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RETIREES

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*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:** Marcine Veal
- AUDITOR-CONTROLLER:** Barbara Harshaw
- CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES:** Patricia J. Foley-Munoz, Joe T. Harper
- DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** Dennis E. Ferris
- FIRE:** James J. Bettencourt Jr., Oded Kolker, Murry S. Smith, Scott D. Stephens, John K. White
- HEALTH SERVICES:** Erika Ascensao, Luis Caballero, Helen Choe, Maria E. Goodwin, Loretta Gorospe, Irma M. Hernandez, Jerko Jaksic, Elsie John, Albertha Johnson, Kay Kamiyama, Elizabeth C. Lim, Kartikey Mehta, Phoebe R. Montgomery, Lowerence J. Pittman, Vernita Stevenson, Shuan Wang, Yii-the Wang, Geraldine Woolfork
- INTERNAL SERVICES:** Jane C. Chu, Frank E. Taylor Jr.
- LACERA:** Kiyoko Wald
- MENTAL HEALTH:** Elizabeth A. Gore, Florestean Flucas
- PROBATION:** Willie J. Chapman, William O. Jordan, James B. Marshall, William Rojas, Patricia M. Todd-Thomas
- PUBLIC HEALTH:** Aida Camacho
- PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Robert J. Anderson, Cheng S. Cheng, Shelia Silas
- PUBLIC WORKS:** Richard Pardo, Rebecca L. Redman
- SHERIFF:** Jeffrey W. Baldwin, Pamela D. Blake, Shelton K. Diggs, Kenneth J. Dvorak, Debra J. Glafkides, Laurence S. Knott Jr., Eddie C. Leung, Tracey D. Smith, Leslie A. Taylor, William H. Triplett III, Wendell Williams
- SUPERIOR COURT:** Stanley E. Ferrell, Annette H. McHale, Jose L. Rendon

Commuter Benefit Plan

During tough economic times, saving money where you can becomes a priority. That's why the County of Los Angeles will be implementing a Commuter Benefit Plan (CBP) through Fringe Benefits Management Company (FBMC).

A CBP allows you to save money by paying for eligible public transit commuting expenses with pre-tax payroll deductions up to IRS limits, currently \$230 per month for 2010. Simply stated, you do not have to pay federal or state taxes or H.I.T (Hospital Insurance Tax) on the pre-tax money you use (up to IRS limits) to pay for eligible public transit commuting expenses. By using pre-tax dollars, your transit expenses are tax-free and can also reduce your overall taxable income. Eligible expenses that exceed IRS limits will be deducted from your paycheck on an after-tax basis.



You can start enrolling in the CBP on May 1, 2010. If you enroll by May 10th, then your first payroll deduction will occur on May 30th. You will receive your Transit benefits (monthly passes, vouchers or tickets) by the end of June to use effective July 1. With no long-term commitment, the CBP offers flexibility to fit your commuting needs.

When you initially enroll, you can set up recurring deductions (the same deduction each month until you change or cancel your transit order) for the commuting expenses you know you'll have, or you can utilize the plan on a month-to-month basis. Once enrolled in the CBP, you will enjoy the convenience of monthly payroll deductions on the 30th paycheck.

Additional details about the CBP such as important deadlines and cut-off dates for changing or canceling your Transit order and frequently asked questions and answers, can be found in the CBP Reference Guide. You can view a copy of the Reference Guide on DHR's Web site at <http://dhr.lacounty.info/>, click on Employee Benefits then Commuter Benefit Plan or contact your Department's Employee Transportation Coordinator for additional information.

To enroll in the CBP, visit www.myFBMC.com or call 1-800-342-8017.



Ellen F. Sandt: Deputy CEO, Operations Cluster

Born and raised in the Los Angeles area, Ellen F. Sandt graduated from Arcadia High School and California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. Sandt answered her call to public service when she began her career working for the City of Los Angeles in 1985. She started as a Clerk Typist and three months later accepted an entry-level position as a Junior Administrative Analyst. Thereafter, Sandt worked her way up through the ranks of City government to the post of Assistant City Administrative Officer.

During 23 years of City service, Sandt worked on various assignments and projects for the City Administrative Officer, which provided her with a wealth of knowledge and expertise in many different areas and on several high-profile efforts. Her experience included working on the construction projects for the Central Library and the Convention Center Expansion, the Citywide Procurement Reengineering Project, the 3-1-1 Project and LA-RICS (the Regional Interoperable Communications System) for public safety agencies. She also worked on the budgets of several City departments including the Convention Center, Los Angeles Public Library, Department of Water and Power, General Services and Personnel. She supervised the budgets of: public safety departments (Fire, Police, Emergency Management, Building and Safety, and Animal Services), the proprietary departments (Department of Water and Power, Airports and Harbor), Information Technology Agency, City Attorney, Finance and Revenue, Debt Management, Risk Management and Disaster Grants.

Sandt came to work for the County of Los Angeles in December 2007 as the Deputy Chief Executive Officer for the Operations Cluster. In this role, she currently oversees the Chief Information Office, Human Resources, Internal Services, Affirmative Action, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk and Treasurer and Tax Collector. She also works with the Auditor-Controller, Assessor, County Counsel, Arts Commission and the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors.

Sandt has a son, Daniel, 30, and a daughter, Christy, 28. Christy graduated from UC Riverside and Daniel is the band director at San Dimas High School. Matt, her husband of 36 years, devotes his time to the family business, Gard's Music. Daughter Christy and daughter-in-law Andrea work full time at Gard's, as well.



“Find an outstanding role model in the office that you can learn from and who is a level or two above you. Figure out what makes them great. Always strive to work at least one or two levels higher than your current job to show management that you’re ready to move up. Show initiative! Don’t wait for others to tell you what to do. If you know your assignments, then complete them in a timely manner. If you see something that needs doing outside your area of responsibility, then talk to your supervisor about it. Volunteer to take on assignments whether they are special projects or task forces. Pitch in to help co-workers when needed. In doing so, you’ll raise your profile in the department, get a chance to meet and work with others and generate goodwill so that others will help you later on when you need it.”



“Establish mentor-mentee relationships with women who have achieved the goals that you aspire to. You’ll be surprised at how much you can learn through their experiences.”

Janice Y Fukai: Alternate Public Defender

Janice Y Fukai is the Alternate Public Defender (APD) and the first Asian American woman to serve as a department head in Los Angeles County’s history. Upon her unanimous appointment, the Board of Supervisors praised her appointment stating: “The current APD Chief Deputy Fukai has been instrumental in the development and leadership of the department. The entire Board has a lot of confidence in that office and her in particular.”

Marcia Mayeda: Director of the Department of Animal Care and Control

Marcia Mayeda is the Director of the Department of Animal Care and Control. The Department is the largest in the country, serving 50 contract cities and all the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. It impounds approximately 90,000 animals each year through six animal shelters located throughout the County.



Before being appointed by the Board of Supervisors to lead the Department, Mayeda was Director of Community Outreach for the Humane Society of Santa Clara Valley in Santa Clara, California. In that capacity, she was in charge of the Society's animal cruelty investigations, education, animal behavior, advocacy and shelter volunteer programs.

Previously, she was director of the Society's animal shelter and field operations and was responsible for the housing and medical care of more than 40,000 animals housed annually by the Society. Her duties also included animal licensing operations, animal control activities, and contract negotiations with the cities that used the Society for animal care and control services.

Before going to work for the Humane Society of Santa Clara Valley, Mayeda was the Executive Director of the Helping Hands Humane Society in Topeka, Kansas. She was responsible for the Society's operations, fiscal management, planning, personnel and managed its contract with the City of Topeka and the outlying region served by the Society.

"Quantify your goal so you clearly understand what it is you are trying to achieve, and how you will know when you have achieved it. Be flexible along the way – circumstances occur that may make it wise to change your course of action. Use a mentor or learn from others whose careers you admire. Persevere through challenges, give yourself permission to make mistakes and celebrate your successes!"

Mayeda has a Bachelor of Science in Animal Sciences from Western Illinois University and a Master's in Nonprofit Management from the University of San Francisco. She is also a Certified Animal Welfare Administrator.

Mayeda's leadership philosophy emphasizes protecting and serving the people and animals of Los Angeles County through high standards of customer service, teamwork, integrity and compassion.

She and her husband share their lives with three rescued dogs and a Shire draft horse.

After receiving her bachelor's and Juris Doctor degrees from USC, Fukai served as a Judicial Law Clerk for the late Robert M. Takasugi, Federal District Court Judge, whom she describes as her mentor and advisor throughout her professional career. She joined the County family in 1980 with the Public Defender, where she rose through the ranks to Senior Trial Deputy and Special Assistant to former Public Defender, Wilbur F. Littlefield. Her work as a trial attorney is featured in a book "Public Defender, Lawyer for the People" by Joan Hewitt.

In 1993, the Board of Supervisors created the new department of Alternate Public Defender to handle Public Defender conflict of interest cases. After what Fukai describes as "13 outstanding years with the Public Defender," she transferred to the APD as that department's first Chief Deputy and for the challenge of building a new County department, literally "from scratch."

Fukai is quick to credit the success of her department to her staff comprised of 300 lawyers, investigators, paralegals, clerical and administrative support personnel. "Being with the department since day one, I have had the unique opportunity of hiring every member of the APD family. They are the real heroes and I am eternally grateful and loyal to them."

Caption: Janice Y Fukai receiving the "Chair Leadership Award" at the 2007 Quality and Productivity Commission's Awards Luncheon.



Patricia S. Ploehn: Director of the Department of Children and Family Services

Patricia S. Ploehn's career with Los Angeles County started over 30 years ago after receiving a bachelor's degree in Sociology at California State University, Los Angeles. She began as an as-needed Probation Department Group Supervisor and then moved on to become an Eligibility Worker with the Department of Public Social Services. Her association with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) began in 1979 with a seven-month stint at MacLaren Children's Center. She then worked as a case-carrying Children's Social Worker and Supervisor. Ten years later, she received her master's degree in Social Work from California State University, Long Beach. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) in the state of California.

Ploehn has held various social worker, supervisor, and administrative positions within DCFS including Training and Education, Emancipation Services, Strategic Planning, Adoptions and Permanency Services. Prior to her appointment as Director of DCFS on September 20, 2006, she served as a Services Deputy Director from 2003 to 2006. Ploehn was the first director to be selected from within the Department since its inception in 1984.

In her position, Ploehn directs all operations of DCFS, a department that has an annual budget of more than \$1.7 billion and approximately 7,400 staff. She oversees all aspects of the administration of protective services, foster and out-of-home care, adoption and treatment for child victims of abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment, and services to children at risk of maltreatment and their families. Ploehn frequently cites the three critical key outcomes expected for all children of Los Angeles County: increased safety, reduced reliance on detention and out-of-home care and decreased timelines to permanency. As Director of DCFS, she is committed to ensuring that all Los Angeles County children have the opportunity to grow up in safe, permanent and loving families.



“Know where you want to go and don't let others derail you—and many will try. It's a lot about hard work but it's also about relationships, flexibility and balance. Balance between work and play; passion and restraint, high standards and a forgiving nature. Develop a thick skin but never forget the power of a kind word. Display strength and confidence, admit your mistakes, be the first to laugh at yourself, give credit to others—acknowledge their effort and celebrate their success.”



“My advice to any woman eager to reach her goal is to always seek a balance. As leaders we must look for the strengths of members of our team and act in concert with them. As leaders, we must stay focused on our professional and personal goals and realize that it is not all about us,” says Banks. *“I*

am deeply indebted to the many individuals who have worked with me through the years. Personally, the lessons that I have learned and successes I have had in my 37 years of County service came through individuals who helped me to become the best that I could be. For their presence in my life I am thankful.”

Cynthia D. Banks: Director of the Department of Community and Senior Services

Cynthia D. Banks began her role in public service as a student worker in 1972 with the Department of Public Social Services. In 1980, she transferred to the Los Angeles Superior Court where she spent 23 years holding various positions from Judicial Assistant to Human Resources Director. She has been with the Department of Community and Senior Services (CSS) since 2003 and Director since 2006.

As the Director of CSS, Cynthia D. Banks leads a department with multiple programs, a budget of nearly \$134 million and a staff of 500 people. These talented individuals work in the areas of Workforce,

Community Services, Aging and Adult Services, the Office of the Ombudsman and Human Relations.

One of the most important charges of the Department is to provide support to Los Angeles County seniors. The County has close to 100 different programs that are critical to seniors. By the year 2020, it is expected that almost 30% of County residents will be seniors; therefore, the need to address continued services for the aging and disabled population is constant. Another important challenge for the Department is finding employment for people who have lost their jobs in this economic meltdown.

“I am excited about the opportunity to serve the County in strengthening the collaboration among all County departments serving seniors and dependent adults. I serve as the Chair of the Seamless Senior Services Initiative. This is a long-term project that I believe will help the one million plus seniors living in the County to continue to receive the services they need.”

Banks has received public recognition for her professional accomplishments including being the recipient of the 1995 West End YWCA Woman of Achievement in the area of women's rights. Banks and her husband, James, have two adult children and one grandchild.

Lisa M. Garrett: Director of Personnel

One week shy of a year since her appointment as Acting Director of Personnel, Lisa M. Garrett was appointed to the position effective March 30, 2010.

Garrett comes to the Department of Human Resources (DHR) with more than 25 years of public service in both the City and the County of Los Angeles. That experience provides her with a wealth of knowledge and the opportunity to carry on the progress of DHR and to excel to new heights in leadership, innovation, service, technology and efficiency.

She began her public service with the City of Los Angeles as a Council Aide for Councilman Gilbert Lindsey. Later, she served as an Investigator in the Housing Department with the responsibility of assisting landlords and tenants to comply with State and local statutes and regulations in the areas of landlord/tenant, housing and building and safety law.

Garrett's move to the County in 1994 proved just as rewarding. She served as a Deputy District Attorney in the District Attorney's Bureau of Family Operations. Seven years later, she moved to Child Support Services Department (CSSD) upon its creation in 2001, where she served as Assistant Division Chief in two large divisions; the Executive Assistant to the Director; and as the Chief Deputy Director and Chief Attorney before being appointed as Acting Director of Personnel.

During her tenure as Acting Director of Personnel, Garrett directed DHR staff through several significant projects such as the development and implementation of a certified training course for Exam Analysts; the establishment of a metrics program to collect data to measure and improve DHR performance, accountability and service delivery; and the development of a new departmental strategic plan which emphasizes customer service, streamlining and process improvements, succession planning and improved recruitment and selection outcomes.

Garrett's tenets of leadership are simple. They are excellence in customer service, utilization of



“Success and professional growth is a process. We are only limited by the bounds of our own imaginations. Never let others define you or what you are capable of achieving. Chart your course, dedicate yourself to taking the steps necessary to enhance your skills and find a good mentor to walk with you on the journey!”

technology, accountability of managers and staff, integration of service within DHR and the County at large, staff development and maintenance of an open door policy.

Garrett is a graduate of the University of California at Los Angeles with a major in psychology and a Juris Doctorate from the Southwestern University School of Law. She is an active member of the State Bar of California, the Los Angeles Bar Association Labor Employment Law Section, the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), and the International Public Management Association (IPMA). She is happily married with two teenage boys.

ENRICHING LIVES...

Chief Information Office Sponsors Successful Consolidated Computer Purchase Program Technology Show

On March 22, the Chief Information Office (CIO) sponsored the second annual County of Los Angeles Consolidated Computer Purchase Program (CCPP) Technology Show hosted by the Department of Public Works (DPW). The event allowed County departments and participating public agencies an opportunity to view CCPP awarded products selected from the latest program solicitation completed February 2010 and learn more about the program.

The ultimate beneficiaries of the CCPP are the citizens of Los Angeles County, who benefit from lower total cost of government, better application of resources and more efficient government operations. Since its inception, the CCPP is estimated to have saved Los Angeles County \$40 million.

The CCPP was adopted by the Board of Supervisors as the standard business practice for acquisition of all County personal computer (PC) assets on June 19, 2007. The CCPP establishes PC, monitor, laser printer and scanner purchases based on a limited number of standardized technical configurations across all County departments allowing for significantly increased savings. This program offers PCs to the County's information technology organization federated among 37 departments, to over 100,000 employees and participating agencies including the County's Operational Area, which covers 88 cities, municipalities and school districts.



County of Los Angeles
CCPP Management Team

From l to r: ISD Contract Analyst Karen Jett; Program Sponsor Richard Sanchez, CIO; CCPP Program Manager Sir Clark; ISD Technology Section Manager Lillian Fong; Program Technical Advisor Dave Carney, DPW

The Internal Services Department (ISD), in collaboration with the CIO, executes and maintains the CCPP contracts. The Department of Public Works hosted the CCPP Technology Show at its facilities in Alhambra and handled all coordination efforts with manufacturers, resellers, County staff and other public agencies.

Technology Show & Public Agencies

Public agencies are encouraged to purchase products or services under this program using the same terms, conditions and pricing as the County of Los Angeles. The County does not charge an administrative fee for using

this program. However, purchases are subject to any applicable local purchasing ordinances and the laws of the State of California. Cities, school districts and other public agencies within the geographic boundaries of Los Angeles County are eligible to use the contract for hardware and services. California agencies outside Los Angeles County boundaries are eligible to use the contract for hardware only.



DPW CIO Jesse Juarros and
ISD Purchasing Division
Manager Gerry Plummer



City of Lynwood IT Managers Peter Han (*left*) and Mike Ochoa (*right*) with Larry Hammond, Purchasing Administrator, City of Pasadena (*center*)

Employee Computer Purchase Program (ECP)

County employees and their families can achieve significant discounts on selected computer equipment. The County and the awarded vendors/manufacturers have teamed up to offer County employees and their families' discounts on selected new desktop, laptop, personal computers (PC), monitors, laser printers, and scanners. Many County staff attended the event to learn about the program.



County staff attended the event to learn about the program



CCPP Web Sites

Information regarding CCPP contracts can be found on the:

County Intranet

CCPP Web Page: <http://ccpp.lacounty.gov> or

County Employee Discounts:

<http://web.co.la.ca.us/lacounty>

Internal Services Department Contract's Web site:

<http://camispnc.co.la.ca.us/agpscontracts/LSCContractDir/LSCFrame.asp>

County Internet Portal

Discount Computer Equipment:

<http://portal.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/lac/government/>

Special thanks to all participants who contributed to the success of the Technology show, including the 2010 CCPP Manufacturers and the 2010 Round 6 Contract Vendors/Resellers.

County of Los Angeles Strategic Plan



Enriching Lives
lacounty.gov

County Mission

- To enrich lives through effective and caring service

County Values

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

- Accountability** – We accept responsibility for the decisions we make and the actions we take.
- Can-Do Attitude** – We approach each challenge believing that, together, a solution can be achieved.
- Compassion** – We treat those we serve and each other in a kind and caring manner.
- Customer Orientation** – We place the highest priority on meeting our customers' needs with accessible, responsive quality services, and treating them with respect and dignity.
- Integrity** – We act consistent with our values and the highest ethical standards.
- Leadership** – We engage, motivate and inspire others to collaboratively achieve common goals through example, vision and commitment.
- Professionalism** – We perform to a high standard of excellence. We take pride in our employees and invest in their job satisfaction and development.
- Respect for Diversity** – We value the uniqueness of every individual and their perspective.
- Responsiveness** – We take the action needed in a timely manner.

Strategic Plan Goals

- Operational Effectiveness:** Maximize the effectiveness of the County's processes, structure, and operations to support timely delivery of customer-oriented and efficient public services.
- Children, Family and Adult Well-Being:** Enrich lives through integrated, cost-effective and client-centered supportive services.
- Community and Municipal Services:** Enrich the lives of Los Angeles County's residents and visitors by providing access to cultural, recreational and lifelong learning facilities programs; ensure quality regional open space, recreational and public works infrastructure services for County residents; and deliver customer oriented municipal services to the County's diverse unincorporated communities.
- Health and Mental Health:** Improve health and mental health outcomes and efficient use of scarce resources, by promoting proven service models and prevention principles that are population-based, client-centered and family-focused.
- Public Safety:** Ensure that the committed efforts of the public safety partners continue to maintain and improve the safety and security of the people of Los Angeles County.

Gloria Molina Supervisor, First District Mark Ridley-Thomas Supervisor, Second District Zev Yaroslavsky Supervisor, Third District Don Knabe Supervisor, Fourth District Michael D. Antonovich Supervisor, Fifth District



Margaret Donnellan Todd: County Librarian

Appointed as County Librarian on May 1, 2001 by the Board of Supervisors, Margaret Donnellan Todd leads one of the largest public library systems in the country. The County of Los Angeles Public Library operates 87 community libraries in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County and in 51 of the County's 88 cities. The Library serves 3.5 million residents, offering a collection of over 7 million items.



Todd earned a master's degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Southern California and a Masters of Business Administration from Pepperdine University. Her bachelor's degree is in History, from Whittier College.

Todd launched her library career with the County of Los Angeles Public Library. She is a member of the American Library Association, the Public Library Association, Beta Phi Mu, Phi Alpha Theta, Urban Libraries Council, Los Angeles Rotary and numerous civic organizations.



"Education is essential and women need to make education their priority no matter how difficult that may be. Once you have attained your high school diploma, bachelor's or graduate degree, no one can take that from you."



"Achieving goals and success mean different things to different people, both male and female. It's not whether you achieve your goals that really count, but being satisfied in the knowledge that you are doing your very best."

Gail Farber: Director of the Department of Public Works

Gail Farber was appointed Director of the Department of Public Works in 2008. She also serves as the County Road Commissioner, County Engineer, and Chief Engineer of the Flood Control District. The Department has more than 3,500 employees and an annual budget of more than \$2 billion.

After receiving her Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from San Diego State University, Farber spent 19 years with Caltrans in a variety of engineering positions. Before joining Public Works, she served as Public Works Director for the cities of Orange and Pico Rivera.

From an early age, Farber developed a keen interest in math and science and found herself drawn towards a career in construction. "I've always loved the smell of asphalt," she admits. "But the field of public works is so broad that it provides you with many opportunities, as well as a great way to balance your personal and professional life."

In college, she was one of only a few women pursuing a civil engineering curriculum, a situation that served to spur her on rather than dissuade her. "Being unique is a strength in itself, and being a woman in a male-dominated field is a huge strength because you bring a different perspective to the task," Farber said. In her new capacity as Public Works Director, she also recognizes her responsibility as a role model for women. "We all have a responsibility to reach out and help other women with their professional growth and development," Farber said. She added that employee and public contact is one of the more enjoyable aspects of her job. "In Public Works, you are close to the action and the community we serve," Farber said.

Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, Mayor Villaraigosa Mark Important Milestone on \$1.7 Billion Crenshaw to LAX Transit Rail Line Project



Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas joined Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and community stakeholders to celebrate an important milestone in the \$1.7 billion Crenshaw to LAX Light Rail Project, the largest public works project ever in South Los Angeles.

The Supervisor said that the beginning of exploratory soil drilling as part of the planning and environmental analysis is tangible evidence that the 8.5-mile project is being built.

“This project has long been overdue,” the Supervisor said at a news conference in Leimert Park to inform residents and business owners about the drilling. “Since the Metro board approved light rail transit last December, real work is being done to move this project forward.”



The light rail will extend across the cities of Los Angeles, Inglewood, Hawthorne, El Segundo, as well as unincorporated areas of the County and LAX. Metro is conducting soil sampling to assess below-ground surface conditions as part of the planning process.

The light rail will provide much needed congestion relief on the 405 Freeway and other north-south arteries in the western portion of the County, improve air quality and serve as an economic catalyst, generating an estimated 7,800 jobs.

The Supervisor is working on developing a construction career policy at the MTA to ensure that local residents will benefit from these jobs. Through the end of March, the Metro Project Team hosted community workshops to discuss station area planning and maintenance facility planning. Numerous religious, educational, and community leaders joined Mayor Villaraigosa at the news conference, praising the Supervisor for his efforts in bringing the line to fruition.



Supervisor Ridley-Thomas asked for the public’s cooperation during the soil drilling, which may cause some temporary inconveniences. During the drilling period, residents should expect:

- A crew of up to 6 people;
- A drill rig, truck and pick-up truck;
- 1 lane plus left turn pocket of traffic will be blocked, where required, while work is under way;
- Noise and minimal vibration from drilling;
- Lanes will be cleared at the end of the work period and re-opened for regular use;
- Soil samples will be removed and sent to a lab for analysis.

For more information about the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor, please visit www.metro.net/crenshaw or call (213) 922-2736.



MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERVISOR

Invites You
to the 13TH Annual Veterans' Event



REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS & THEIR FAMILIES, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

SATURDAY, MAY 29, 2010 - 10 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

ARCADIA COUNTY PARK
405 S. SANTA ANITA AVENUE, ARCADIA 91006

FEATURING

- SKYDIVERS
- FLYOVER BY WWII FIGHTER PLANES
- FOOD BOOTHS
- LIVE MUSIC

NO COST

- IMMUNIZATIONS
- HAIRCUTS/MANICURES
- HEALTH SCREENINGS

ASSISTANCE

- EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION
- VETERANS BENEFIT INFORMATION
- LEGAL INFORMATION



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

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

EVENT WILL BE HELD RAIN OR SHINE

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL 626-967-1441 OR 909-394-2264.



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

Antelope Valley Board of Trade

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich delivered the keynote address at the 38th Annual Antelope Valley of Trade Business Outlook conference.

“Just a few miles from here, General Chuck Yeager and Colonel Pete Knight set major milestones in flight – from breaking the sound barrier to exceeding the stratosphere,” said Supervisor Antonovich on the Antelope Valley’s role in being on the frontlines of military and space innovation.

He also spoke on the Valley’s future as the “Alternative Energy Capital” of Los Angeles County due to its strategic location and availability of land, which makes it ideal for solar farms and other green projects. Currently, there are over 20 solar farms built or underway in the Antelope Valley.

Additionally, Supervisor Antonovich spoke on the transportation projects in the Valley which include the High Desert Corridor, a brand new state-of-the-art expressway 8 lanes wide from Palmdale to Victorville; and the Desert Express, the nation’s first high-speed electric rail system which will connect Southern California to Las Vegas via a hub in the Antelope Valley.



Supervisor Ridley-Thomas Launches Energy Makeover Week in Lennox Areas

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas joined an unprecedented collaboration of environmental experts and public utilities to launch a week-long series of programs in the Lennox area that will help businesses and residents reduce energy use.



Throughout the week of March 22, Southern California Edison, West Basin Water District and the Golden State Water Company installed energy and water conservation resources, including new lighting, refrigeration and heating, low-flush toilets and kitchen resources, in more than 90 businesses. Supervisor Ridley-Thomas stated that the goal was to demonstrate how small businesses can easily achieve about 15 to 20 percent in energy savings with retrofits and take advantage of available resources.

“Our energy makeover will demonstrate that small communities can improve their carbon footprint and benefit their bottom line through minor improvements in their homes and businesses,” Supervisor Ridley-Thomas said during the kickoff event at a shopping center in Lennox.

Joining Supervisor Ridley-Thomas were Mary Nichols, California Air Resources Board; Kelly McDowell, chair of the South Bay Council of Governments; Dave Ford, Southern California Edison; Gloria Gray, West Basin Water District; Shad Rezai, Golden State Water; and Luis Perez, owner of the Los Tapatios Market.

“Energy makeovers are coming to communities around the state,” Ms. Nichols said. “Thanks to astute local leaders, Lennox stands to be a winner.”

Lennox is located in Southwest Los Angeles County northeast of the 405 and 105 Freeways. Residents are subjected to high levels of pollution and aircraft and automobile related noise. Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has made improving the environment and generating jobs in the Second District top priorities. He said that in addition to reducing energy use, efforts like those in Lennox, help to promote green technology.

“This is an effort to drive good, green and local jobs – jobs you can’t outsource,” he said.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION AND
SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D.

ANTONOVICH

INVITE YOU TO THE
TRAIL
Quarters Ride



Sunday
MAY 16, 2010

HAHAMONGNA WATERSHED PARK

4024 Oak Grove Drive, Pasadena, CA 91011

ACTIVITIES:

Check in and pancake breakfast at 7:00 a.m. The Event will kick off at Hahamongna Watershed Park at 9:00 a.m. and continue through the scenic trails of La Canada - Flintridge. The day will conclude with a traditional barbecue and live country western music.

\$30 per person (horse rental not included)

FOR MORE EVENT INFORMATION CALL:
 (909) 599-8411

FOR HORSE RENTAL RESERVATIONS:
 Graham Bros. Call Lee Graham (760) 245-7695

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

CITY OF PASADENA, CITY OF LA CANADA-FLINTRIDGE, ROSE BOWL RIDERS, LA CANADA-FLINTRIDGE TRAILS COUNCIL AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

ADA NOTICE

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation has designated an ADA Coordinator to carry out this Department's compliance with the non-discriminatory provisions of the ADA. For more information, you may contact the ADA Coordinator's Office, Tel. (213) 738-2970 TDD (213) 427-6118 Fax (213) 487-0380. Upon 3-day request notice, sign language interpreters and related materials in alternative formats (Braille-transcript, large print, audio-record, video-captioning, live description) or other reasonable accommodations are available to the public for County-sponsored activities and events.

RIDING CONDITIONS: COMBINATION OF ROLLING HILLS, SOME SEMI-STEEP HILLS, PAVEMENT AND STREET CROSSINGS AND LEVEL AREAS. THE RIDE WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 3.5 HOURS WITH 2 REST STOPS

NON-RIDERS ARE WELCOME

RIDERS UNDER 18 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

NO STALLIONS OR DOGS, PLEASE

NO DOUBLE RIDING

2010 RESERVATION FORM

ANTONOVICH
Trail Quarters Ride

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
 County of Los Angeles Department of Parks & Recreation

MAIL RESERVATION FORM & PAYMENT TO:
 Supervisor's Trail Ride, Department of Parks & Recreation,
 120 E. Via Verde Road, San Dimas, CA 91773

FOR INFORMATION CALL: Vincent Pedroza (909) 599-8411

PRE-REGISTRATION IS A MUST. RESERVATION DEADLINE BY THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2010

Name: _____		Phone: () _____	
Address: _____		City: _____	
Number of Trail Ride Tickets @ \$30.00 Per Person: _____			
Number of Riders: _____	Number of Non Riders: _____	Total Enclosed: _____	

Quality and Productivity Commission's Alliance for Innovation

Introducing a New Resource for County Employees

The Quality and Productivity Commission is pleased to make available an exciting new resource for County employees - Alliance for Innovation. By accessing www.transformgov.org you will find innovative and practical ideas to help you in your work.

Alliance for Innovation is a powerful tool to connect you to creative programs and best practices in 350 local governments across the United States, Canada and Australia, including 40 counties and 24 California cities. The Quality and Productivity Commission, as part of its strategic foresight activities, provides this web-based service to help you anticipate change and discover ideas and programs to increase quality and productivity.

This new Los Angeles County resource fits well with the CEO's vision that we search out the best ideas to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the County. It can prove to be a worthwhile means for stimulating new ideas for consideration consistent with the CEO's Efficiency Initiative.

"We need to continue essential programs and embark on new collaborative efforts to 'work smarter' with limited funds," said William T Fujioka.



Benefits

The *Alliance* specifically targets its resources to local government. From the Web site www.transformgov.org you can network with others through blogs, webinars, e-learning workshops, regional meetings and conferences. Information sharing is innovative, practical and relevant through daily news articles, newsletters, publications and quarterly reports.

The Alliance provides academic research from a network of 14 universities through white papers and PowerPoint presentations. A special feature not available anywhere else is a staff of graduate student researchers who will look into your specific requests and provide you with sources and ideas! Please send research requests through Ruth Wong, Executive Director of the Quality and Productivity Commission at (213) 974-1361 or rwong@ceo.lacounty.gov.

Supervisor Antonovich Names Dr. Sandra Thomas as 2009 Woman of the Year

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich named Dr. Sandra Thomas as the 2009 "Woman of the Year" for the Fifth Supervisorial District at the 25th Annual County Commission on Women Awards Luncheon.

"Dr. Thomas is a superb role model and an example of how one person — with hard work, vision and strong leadership can make a difference in the lives of young people," said Supervisor Antonovich.

In 2004, Dr. Thomas founded the Quality of Life Center which provides individualized instruction and attention to youth with their studies successfully providing students with the tools they need to achieve and live productive lives. Her Bright Scholars program encourages students to realize their goals with networking opportunities, social support, and training on how to best market themselves for both college and jobs.



A resident of Altadena for over 30 years, Dr. Thomas has been a mentor and community leader serving as president of the Altadena Community Center and a member of the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission, the Altadena Town Council, the Altadena NAACP, the League of Women Voters, the Sheriff's Clergy Council, and Crown City Kiwanis.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

Groundbreaking of New Olive View Psychiatric Urgent Care Center

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich joined Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, County officials and community partners in breaking ground on the new Olive View Medical Center Psychiatric Urgent Care Center. Mental illness affects one in five Americans every year and nearly every family is impacted by mental illness. People of all ages, ethnicities, and economic backgrounds develop a mental illness at some point in their lives. In Los Angeles County, close to one million people may need the care and support of mental health services. The new 10,000 square foot facility is expected to open in 2012 and will offer the following services to children, adolescents, adults and seniors:

- comprehensive psychiatric and physical assessment
- crisis intervention, including family interventions when needed
- referral to medical treatment when necessary
- individualized mental health treatment and services
- limited detoxification services
- group interventions



- medication management services
- housing assessment and referrals for emergency, transitional, and permanent housing

Additionally, the facility is expected to reduce overcrowding in the emergency room of Olive View. It is estimated that over 3,000 clients will be served in the first year of operation.

Domestic Violence Council

Members of the Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council (DVC) and the Office of District Attorney Steve Cooley, presented members of the Los Angeles Police Department Wilshire Division with commendations from Supervisor Don Knabe. The following officers were recognized for their heroic efforts in attempting to save the life of a domestic violence victim: Officer Tony Hyong Im, Hugo Fuentes and Detective Edward Ruffalo were first responders and Sgt. Jeffrey Owen, Juan Fernandez, Ted Morse, Lt. Nicolas Barbara, and Officers Edward Morales and Miguel Gomez investigated and were involved in this case.

On November 11, 2009, a woman was stabbed and killed by her estranged boyfriend in her apartment. She had just returned from the Wilshire Division police station where she filed a domestic violence complaint. LAPD officers handled the report and provided the domestic violence victim with pertinent information to make sure of her safe return home. The officers stayed in front of her apartment complex to see if the perpetrator would come to the victims' home, because they sensed that something was not right. As it turned out, the perpetrator scaled the back

portion of the building, got into the victim's apartment through a window and stabbed her with a knife.

Sadly and unfortunately, too many victims' lives end tragically; therefore, the DVC took this opportunity to thank the officers for their heroic effort to intervene in this domestic violence incident and act above and beyond their call of duty. In recognizing the officers for their work and efforts, DVC members and guests took the opportunity to briefly discuss ways to increase public awareness of the seriousness and oftentimes deadly consequences of domestic and intimate partner violence.

The Los Angeles police officers and members present, agreed to bring further awareness of violence to those who have been affected and to create a stronger deterrent for those who may be inclined to commit the crime. The Domestic Violence Council encourages everyone to be aware of the danger signs and to seek help.

If you or someone you know needs help, please call the Los Angeles County District Attorney Domestic Violence hotline at **(800) 978-3600** or for more information, you may go to the Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council's Web site <http://dvcouncil.lacounty.gov>.

Veterans Residence Slated to Open in Los Angeles



Steve Rosmarin (*pictured*) pushed for 20 years to get a state long term care home for veterans built in West Los Angeles. Now that it's finally scheduled to open this summer, he'd love to be among the first to move in.

Rosmarin, a retired stockbroker and travel agent, is a dedicated veterans' activist. At 82, he has twice been state commander of the Jewish War Veterans, once in the early 1960s and again in 2007-8. Since 1999, he's served on the County's Veterans Advisory Commission. As a veterans' advocate, he has long pushed for advances in education, health care and housing for former military personnel in the Los Angeles area. The housing issue became important to him as he watched veterans of World War II, Korea and, more recently, Vietnam hit retirement age, and face scarce housing options on fixed incomes.

"We have so many veterans here that are aged and in need of housing and care," he says. "We needed to do something."

In the late '80s, Rosmarin and other advocates figured the best solution was building a state veterans home in Los Angeles, now home to about 400,000 veterans. At the time, there was just one state retirement residence for veterans operated by the California Department of Veterans Affairs, a large home in the Napa Valley community of Yountville – hundreds of miles away from Los Angeles. In the '90s, two new state homes were built, but neither was close to Los Angeles, with its large veteran population.

He lobbied members of Congress, veterans' officials and Sacramento lawmakers to locate a facility on the federal Veterans Affairs (VA) campus in Westwood. The area had spare land and proximity to the Veterans Hospital and the UCLA Medical Center. After all, the VA campus had started in the 1880s as the Sawtelle Veterans Home for disabled military men. Locating a facility there meant the veterans could more easily stay connected to family and friends.

Their campaign got a big boost, when federal Veterans Affairs officials declared California one of two states "in great need" for veterans' housing and required new homes to be built in areas with high concentrations of veterans. The state passed bond funding between 2000 and 2004 and a building plan

emerged to construct five new state homes with both state and federal funds—three of them in Los Angeles and Ventura counties.

Rosmarin's key role was evident at the 2007 groundbreaking when he got the call to introduce California State Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.



The 396-bed Veterans Home of California–West Los Angeles facility will open this summer. The \$187- million home will include a residential care wing, as well as a skilled nursing facility and a "memory care unit" for veterans with Alzheimer's or dementia. Veterans Homes of California are also in operation in Yountville, Chula Vista, Barstow, Ventura and Lancaster. Future sites include Redding and Fresno.

More than 700 veterans have requested applications to the West L.A. facility, according to spokeswoman Jeanne Bonfilio. In order to be eligible for admission, an applicant must be age 62 or older (younger if disabled), a resident of California, and have served honorably in the military. The rent covers room, board and all services. Rates vary, ranging from 55 to 70% of a veteran's income, depending on the level of care in the facility.

Applications are available at:

<http://www.cdva.ca.gov/Homes/Admissions.aspx> and can be mailed directly to the VHC-GLAVC temporary office at 6150 Van Nuys Boulevard, Suite 305, Van Nuys, CA 91401.

For more information or assistance, please call (818) 742-1755.

Share It

Discounts and Programs Offered Through County-Sponsored Medical Plans

Please note: This information is subject to change without notice. Please contact the medical plan directly for questions and updates.

Anthem Blue Cross

Jenny Craig (800) 597-JENNY or (800) 597-5366 or www.jennycraig.com/corporatechannel/eretail.aspx

GlobalFit (800) 294-1500 or www.globalfit.com/club/login.asp. A network of 10,000 participating local, regional and national fitness clubs, including Curves, Bally Total Fitness, Gold's Gym, Powerhouse Gym, Anytime Fitness and many more.

Lindora Lean for Life (800) LINDORA [546-3672] or www.lindora.com/anthem. Receive 20% off of in-clinic programs or 20% off all other products and services.

Weight Watchers Online www.weightwatchers.com/cs/index.aspx?path=cs/anthem

For more information, log on to www.anthem.com/ca/countyoflosangeles or call the customer service phone number that applies to your plan: CaliforniaCare HMO: (800) 227-3771 * Catastrophic or PPO: (800) 288-2539 * Point-of-Service: (800) 288-6921

CIGNA

Jenny Craig (800) 597-JENNY or (800) 597-5366. Print a discount coupon from www.mycigna.com to get a free consultation at certain Jenny Craig centers.

GlobalFit (800) 294-1500 or www.globalfit.com/club/login.asp. A network of 10,000 participating local, regional and national fitness clubs, including Curves, Bally Total Fitness, Gold's Gym, Powerhouse Gym, Anytime Fitness and many more.

Weight Watchers (866) 252-9811 or Nutrisystem (888) 841-2463

For more information, log on to www.cigna.com or call customer service at (800) 870-3470 and ask about the Healthy Rewards programs. *Jenny Craig, Global Fit, and Weight Watchers Web sites can be accessed through the www.mycigna.com Web site.*

KAISER PERMANENTE

Every Kaiser Permanente facility provides some health education classes, such as weight loss, disease management, and smoking cessation for their members (some classes may require a fee). Topics and availability vary at each facility. For more information log on to www.kp.org or call (800) 464-4000 or 1-800-777-1370 (TTY for the deaf, hard of hearing, or speech impaired), weekdays from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and weekends from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Kaiser Permanente members are eligible for 25% off regular rates for complimentary health services through American Special Health (ASH) such as chiropractic care, acupuncture, and massage therapy. Also, preferred rates on selected fitness club memberships. No referral is necessary. Visit www.kp.org/healthyroads or call (877) 335-2746.

K-Plus Fitness – Receive discounts at participating fitness centers. Call (800) 234-6985 for a current list of participating fitness centers or visit members.kp.org.

Weight Watchers – Receive discounts ranging from 12-23% off regular membership fees on selected offerings. Visit www.kp.org/weightwatchers to learn more or get started.

PACIFICARE

Weight Watchers waives membership fees for members with a Pacificare ID card. Call Weight Watchers at (800) 651-6000 or go online at www.weightwatchers.com/index.aspx.

For more information, log on to www.healthyatcola.com or call (800) 367-2660.



Members of the Board

Gloria Molina
Chair
First District

Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky
Third District

Don Knabe
Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District

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Martina Abgaryan
Editor-in-Chief