



62 Years of Dedicated Service
to L.A. County Retirees

RELAC newsletter

Your Pension and Health Care Watchdog

www.relac.org • e-mail: admin@relac.org • (800) 537-3522

President's Message

by Dave Muir

Many of you may have read the article in the Los Angeles Times about the recent California Supreme Court decision dealing with reductions in public spinose 1652 pension benefits and the continued validity of what is known as the "California Rule." The most important thing to know is the court's decision does not apply to us as retirees. Nevertheless, I'm writing about the case (decided on July 30, 2020) because it involves the California Rule and will likely be an ongoing topic of discussions affecting the future of public pensions in general.

The California Rule, developed in a long line of California Supreme Court decisions going back to 1955, provides that pension benefits that exist at the time a person becomes employed are vested, and those benefits cannot be reduced unless another benefit of comparable value is provided. If a governmental employer wants to reduce benefits in the future, it must create another tier of benefits that would apply only to persons becoming employed after the new tier was created. Existing employees would continue to accrue benefits under the original plan. That's why in LACERA we have Plans A, B, C, D, etc.

The California Rule has stood as a barrier to the adoption of effective pension reform proposals. And reform advocates have argued strenuously for the Supreme Court to overrule the rule so that benefits for all employees could be reduced. This is an important public issue in California, and we are likely to see continued efforts to get rid of the rule.

As we all know, under public retirement systems in California, the higher one's pensionable pay, the higher the benefits. For example, some counties had a practice of including overtime pay in pensionable pay. This created the opportunity for employees to increase their overtime work in their final year of employment for the specific purpose of increasing their retirement allowance. Many refer to this as "pension spiking." Another example is cashing out unused vacation upon termination of employment and including the cash payment in pensionable pay.

In January 2013, the above practices (and others) were prohibited when the voters approved a pension reform initiative measure sponsored by then-Governor Brown. That gave rise to the lawsuit just decided by the Supreme Court. Employee groups argued that eliminating the ability to include certain matters in pensionable pay violated the California Rule. To the great relief of public employees, the court did not overrule its prior decisions creating the California Rule, but upheld the initiative's reforms, opining that the practices at issue were abuses or "loopholes" inconsistent with the purpose of sound administration of a public pension system.

Steve Rice, LACERA's chief counsel, has noted that abuses of pension rules are "in the eye of the beholder." It remains to be seen how and when those opposed to public pensions will continue their efforts to reduce pension benefits for current employees.

As always, I want to thank our members for supporting RELAC. Maintaining a strong membership base allows us to be vigilant in protecting the rights of County retirees.

YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT KEEPS RELAC STRONG AS YOUR PENSION AND HEALTH CARE WATCHDOG.



RELAC Director Mary K. Rodriguez Dies After Stroke

by Judy Hammond
Newsletter Editor

RELAC Director Mary K. Rodriguez, who was recovering from a major stroke she suffered in December 2019, died June 23.



A RELAC director for more than 13 years, Rodriguez, 83, had been hospitalized for a week due to extreme weakness and developed breathing problems before passing away.

Rodriguez began her County career in 1962 as a clerk in the banking division of the Treasurer and Tax Collector, transferred 13 years later to LACERA, where she rose to become a manager before retiring in March 1995.

She was recruited to work in the RELAC office in 2005 by her former boss, Ed Morris, who was president at the time, and won election to the Board a year later, with her first term starting Jan. 1, 2007.

Rodriguez said she was at first hesitant when approached by Morris. "I was a bit reluctant, but wanted to help other retirees and this seemed to be a good way to do so. It was a great decision! I have

continued on p.4

Harris Re-Elected to Alternate Retiree Seat on LACERA Board

RELAC Director J.P. Harris has been re-elected to the alternate retiree seat on the LACERA Board of Retirement.



No candidate opposed Harris, leading to his automatic election to his second term as the alternate retiree.

The new three-year term begins Jan. 1, 2021. The RELAC Board of Directors endorsed Harris' candidacy, saying he is needed to help protect retiree pensions and health care benefits.

Before his retirement from the Sheriff's Department in 2010, Harris served as the alternate safety member on the Board of Retirement, chair of the Disability Procedures and Services Committee, and a member of the Insurance, Benefits and Legislative Committee. He has been a RELAC director for 10 years.

As the alternate retired member of the Board of Retirement, Harris fully participates in Board meetings and steps in when the retiree member is not present.

continued on p.7

News from LACERA

by JJ Popowich

Assistant Executive Officer

We are living in some challenging times. I hope that everyone is doing okay and staying safe and healthy as we continue to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic and other changes impacting our society.

LACERA continues to perform well during these challenging times. Our Member Services and Retiree Healthcare Call Centers are both operating extremely well in the remote environment. In June we answered 11,895 calls in Member Services and 5,574 in Retiree Healthcare. Both are up from the previous year.

In the last article I shared that we were going to launch our Virtual Member Service Center (MSC) – allowing members to get the in-depth counseling and service you would receive when you visited our offices. I am really pleased to share that the virtual MSC launch was extremely successful. We opened our VMSC officially on June 12 and provided members an opportunity to sign up for one-on-one counseling via telephone and GoToMeeting.

The response to our Virtual Member Service Center has been tremendous. In June we provided service to 339 members in our virtual MSC. Of those, 177 members opted for the virtual face-to-face meeting, while the remainder opted for telephone conversations. I thought I would share some of the new ways in which we are supporting our members through the virtual MSC:

We were able to service one member who was traveling with his wife in an RV and one that was on his boat.

A member in Greece whose check had stopped due to return mail was unable to contact us and pass our secure validation process. By showing us a valid ID and answering our questions via the new platform, we were able to restart her benefits.

An elderly member's attorney-in-fact used his laptop to set up the GTM meeting to restart her check since there was no way to validate her identity through a governmental agency, nor were they able to physically visit the MSC at this time. Based on her inability to physically move around, the VMSC option made it really easy for our member to restart her check remotely.

A member was at work and forwarded the virtual meeting e-mail invitation to his wife so she could join the meeting while at home. Members have also invited their financial planners and others to these meetings. We place no restrictions on who they decide to invite in the meeting.

We are also making several changes to our online member portal. Among the changes we've made in the past few months is allowing members to upload documents so that they no longer have to mail documents to us. We also redesigned the My LACERA documents section to make it easier to find the documents you may be looking for, like your annual benefit statements, 1099-R copies, and correspondence.

In response to the pandemic, we have also begun notifying members who have provided their e-mail address to LACERA whenever we post a new document to their document library on My LACERA. Many of you likely received a notification when we posted your automatic deposit receipt (ADR) in June and July. This new feature was launched a bit ahead of schedule due to the pandemic and problems mailing these ADR to many of our international members. As a result, the e-mails may not have had the "polished" look LACERA would normally present, but it was urgent because for a period of about two-three months several countries were not accepting mail from the U.S. The mail situation has gotten a bit better, but these notifications, and more, from LACERA are here to stay as we expand our online servicing options. We are working on making these e-mail clearer and more "polished."

In the future we will expand our notifications confirming registrations and changes to your personal information by text messaging as well. We expect this to begin later this year and it is a new security feature to make sure that you know whenever your account has been accessed and a change has been made. This way you will be notified immediately if someone were to gain access to your online My LACERA account. We will be sharing more about these changes in our newsletters. In the meantime, please keep all of your contact information (e-mail, phone, and address) up-to-date so we can communicate with you. All of these can be updated on My LACERA or by contacting us at (800)786-6464.

Well, that's it for now. Until next time, please stay safe, practice social distancing, wear those face coverings, wash your hands carefully, and enjoy life to its fullest as much as possible.



Retirement Board

by Les Robbins, Director

It is difficult at this point in time to write about anything other than the LACERA Boards of Retirement and Investments election that will all but be over by the time this edition of the RELAC publication reaches all of you. It is my sincere hope that all of you took the time to vote, either by mail, e-mail, or telephone.

There is a great deal at stake these days as there have been and will continue to be attacks on public employee pensions as this country works its way out of this pandemic. There are forces out there that would like to grab hold of the \$60 billion in assets under management that LACERA controls and use some of that money to further their own causes.

As trustees at LACERA, we have one primary responsibility and that is to act as responsible fiduciaries, remembering that everything that we do as trustees, that every decision that we make as trustees, is done so with the best interests of those that we serve, which is in major part you the members of LACERA.

All told, LACERA has about 100,000 active members and another 60,000 retirees and survivors with whom we are given the responsibility to represent. We also, as trustees, have an obligation to the plan sponsor, L.A. County, to make prudent decisions with respect to how we invest our money and to how we administer and manage the retiree health care program.

I hope that all of you gave considerable thought to those things when you voted. Along with you, I await the results of the election, which should be announced in early September.

Take care and be well!

Deferred Comp Withdrawals Get An Operational Makeover

by Joseph Kelly
RELAC Director

When I worked for an investment bank many years ago, a boss of mine would write on the performance evaluations of his well-performing staff, "You're doing fine work, just do all of it more efficiently." That boss would be very happy, as I was, with the process improvements that the County Chief Executive Office spearheaded related to online withdrawal requests from the County's deferred compensation programs.

Retired employees of Los Angeles County receive a defined benefit pension (i.e., Plans A, B, C, D, E and G) through the Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association (LACERA). Retired employees may also have access to a defined contribution benefit if they participated in the County's deferred compensation program while working for the County. The deferred compensation program is overseen by a Plan Administrative Committee (PAC) comprised of the chief executive officer, director of personnel, auditor-controller, treasurer-tax collector, a Board of Supervisors appointee, along with members of SEIU, Local 721 and Coalition of County Unions. The third-party administrator for the deferred compensation program is Empower Retirement.

continued on p. 11





Four Directors Re-Elected

RELAC Directors Brian Berger, J.P. Harris, Dyanne Nelson and Les Robbins have been re-elected to new three-year terms beginning Jan. 1, 2021.

No RELAC member filed a petition to run as a candidate for the Board, resulting in the automatic re-election of the current directors whose terms expire Dec. 31, 2020. All four had been endorsed for re-election by the Board of Directors.



Berger, a 32-year County employee who was director of special services with the Department of Children and Family Services when he retired in 1999, has been a RELAC director since June 2017. He has served as vice president the past three years and heads the Office Management Committee.



Harris, a RELAC director since 2012 who chairs the Recruitment/Marketing Committee, has been re-elected to the alternate retiree seat on the LACERA Retirement Board. A lieutenant when he retired in 2010 after 35 years with the Sheriff's Department, he serves on the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission.



Nelson, who was elected RELAC's treasurer this year, has served on the Board since April 2017. She was the County's payroll operations manager when she retired in 2011 from the Auditor-Controller's Office after more than 38 years with the County.



Robbins, a 30-year member of the Sheriff's Department when he retired as a sergeant in 2004, is a former executive director of the deputies union ALADS and a 22-year member of LACERA's Board of Investments and Retirement. He has served on the RELAC Board since March 2017.

Check This:

No Felt Markers Please

We have been alerted by our bank that it will no longer accept checks written in felt marker. Not sure what the problem is – perhaps their machines might not be able to read the checks in marker. So, please use a pen to write those checks.

Annual Report of Assets, Liabilities, Revenue Expense

I. Changes in Assets & Liabilities 2019 vs 2018

ASSETS	12/31/2019	12/31/2018
Checking Account	61,718.00	85,623.00
Money Market Account	2,550.00	143,663.00
Petty Cash	200.00	200.00
Other Assets	8,599.00	9,050.00
Security Deposit	2,591.00	2,591.00
Office Equipment-Less Depreciation	1,809.00	3,073.00
Litigation Reserve	1,576,803.00	1,172,127.00
Total Assets	1,654,270.00	1,416,327.00

LIABILITIES & EQUITY	12/31/2019	12/31/2018
Current Liabilities	14,348.00	31,963.00
Retained Earnings	1,388,782.00	1,410,061.00
Less Net Income	251,140.00	(25,697.00)
Total Equity	1,654,270.00	1,416,327.00
Total Liabilities & Equity	1,654,270.00	1,416,327.00

II. Operating Results 12/31/2019 vs 12/31/2018

REVENUE	12/31/2019	12/31/2018
Member Dues	388,422.00	399,952.00
Investment Income	22,122.00 (1)	14,319.00 (1)
Miscellaneous Income	4.00	500.00
Member Events & Misc.	23,624.00	19,779.00
Interest	10,609.00	5,988.00
Total Revenue	444,781.00	440,538.00

EXPENSE	12/31/2019	12/31/2018
Office Expense	112,331.00 (2)	100,894.00 (2)
Personnel & Payroll	109,976.00 (3)	94,352.00 (3)
Board of Directors Meetings & Expenses	7,714.00	11,267.00
Committee Meetings & Expenses	7,656.00	4,947.00
Membership & Conferences	8,056.00	13,252.00
Insurance	5,850.00 (4)	4,949.00 (4)
Membership Meetings	29,793.00	23,521.00
Membership Benefits & Promotions	58,304.00	70,706.00
Elections	-	-
Newsletter	53,970.00	59,313.00
Website	823.00	900.00
Investment Expense	12,920.00	240.00
Total Expense	407,393.00	384,341.00

Unrealized Gain/(Loss) 213,752.00 (81,894.00)

Notes:

- 1) Litigation Reserve is invested in a diversified portfolio pursuant to RELAC's Investment Policy approved by the Board of Directors with the assistance of JP Morgan, RELAC's investment advisor.
- 2) Office Expenses include bookkeeping and auditing, rent, services and supplies, payroll processing and postage.
- 3) Personnel and payroll includes office manager and two clerical personnel with a four day workweek.
- 4) Insurance includes liability and directors & officers

Treasurer's Certification: I, Dyanne Nelson, hereby certify that this report was prepared without audit from the books and records of the corporation. An annual financial review is performed by a certified outside agency.

Dyanne Nelson
Treasurer

What's Happening Virtually?

by Evelyn Gutierrez, Chair
Special Events Committee

Social distancing keeps you safe. On behalf of your RELAC Board of Directors, thank you for supporting the County's recent request that you wear facial coverings and follow social distancing requirements.

However, finding ways to stay socially connected is also important. A number of County departments have redesigned their websites in an effort to provide you with "virtual" services and links to "safer at home" opportunities to learn, read, watch and participate in various county services.

County Museums

Visit the County Museum of Art website LACMA@Home for updates on art exhibits, short films, online courses, audio soundtracks and artwork collections.

The Natural History Museum connects people, nature and science. Visit website nhm.org for updates.

County Parks

Visit website parks.lacounty.gov to view a great and informative video that highlights our county parks, gardens, golf courses, trails and much more. The PARKS FROM HOME program provides online recreational programming and virtual tours.



County Library

Visit website lacountylibrary.org and learn about a new "Sidewalk Service" program. Although county libraries are currently closed, the Sidewalk Service Program provides library customers with an opportunity to order books for pickup by calling their local library and confirming a pickup date and time. Tables are set up outside 46 local libraries as an extended service in compliance with social distancing requirements. Customers are required to wear a face covering. Call your local library for Sidewalk Service details.

Some of the participating libraries include Agoura Hills, Baldwin Park, Carson, Duarte, East L.A., Lancaster, Manhattan Beach, Rowland Heights, and West Hollywood.

We care about your health and wellness.
Stay safe at home.

Mary K. Rodriguez continued from p.1

thoroughly enjoyed my 12+ years with the organization," she said in a November 2017 profile.

Rodriguez was elected secretary for a seventh term in 2019, serving on the Executive Committee. She also headed the Recreation and Program committees for many years, but found service on the Outreach Committee – which sends personalized birthday and Christmas/holiday cards to members 90 years and older – particularly rewarding.

She enjoyed traveling with long-time friend and fellow RELAC Director Alice Prouty, and spending time with her family: daughter, Tara Ann; son, Sean, and his wife, Kimberly; and grandchildren Cailen and Conner.

"Mary was my best friend, travel partner and family for over 30 years. We spent many wonderful trips to Europe, Hawaii and the United States together and those memories will be with me forever," said Prouty. "I will truly miss her."

Rodriguez was born in New York and raised on Staten Island, the oldest of six children of parents who emigrated from Ireland. She moved to Los Angeles in the early 1960s, intending to stay six months, but never left. She lived in Alhambra at the time of her death.

RELAC President Dave Muir praised Rodriguez's dedication to RELAC. "Mary was a dear friend of mine, going way back to when we worked together at LACERA. She was a key member of RELAC's Board of Directors and served in many capacities. I will always remember her for her happy, outgoing personality and her tremendous contributions to RELAC's success."

RELAC Director Diane Sandoval, who also worked with Rodriguez at LACERA, said she will be sorely missed. "She was a lifelong friend. I will be eternally grateful for her friendship."

Rodriguez was buried at Forest Lawn in Glendale.



Virtual Graduations

by Evelyn Gutierrez, Newsletter Committee

During these difficult days, the graduating classes of 2020 have had to adjust to social distancing requirements. Undaunted, they have expressed their creativity and pride in a number of ways. Graduates and their families have placed congratulatory signs on front lawns, clustered balloons on the entrances to their homes, and held mini car parades in their neighborhoods, to name just a few of the creative celebrations we have witnessed.

Technology has also played a major role in graduation celebrations. Many families hosted Zoom celebrations for local and distanced family members. Graduates have participated in car parades routed to high schools or colleges for an individual presentation of graduation certificates and individual photo opportunities with school officials. Several RELAC members shared their family graduations and the pride they expressed in their graduating family members.

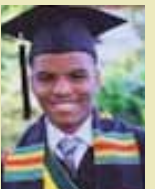
Ruby Dodge, little cousin of RELAC member Deborah Watts, graduated from kindergarten with family socially distanced, taking photos.



Heaven Lopez, cousin of RELAC member Evelyn Gutierrez, received her graduation diploma from Bell Gardens High School in a car caravan. Cars drove in front of the school, with graduates walking up a special path for photos with high school officials.



Jonathan Haile, cousin of RELAC member Dyanne Nelson, graduated from Odyssey Charter School, Altadena. Accepted at MIT, Boston, Massachusetts, Haile will major in product design and computer science. His family held a Zoom pride-filled celebration.



Janae Cunningham, niece of RELAC member Dyanne Nelson, graduated with a bachelor of science degree in mass communications from Barton College in Wilson, North Carolina. Janae plans on a career as an audio engineer. Distanced family members enjoyed photos and video.



Graduations are a family and community event, filled with pride and best wishes. RELAC proudly joins the families of our 2020 graduates in congratulating students from early educational institutions to universities for their academic achievement.

Best wishes to the Class of 2020.

FOR SALE:

TWO CEMETERY PLOTS at Rose Hills Cemetery. Located in the Rainbow Gardens section. Asking \$2,900 each, or best offer. Each plot may be converted to a double plot. For more information, contact John at (909) 762-9946.

RELAC Joins Hunger Fight

by Evelyn Gutierrez, Chair
Community Support Committee



RELAC Board Member Linda C. Hopkins meets with L.A. Regional Food Bank Chief Development Officer Roger Castle.

Enriching lives in diverse communities remains a high priority for Los Angeles County, especially during the current COVID-19 pandemic. County departments and local non-profits are all working together to address a number of issues adversely impacting families, seniors and veterans. At the top of the list are the homeless, unemployed and low-income families in urgent need of healthy food and meal delivery services.

The Los Angeles Regional Food Bank is among local agencies leading the fight against hunger by helping older adults and families at high risk from COVID-19. With millions out of work and children home from school, the food bank has experienced a 75% increase in the demand for healthy food.

Focused on also meeting the needs of disproportionately impacted lower-income communities and seniors living alone, the food bank has declared September as "Hunger Action Month."

If you wish to join RELAC Board members as a L.A. Regional Food Bank partner, please join us in the fight against hunger by volunteering, donating or fundraising for needed healthy food and resources.

A \$10 donation will fund 40 meals provided by partner agencies to needy individuals or families. The L.A. Regional Food Bank has established a RELAC link for online donations at www.LAFoodBank.org/relac.

If you wish, you may also submit a check made payable to the L.A. Regional Food Bank. Include the name RELAC in the lower left "Note" space and mail your check to the RELAC office, attention Linda Hopkins. Thank you for helping those in need.

For additional information, contact RELAC Board Member Linda Hopkins at (310) 415-7525 or lhopkins1045@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued support.

For the Record:

The first name of one of our scholarship winners was misspelled in the July-August edition. The correct spelling is Nyah Harrison. We incorrectly had it spelled "Nyan." Our sincere apologies to Nyah, the granddaughter of RELAC member Janie Harrison.



Former L.A. County Supervisor Don Knabe Gives Scholarships to Safe Surrender Survivors

(Ed. Note: Former County Supervisor Don Knabe is a RELAC member. This July 14 article by Gazette Newspapers Executive Editor Harry Saltzgaver is about a scholarship program Knabe created for the babies saved by the Safe Surrender Law.)



Cerritos resident Don Knabe, during his time as a Los Angeles County supervisor, championed the Safe Surrender Law to keep babies from being abandoned — and now he's helping two of the saved infants go to college.

Knabe lobbied the state Legislature in 2001 to pass the law, which allows women to give up their newborn infants without penalty if they are turned in at a fire station, hospital or police station. Knabe then strengthened components of implementing the law before beginning the program in Los Angeles County. And last week, two of the first babies to be rescued — Megan Moffat and Emily Jensen — each received a \$5,000 scholarship to start their college careers. "To realize

that these young ladies were inches away from being thrown away, now they are fine young women moving forward in life, making a contribution to the community," Knabe said. "It gets pretty emotional."

To date, about 180 babies have been rescued in Los Angeles County through the Safe Surrender program. The oldest are graduating from high school now. "I'm proud of where I came from," Moffat, who is 18, said. "It's special being a Safe Surrender baby, and I'm grateful to be one of the first to be impacted by this law. This scholarship will allow me to attend my dream university and explore all the opportunities that it has to offer."

Moffat graduated from Mayfield Senior High School in Pasadena and will attend Northeastern University in Boston as a health science major on the pre-med track. Northeastern is a well-known research university where experiential learning and global engagement are emphasized. Moffat's family is helping with costs, Moffat

continued on p.6

Annual Picnic Goes Virtual Due to Pandemic

by Evelyn Gutierrez, Chair
Special Events Committee

During these "socially distancing" days and recreational restrictions, RELAC regrets to inform you that our 2020 Annual RELAC Picnic at the Santa Fe Dam Recreational Area in Irwindale has been CANCELLED. However, in the spirit of social connectivity and creative alternatives, RELAC is proposing a "virtual" picnic.

Last year our picnic was held on Saturday, Sept. 28 with a country western theme, a great barbecue and line dancing to the music of the Bobby Z Band. We played bingo, drew for raffle prizes and had a great time reconnecting with friends and members. A recent review of picnic photos triggered great memories.

The RELAC Special Events Committee encourages you to plan a "Virtual RELAC Picnic" in your backyard, holding a lunch or barbecue with family or friends on Saturday, Sept. 26. With your participation, we will promote social connectivity, in the spirit of L.A. County family, during these difficult days.

We will also promote this virtual picnic and memories of our 2019 picnic by hosting a special drawing for Lucille's Smoke House barbecue gift cards and See's Candy gift cards. We will randomly draw 20 numbers from our 2019 picnic attendance list. Numbers will be translated into the attendee names of the winning RELAC members. Prize winners will be contacted to confirm their current mailing address. Gift cards will be mailed by Sept. 10.

Send a photo of your Sept. 26 backyard picnic to the RELAC office, attention Evelyn Gutierrez, for a future newsletter article. We sincerely hope that we can confirm a picnic in October or November 2021.

As we continue on this COVID-19 pandemic journey, we wish you and your family a safe and healthy future. Stay socially connected by texting or calling a friend.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

June - July 2020

- Executive Office** – Sheila Shima Eaton
- Child Support Services** – Delia Martinez, Linda Wilson
- Children & Family Services** – Armando Esparza, Valinda Rhoden, Susana Vazquez
- Children’s Services** – Ruth Payne
- Consumers Affairs** – Pastor Herrera, Jr.
- District Attorney** – Carol Burke, Mark Felix
- Fire** – Gustavo Munguia
- Health Services** – Robert Blackwell, Maria Adelia Rodriguez, Mari Shimobe
- High Desert Hospital** – Cecilia Campos
- Internal Services** – Don Waterbury
- King-Drew Medical Center** – Evangeline Basilio
- LAC+USC Medical Center** – Kyung Kim
- Library** – Linda Crismond
- Mental Health Services** – Carole Poston
- Parks & Recreation** – Norman Phillips, Engracia R. Alcala
- Probation** – Denise Lacrosse, Teresa Miller
- Public Health Program** – Elvira Jones, Marilou Osorio, Annette Takesuye, Sheila Woods
- Public Social Services** – Nancy F. Bean, Dorise L. Morgan, Louise Townes
- Public Works** – Marilyn Aronson, Gregory Kelley
- Rancho Los Amigos Hospital** – Pearlie M. Hair, Kenneth Reynolds
- Regional Planning** – Elaine Sainz
- Sheriff** – Allison Bryne, Scott Edge, Nora Peralta, Bruce Kragen, Cheryl Newman-Tarwater, Elena Ornelas, Josephine Twine
- Superior Court** – Lucila Thielen, David Lee Silva
- New Associate Members** – Michelle Blackwell, John Bryne, Maria Edge, Jonathan Peralta, Kevin J. Thielen, Felix I. Campos, Robin Felix, Ruben Garcia, Teresa Kelley, Ben Kim, Olivia Kragen, Paul Martinez, Todd Miller, Ingrid Munguia, James Sadow, Deborah Brawer Silva, Mike Takesuye, Al Twine

Thanks for New Member Referrals

We would like to thank the four members and one non-member who recruited colleagues to join RELAC during June and July 2020. Due to our aging membership, we must remain vigilant in signing up new members in order to remain a strong organization to protect your hard-earned pension and health benefits. We are the only organization that exclusively serves the interests of Los Angeles County retirees, so help us help you. For membership applications and brochures, call the RELAC office at (800) 537-3522, e-mail admin@relac.org or go online at www.relac.org. Be sure to tell the new member to put your name on the application as making the referral.

Our thanks to these RELAC members (shown in bold) for referring new members (shown in italics):

- Evelyn Gutierrez** (and non-member Andrea Carroll), *Linda Crismond*, Library
- Armando Nogal**, *Pastor Herrera, Jr.*, Consumer Affairs
- Janice Saahiro**, *Don Waterburyon*, Internal Services
- Irene Terrell-Wane**, *Elvira Jones*, Public Health

Golf News

by *Gil Sandoval*
RELAC Golf Director



The Department of Recreation and Parks has notified RELAC that all tournaments for 2020 have been cancelled. I will notify all the golfers if any changes take place. In the meantime, you can play with your friends and keep up the purpose of the game (exercise, competition and camaraderie). It is my hope that you are all well during this pandemic. Diane and I wish you the best of holidays as they come up.

The next scheduled golf tournament is at Los Amigos Golf Course on Jan. 25, 2021 with an 8 a.m. start. Please submit your check for \$33 if you did not send in the fees for the La Mirada tournament that was cancelled in March of this year. Those fees will be transferred to the next tournament you play.

Sent checks to: RELAC, 1000 S. Fremont Ave. Ste. 15, Alhambra, CA 91803. Checks must be submitted by Jan. 5, 2021.

Scholarships continued from p.5



Megan Moffat of Pasadena is one of the first Safe Surrender babies to go to college and receive a Don Knabe scholarship.

said, but the scholarship made all the difference in being able to go to Boston. Jensen could not be reached for comment before deadline.

“This is a dream come true for me,” Knabe said. “When you realize what they are doing today,” he added, “and it’s all because of a brave mother willing to surrender them.” In a separate statement, Knabe said Moffat and Jensen have demonstrated courage, much like their mothers did when they surrendered them as infants. “They have been driven by an insurmountable perseverance to succeed and have both committed to dedicating their lives and talents to helping other people.”

Knabe came up with the idea of a scholarship fund in 2015 as he was preparing to retire from the L.A. County Board of Supervisors. He worked with the Long Beach Community Foundation, which administers the fund, to allow County employees to donate through their paychecks. The fund got off to a good start when Knabe suggested donations there instead of retirement gifts.

“Facilitating Don’s vision and watching it become a reality has been a highlight of my time so far at the Community Foundation,” LBCF President and CEO Marcelle Epley said in a release. “His consistent support of these youth, and encouragement for continual contributions, created waves that will positively steer their lives now and well into the future.”

Knabe said he is not involved in choosing the scholarship winners, with a committee from the Community Foundation handling that job instead. All children safely surrendered in L.A. County are eligible. Applications must be made within three years of the child turning 17.

RELAC NEWSLETTER

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Letters To The Editor

Write On!

The July-August newsletter was outstanding. It is always interesting to see what people are doing after retirement and your mask feature was very entertaining and colorful.

Philip L. Browning, Rancho Palos Verdes, California

Just wish to inform you that although I enjoy reading the RELAC newsletter, I only need to receive one. With the July-August edition, I received three newsletters. All were correctly addressed to me. One had a reference number of 3895, others with 3927 and 3928. I hope this information will be helpful in resolving the duplicate mailings.

Marilyn R. Gomez, Long Beach, California

(Ed. Note: Thank you for bringing this to our attention. Other members also reported receiving duplicates. We have been working with staff and our mailing house to ensure this doesn't happen again.)

I was glad to see a familiar name replacing Ida Leon Ramos as office manager at RELAC. I know Sheila Simpson will do a great job with RELAC supporting the RELAC Board and providing helpful services and information to all of us "old timers."

Harry Stone, Whittier, California

Please cancel my subscription to RELAC effective immediately. I just received my July/August newsletter and was bothered by the political statement you printed on it. I am all for equality for all, but I do not support the far left Progressive political agenda as you obviously do.

John Ricci, Glendora, California

(Ed. Note: The statement we included in the last newsletter – RELAC supports the goals of equality and fairness for all – was not intended to convey support of any political agenda. RELAC is not a political organization and does not take positions on political issues. We respect the fact that our 17,000+ members have a wide range of opinions and political leanings. Protecting our members' pension and health care benefits remains our priority.)

I want to thank you for the \$25 check you sent me for being a winner in the Spring Drawing. What a surprise – I usually never win. Thank you and stay safe in this awful pandemic we are going through. I hope it ends soon!

Moliece Hansen, Bountiful, Utah

Dear Alice P. (Prouty), thank you for the nice birthday card.

Albert Villa, San Clemente, California

Hello, Ladies and Gents: Thank you so much for sending me \$25 for the Spring Drawing. What a surprise! I am so grateful to all you who do such great work all year. This was unusual for me, as I never win stuff. Stay safe, wear mask! Peace and Love.

Jacquelyn Massey, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Thank you for your birthday wishes. We need all the warmth we can get in these strange virus times. This is my 97th year. Aside from physical aches, my outlook remains good. In this lockdown I managed to find something new each day. For example, saw a white spider building a nest. Excuse me, I mean a web. Well, what can you expect from an overused brain? Laughter is the best and appreciation for the kindness of others, new ideas. Now called Meridian at Laguna Hills. Hot stuff, huh! Take care. I bless you all and RELAC.

Helen Dunning, Laguna Hills, California

I thank you for my win in the Spring Drawing. Remarkably, I won another year, too! Both wins were most appreciated.

Annabelle A. Apodaca, Medford, Oregon

I really depend on this beautiful calendar to keep in touch with the yearly events. I'm on the fifth month and I do need my six month calendar for June for 2020/2021. Thank you so very much for keeping in touch with us retirees. I am so blessed and thankful to be a part of retirees. My love to all of you.

Florence R. Cisneros, Azusa, California

RELAC, thank you for all that you do for all of us!

Kenneth Johnstone, Folsom, California

RELAC, what a pleasant surprise when I received the \$25 gift in the Spring Drawing. I truly enjoy the RELAC news. You do such a good job. I am so thankful for my retirement, especially the great medical coverage - what a blessing it is. After 65 years of a wonderful married life, I am now a widow. I celebrated my 90th birthday July 12 – God is good! I will always be so grateful for Los Angeles County Probation personnel. In 1991 when my 18-year old grandson graduated from high school he had no plans. Probation was testing for clerical positions, so he took the test and was hired. He worked 3-11 p.m., took college courses during the day, got his BA, then his master's degree, and is now in his 29th year and is an SDPO. His wife is also employed with L. A. County Probation. Thank you, Los Angeles County Probation personnel.

Dorothy Karsen, Orange City, Iowa



Harris Re-Election continued from p.1

Harris said that during his tenure, the Board has resisted attempts by the County to wrest control of LACERA and to insert undue influence over internal operations.

"We have also been critical of our own functioning and have taken appropriate steps to ensure your retirement contributions and earnings are only used in the most expedient and prudent manner possible."

The coming years are guaranteed to be tumultuous regarding the economy and how that could impact LACERA's funding ratio, he said. "I believe we have an excellent team in place to weather this storm, but I do expect there to be some choppy water".

He said the pension system must be protected from political attacks, internal and external. "We are living in unprecedented times concerning retirement benefits. The drumbeat to roll back or eliminate pension benefits will continue."

Two other RELAC members, Joseph Kelly and Les Robbins, are seeking seats on the LACERA Board of Investments and Board of Retirement respectively. The results of those elections will not be known until September as voting ends Aug. 31.

Keeping Up With Retirees

We asked three RELAC members to let us know what they have been doing since retirement. Their articles follow.

With husband, David



LINDA CRISMOND

My career as the Los Angeles County librarian spanned the 1980s. Wow, that was a long time ago! It was a time of expanded funding after the initial cuts from Proposition 13. We were devoted to a strategic plan focused on unique and responsive library services to all of the unincorporated areas of the County and 48 cities. The staff was motivated and energetic. The annual Library Breakfast was always a great celebration of accomplishments and outstanding service. We moved the headquarters from downtown L.A. to Downey with the help of my favorite County supervisor, Pete Schabarum.

It was an honor to be elected as the first woman president of the Los Angeles County Management Association. Statewide, I was elected president of the California County Library Association.

I was born in Beautiful Downtown Burbank and am a fourth generation Californian. We moved to Carlsbad when I was three, and I was raised on an avocado ranch (a fruit that I still love to this day). After graduating from the University of California, Santa Barbara, I went to UC Berkeley to get a master's in library science. I was 21 and in the middle of the Free Speech Movement which started that year at Berkeley and spread later to many college campuses.

My first job was at the San Francisco Public Library. It was an exciting time when we began to ditch the library card catalog and automate many of the library functions. Next, I moved back to Southern California to accept a position as associate university librarian at USC. That's when my passion for football began. I was hired as chief deputy of the Los Angeles County Library in 1980, and was promoted to head the department the following year. I left in the summer of 1989 to move to Chicago to become executive director of the American Library Association. It was an honor to be its first woman top manager after its more than 100 years of existence. That was followed by a decade of selling books to libraries across the United States.

My son, Dougal, is turning 50 this year. He was a little boy when he used to hang out with me at Friends of the Library meetings all over the County. He works as a DJ and lives in an original 1937 hacienda in the Tujunga hills that has an amazing garden and a 12-month-a-year running stream through the property. With his girlfriend, Lisa, they have a menagerie of cats, birds, squirrels, foxes and everything else that comes down from the Angeles National Forest.

During my life, I have been a commercial fisherman, an avid personal chef, a golfer who still is trying to break 100, a regular mah-jongg player, and, since 2007 the founder and president of Frugal Dougal's Golf Cart Accessories, an Internet-based company. Although I have always exercised regularly, I started running in my early 50s. What began as 5K's quickly expanded to long distance running, completing 11 marathons before I hung up my shoes after the age of 60. Winning second place in my age group in the 2003 Los Angeles Marathon was absolutely thrilling and qualified me to run the Boston Marathon the next year.

Peter and I were married in 2009 and live in Tarpon Springs, Florida with our two cats. We like to travel and completed last year the trifecta of the world's most famous thermal springs and geysers in Iceland, New Zealand, and Yellowstone National Park.

I became a librarian because I liked to read and now get great stimulation by leading the local Tarpon Springs book club. The "librarian" in me cannot resist ending this with the following two book recommendations for you. Both are set in rural Kentucky during the 1930s and describe Eleanor Roosevelt's Pack Horse Librarians. They are *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes and *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michael Richardson. Happy reading.



SHEILA SHIMA EATON

My County career began in April 1986 as legislative analyst at the Department of Mental Health (DMH). Coming from the private sector, I had worked as assistant vice president, government relations at then-First Interstate Bank of California (which became part of Wells Fargo Bank). I thought then: I'll work for the County no more than five years; and it's ironic to go from advocating on behalf of a bank to reduce tax burdens to advocating on behalf of the County to increase tax revenues. I also thought: finally my BA (UCLA 1972) and MA (CSULA 1973) degrees in psychology will be relevant for my job; and, indeed, I learned it was important, particularly at DMH, to have initials after your name on business cards.

Well, after 27 years with the County, I retired in January 2013 with gratitude for a defined benefit pension and retiree health benefits, particularly in these challenging times of COVID-19 pandemic. My last County position was deputy chief executive officer (DCEO) in the Chief Executive Office, overseeing the cluster that included the Departments of Health Services, Public Health and Mental Health. During the intervening years, I worked in the Chief Administrative Office's Intergovernmental Relations unit for Gerri Kariya (mainly health/welfare legislation, but over time on virtually all areas), then I worked in budgets and operations management for Laura Jessee (first on the Department of Public Social Services budget and then on Department of Health Services). Just before becoming DCEO, I was chief deputy for then-Director of Mental Health Marv Southard for a brief five months before returning to the newly named CEO. Though short-lived, my time back at DMH felt like returning home to the place my County life began.

Throughout my County career, I was fortunate to be involved directly and later indirectly via staff with analyzing legislative, budgetary and operational issues and policies affecting mission-driven County programs. I recall projects to re-separate the Health Services and Public Health Departments and to begin County efforts to establish a health information exchange. I believe my private sector experience shaped my dedication to public sector service, and I always believed it was better to look at requests from County departments to find ways to make them work (usually better for both patients and the "bottom-line") within the County's often-though-not-always flexible rules. Some of my best memories as a bureaucrat came from meeting line staff in clinics who, upon hearing my name, thanked me and my staff for approving budget, hiring or inventory requests that helped them better serve patients and clients.

continued on p.9

MARVIN SOUTHARD

I began working as director of the County Mental Health Department in August 1998 and retired in November 2015. During those 18 years, I was blessed with an extraordinary team, especially my remarkable chief deputies (Dave Meyer, Susan Kerr, Sheila Shima and Robin Kay) and my world-class medical director, Dr. Rod Shaner. Together, we were able to accomplish some remarkable things.

We increased the budget of the department from about \$500 million to about \$2 billion. We built a Children's System of Care, Law Enforcement Mental Health Partnerships and Crisis Response, an Older Adult System of Care, and integrated the ability to provide substance abuse treatment into all mental services for the many suffering from co-occurring disorders. We were able to influence state and national policy in profound ways, including creating the model for integrated care that became the basis for Prop. 63 funding, the focus on consumer-run services, the initiation of the mental health and spirituality initiatives, and the creation of psychiatric urgent care centers and Health Neighborhood collaboratives to relieve the pressure on hospital and jails. We expanded the mental health workforce to include peers and marriage and family therapists and included them in the stipend training programs. We did all these things to fulfill our vision of supporting hope, wellness and recovery among mental health clients, their families, and communities. Our vision was able to become real to the extent it did because of our partnership with many others, especially the National Alliance on Mental Illness and ethnic communities, but particularly with other County departments, especially Public Health, Children and Family Services, Probation, District Attorney and Sheriff, to name only a few. As I retired, I felt as though I had participated in doing some good, which is the best we in public service can hope for.

The same month I retired from the County, I began working for USC School of Social Work to establish a professional doctorate of social work program for working professionals wishing to increase their leadership and management skills. The program has been able to succeed in recruiting and training a remarkable cohort of students who have graduated and are now serving in a variety of leadership roles throughout the country. I found both teaching and leading the faculty to be very satisfying experiences personally and professionally. Then in June of 2019, my wife, Carolyn, and I decided that it was time for me to really retire.

We had prepared for this moment by building our dream retirement home in Avila Beach, California and selling our condo in Playa Vista. Our home is a remarkable place perched in the hills above Avila Beach, with an incredible view of ocean and oak-covered hills, close enough to the beach to hear the waves crashing and the seals barking at night. We were blessed also to plan the trip of a lifetime last October. Along with some close friends, we took a month-long river cruise of the Rhine and Danube from Amsterdam to Budapest (celebrating with our older son and his fiancé their engagement in Amsterdam), stopping at a different beautiful city each day and closing with a week in London.



With grandson, Curran

I keep my hand in the public service arena by serving on several boards, including the California Institute of Behavioral Health Solutions, Proxy Parent Foundation, and the Network for Social Work Management, and until COVID times volunteering at our local Catholic parish. My wife and I find our chief joys in walking down to the beach and in hosting family (especially our grandson, Curran) and friends in our little piece of heaven. We are hoping for COVID to end soon so that we can do that more robustly. If any former colleagues wish to contact me, my e-mail is casasouthard@aol.com.

With wife, Carolyn



Eaton continued from p.8

My County work life was hectic and involved long hours, possibly just because of my own driven nature: who knows? I've succeeded somewhat in slowing down to spend more time with family and friends. Retirement allowed me more time with our mom, right up to and including her 71 hours in hospice care before she passed away peacefully this March at 92 years old. Now I spend even more time with David, my husband of 43 years, mainly sheltering at our home of 39 years in the Adams Hill area of Glendale (California, not Arizona). I'm still involved in health care issues by volunteering on the Board of Directors of Wesley Health Centers, a federally qualified health center with clinics in L.A. County, including in Antelope Valley. I'm also on the Board of WERC, the Worker Education Resource Center, near downtown Los Angeles, an independent labor-management nonprofit I worked with for years while assigned to the DHS budget in CAO. I'm reading more and am happy to be a member of a small book club which includes retirees Robin Kay, former DMH chief deputy, and Anita Lee, formerly with County Counsel. I also love movies and often binge-watch films, especially around Oscar nominations time. We also subscribe to the Disney Concert Hall's World Music and Organ Recital programs.

We've traveled some, with overseas trips to Spain, Portugal, Japan, Scotland, Wales, London, Dublin, and France. Our most frequent mainland trips are to Lexington, Kentucky, where our son, Aaron, and his wife, Shannon, live, while Shannon completes her Ph.D. program in psychology/neuroscience at the University of Kentucky. No grandkids (yet?), but we have two grand-dogs: Bacardi and Morgan; yes, named after rum brands. We also support UCLA academic and athletics programs as donors and long-time season ticket holders for football and men's and women's basketball, and I fortunately have access to a season ticket for gymnastics, held by fellow UCLA fan and retiree Carol Kindler. We've traveled to away football and/or basketball games in Charlottesville, Virginia; Austin, College Station, and Houston, Texas; Boulder, Colorado; Memphis, Tennessee; and elsewhere.

I worked with many amazing people and still miss interacting with them. I try to stay in touch with those I can. I finally joined RELAC so I could learn more of the happenings of those I'm not otherwise in touch with!

Happy Birthday, RELAC Centenarians

Happy birthday to our members who will be 100 or older in September and October.

September

Hollice A. Favors, 102, Assessor,
Sept. 17, 1918

Lillian F. Morris, 103, associate member,
Sept. 22, 1917

Josephine V. Moreno, 101, County Clerk,
Sept. 26, 1919

Alberta S. Rich, 100, General Hospital/Nursing,
Sept. 29, 1920

October

William H. Barbour Jr., 100, Auditor/Controller,
Oct. 11, 1920

John E. Danielson, 100, SCAQMD,
Oct. 11, 1920

Virginia Maltby, 102, Community Health,
Oct. 12, 1918

Arthur Beck, 100, Mechanical,
Oct. 13, 1920

Lillian E. Seaver, 105, Health Services,
Oct. 17, 1915

Pandora Cook, 101, Probation,
Oct. 31, 1919

"Quarantigue" Setting In: Life During the Pandemic

We asked several RELAC members how they have been passing time during the pandemic.



Pat Guin

Retired 1996, analyst, Chief Administrative Office

I've been doing what most "people" with brains are doing: Wearing a mask, going only to the market, pharmacy, mandatory doctor appointments. I live alone so I have to do all the shopping. Since no gym, no movies, no happy hours, no travel, I do busy work like going through photos and clearing out files, but most of the time I procrastinate. I gas up the car (though only a couple of times a month). I watch a lot of movies; some I have seen 10 or more times. Also, I attend a virtual Zoom

workout class on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. I do a lot of video chats with my family and friends. Also, I have been reconnecting with a lot of folks that I lost contact with. I have one to two hour telephone conversations. I love it.

Ginger Barnard

Retired 2005, deputy chief of protocol, Office of Protocol, Chief Administrative Office

As I was in the homestretch of my two-year term as president of the Ebells of Los Angeles, the oldest continuously operating women's club in Los Angeles with more than 600 members and an historic 1927 clubhouse and theater on Wilshire Boulevard, the pandemic hit. I found myself working remotely from home with conference calls and Zoom meetings as we negotiated the federal PPP (Payroll Protection Plan), EIDL (Economic Injury Disaster Loan), SBA grants and setting up a line of credit. I felt like I was back at one of my County jobs, when I headed up the Legislative Section in the Chief Administrative Office. The Ebells' source of income disappeared overnight. No more corporate events, weddings, parties, theater rentals or film shoots. All the events on the books, our calendar was very full, were postponed until next year. There were painful staff layoffs, salary reductions for those remaining and figuring out how to maintain the 83,000-square-foot facility with minimum funds plus learning how to engage the membership with virtual events. We launched a fundraising campaign to maintain the building, which has raised close to \$100,000 from the membership and is ongoing. The Ebells has survived for 126 years and will somehow weather this pandemic. Our motto is *I will find a way or make one* and we will. On June 30, I passed on the responsibilities to a new president when my term ended. My dining room table has returned to its original purpose and I am taking a break. Now to the dreaded job of decluttering my house and culling my way-too-large collection of books.



Steve Cooley

Retired 2012, County District Attorney

I finished a three-week hearing on March 12 and immediately self-isolated. I was able to work on my cases electronically, but meetings and appearances were reduced to zero. That made me realize just how important direct, human, face-to-face interaction is. For true communication, one must be able to look someone in the eye, watch their body movements, and just get an overall sense of that. I have learned that teleconferences, Zoom, Skype, webex, and all the rest of the electronic communication techniques do not measure up. I can hardly wait to shake hands and hug people again! Since self-isolating, I have a lot of time to devote to the third book I wrote with co-author Robert Schirn (retired L.A. County deputy D.A.). The book, entitled "Blue Lives Under Fire – Shootouts," is being edited by Cathy Hawks, a fellow RELAC member.



Leigh Nielsen

Retired 2003, contracts administrator, Office of Alcohol and Drug Programs Administration, Public Health

The new normal here in Durango, Colorado is, of course, wearing a mask and washing one's hands when out and about. My husband spends his days watching TV, while I prefer spending time on the Internet. The weather here in Durango has been very hot lately, so we stay inside with the AC on. Durango is known as a tourist destination, so the city has allowed outdoor dining by installing tables in the street. This is accomplished by closing down two lanes and having only one lane of traffic each way. Right now, we are in the monsoon season, with thunderstorms in the afternoons. We do venture out when the weather permits with our dog, Maggie May, and take her to the park. I am recovering from recent lower back fusion surgery, so my exercise is limited to how much activity the physical therapist has me doing. My new ebike has yet to be ridden, but I am hopeful that will change in the near future.



Lloyd W. "Bill" Pellman

Retired 2004, County Counsel, County Counsel's Office

In addition to working from home, I have purchased on the Internet and make use of my new bread machine, pasta maker, butter churn and immersion circulator. In churning butter, I took the remaining buttermilk and made buttermilk bread -- great toasted and the last few slices turned into croutons.



Martin Zimmerman

Retired 2013, assistant chief executive officer, Chief Executive Office

Like for so many others, my retirement life certainly changed with onset of the pandemic. In addition to my volunteer work at My Friend's Place, a youth homeless services center, I kept busy with socializing, working out, plays, concerts, museums, reading, travel and dining out. That's all largely unavailable now. My husband is a CPA for a large accounting firm, and he's been working from home since the shutdown, so his schedule is pretty established. I have more or less established an informal routine that pretty much keeps me engaged as a retiree. I usually start with a long morning walk with my dog, then catch up on news and Internet during and after breakfast. Since I can't go to the gym, I've acquired a resistance tube/band set that allows for a pretty thorough daily workout, which I do before lunch. After lunch, I may read a book, stream a movie or TV series, or handle errands, including shopping. That's followed by the most precious time of my day -- my beloved afternoon



continued on p.14

Meet RELAC's New Office Manager



A large family Thanksgiving

SHEILA SIMPSON

I was born and raised in Los Angeles, the oldest of five with a sister and three younger brothers. Our youngest brother died of AIDS at six months when I was just 11. I have been married to Roosevelt Sr. (aka Rosey) for 25 years. We met while working together at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. I was a management secretary for one of the assistant directors, who was his supervisor's boss. Rosey retired from the museum with accolades as lead electrician in 2018. Although I met my husband while working at the museum, we discovered we had attended the same high school, J.C. Fremont in Los Angeles, but never knew each other! He was a year ahead of me, and he told me recently that he knew who I was in high school but was always afraid to approach me.

My husband has a large family of 14 siblings. Holiday gatherings often have 75+ relatives in attendance. We have a blended family of five adult children, with 20 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren. We excitedly await grand # 21 from our youngest daughter and husband. We love visiting our families in Arizona, Nevada, and Southern California. We also love traveling and have been on six cruises to various Caribbean destinations – the first was our honeymoon. We look forward to cruising again when the industry opens back up. We really enjoy attending open air jazz concerts, with the Hollywood Bowl our favorite destination. We were sad when its 2020 season was cancelled because of the pandemic.

We are both active volunteers at our church. I am passionately involved in Women's Ministries and enjoy planning events and using my skills to produce various print media for this and other church ministries. Additionally, I help in the church's administrative office. Rosey is a church elder and is putting his electrical skills to work on our church's current renovation project. Together we lead a Hot Meals Outreach Ministry, which, despite the shutdown, distributes take-out meals to 50+ at-need individuals and families weekly.

My best friend and I took the County's clerical exam in high school. Although we were both hired in entry level clerical positions, she later quit to work in private industry. I decided to remain once I realized that, with the right education and skill development, I could literally work in almost any position/department I desired without ever leaving County employ.

So, a month after graduating, my first job at 17 was at Department of Public Social Services (DPPS) Division for the Blind in L.A. I assisted legally blind clients in making optometry appointments to verify eligibility. I loved helping these clients and discovered then that I enjoyed assisting people to meet critical needs. When that division phased out, I was reassigned to DPSS's Unattached Men's Center (now Civic Center District), east of downtown L.A. I was 19 and it was a culture shock, to say the least! Yet I learned I had what it took to deal with a variety of personalities and interact with those at every socioeconomic level. I witnessed clients at their lowest in many cases, and I developed compassion and strength of character because of it.

I have worked at three County departments in my career – DPSS, Museum of Art, and Public Works. I value the experiences, relationships, and friends I gained at each department, but my favorite was the last – Public Works. With its training classes for my field I was able to take my skills to another level and experienced several leadership opportunities I did not have at previous departments. One of my proudest achievements was being part of Public Works' Secretarial Training Committee. We developed the Secretarial Excellence Training Program, a model of course study to assist secretaries in sharpening their skills and learn new ones to use in their current job and as a means for promoting through the County's secretarial series. We had 105

With husband, Rosey



graduates during my participation. For this program, Public Works was awarded the 2001 NACo (National Association of Counties) Best of Category-Nationwide level, in the "Employment and Training" category.

Out of necessity, I took an early retirement in 2006 and moved my 89-year-old grandmother with dementia into our home. She passed away at 99, two months after the death of her twin sister. That was the hardest thing I have ever done, yet there were many unexpected blessings that resulted from responding to our grandmother's need. I had recently felt a tug to return to work, but it had to be just the right job. The position of office manager at RELAC fell into my lap, and I feel grateful I responded. I can't wait to see what blessings will follow!

Deferred compensation continued from p2

Prior to my retirement from the position of treasurer-tax collector in July 2019, I served on the PAC. However, it wasn't until I retired that I had the ability to request a withdrawal. I had no idea the process was as time-consuming as it was. It included 1) printing an 18-page withdrawal request from Empower's website, 2) completing the form, 3) scanning the form into a PDF file, 4) reducing the PDF file size to meet Empower's requirements, and 5) uploading the file to Empower's website for processing. Like Susan Powter from her 1990s infomercials, I screamed out loud "Stop the insanity!"; and then I e-mailed a former colleague suggesting there had to be a more efficient way to process withdrawals.

It's against that backdrop that you can imagine how happy I was when I signed on to Empower's website recently to request a withdrawal and the paper-intensive, tedious and lengthy process was replaced with an automated process that I was able to complete entirely online with just a few simple clicks of my mouse. I was so excited that I contacted the Chief Executive Office (CEO) and thanked them. The CEO informed me the transition to a fully automated online process had been in the works. They approved the implementation of online paperless withdrawals after system and information security testing was complete.

Don't rush to withdraw your funds just because the process to do so has never been easier! Withdrawing funds from your deferred compensation should be done in a prudent manner, consistent with your personal financial plans and objectives. If you have questions, Empower is there to answer them.

On behalf of all retirees, I would like to thank the CEO and Empower for their efforts in improving the efficiencies of this process. All retirees participating in the deferred compensation programs benefit.

PASSAGES

Compiled by Judy Hammond, Newsletter Editor

DEATHS:

Sharon Maria Gallagher, 76, a senior deputy county counsel when she retired in 2010, from cancer. **Donald Eugene Brown**, 92, who spent his entire career in the Department of Public Social Services, starting as a social worker and later becoming director of the South Central-Watts, El Monte and Pomona district offices. Brown, who did door-to-door voter registration in Georgia with college classmate Martin Luther King, Jr. at a time when it was considered dangerous, was a charter member of the National Museum of African American History and Culture. **Brad Pye, Jr.**, 89, former assistant chief deputy to Supervisors Kenneth Hahn and Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, and division chief in the Department of Children and Family Services, who was a noted black sports journalist, broadcaster and community activist. **Jerry Daniel**, who served on the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy since 1991 – appointed by County Supervisors Ed Edelman, Zev Yaroslavsky and Sheila Kuehl – and after whom the overlook above Hollywood Bowl was named. Deputy Public Defender **Salvador “Sal” Salgado**, 59, who finished his 21-year career in the Public Defender’s Office as a supervisor overseeing the El Monte office. **Ruth Kelly Schiffer**, a LACMA docent for 45 years, president of the Center Theater Group, and member of the Music Center’s Blue Ribbon women fundraising committee. **Misty Widelitz**, 92, also an active member of the Blue Ribbon committee. **Grace Yokomizo**, 95, mother of former Public Social Services Department head Bryce Yokomizo and Sheriff’s Department employee Denise Motoyasu, and granddaughter of Supervisor Janice Hahn’s field deputy Lauren Yokomizo. **Clinton Leonard “Pete” Ellis**, 95, who retired in 2000 after 48 years with the Parks and Recreation Department, primarily at Bodger Park in Hawthorne. Sheriff’s Deputy **Dennis Gill**, a 20-year employee, and his 14-year-old daughter killed in auto accident in Oregon. Former Sheriff’s Capt. **William Reed**, who retired in 1988 after 32 years of service. **Mary Elizabeth Husted Bottum**, a volunteer pianist who played at the L.A. County jail Sunday mass for more than 20 years. Former Sheriff Lt. **Frank Yturralde**, who retired in 1979 after 20 years of service. Former Sheriff Lt. **Dennis O’Neill**, who retired in 1986 with 14 years of service. **JoEllen Perkins**, 67, 30+ year Mental Health Department employee who was district chief for mental health services in the Antelope Valley, after five-year battle with ovarian cancer. Former Superior Court Judge **Bruce Geernaert**, 92, who presided over high-profile cases involving Elizabeth Taylor, Rock Hudson, 60 Minutes, and Guns n’ Roses. **Barry H. Sterling**, 90, founding member of the Music Center and Museum of Art. **Bruce A. Hoffman**, County’s first alternate public defender, serving from 1993 until his 2002 retirement.

APPOINTMENTS

Max Huntsman appointed interim inspector general to oversee the County’s skilled nursing home facilities, a position created by the Board of Supervisors after it was learned more than half of the County’s deaths from COVID-19 were at the facilities. Huntsman, a 29-year County employee, is also inspector general overseeing the Sheriff and District Attorney’s Office. RELAC member **Carol Meyer**, who was chief of operations of the Department of Health Services when she retired in 2010, named to the Emergency Medical Services Commission as appointee of Supervisor Janice Hahn. **Selwyn Hollins**, who has served as chief deputy and administrative deputy before named acting director of the Internal Services Department in January, named to the permanent spot, at \$299,958 salary. **Norma Garcia**, formerly chief deputy, deputy director and acting director since March, selected as director of parks and recreation at \$271,221 salary, becoming the first woman and person of color to head the department. **Pilar Tompkins Rivas**, once the coordinator of curatorial initiatives at the County Museum of Art, named chief curator of Lucas Museum of Narrative Art, which is now under construction in L.A.’s Exposition Park.

RETIREMENT:

William J. Martin, who served as a sheriff’s deputy more than 41 years.

COURTS:

The District Attorney’s Office has refiled corruption charges against former Assessor **John Noguez** and assistant **Mark McNeil** following the dismissal in May of the case by an appellate court, which found the D.A. had not filed the original charges within the required 15 days of the preliminary hearing in 2018. Sheriff’s custody assistant **Roy’ce Bass**, 29, charged with having sex with two female inmates at the Century Regional Detention Facility in 2017 and 2018, with arraignment set for Nov. 13. Superior Court dismissed the case against four social workers who had been accused of child abuse and falsifying public records in the death of an 8-year-old boy. The Second District Court of Appeal returned the case in January, saying the trial judge should have granted a defense motion to dismiss the complaint against the four: **Stefanie Rodriguez**, **Patricia Clement**, **Kevin Bom** and **Gregory Merritt**. Former L.A. County Sheriff’s Deputy **Sean Bett**, who was actor Johnny Depp’s security chief for a decade, testified in Depp’s libel suit against a British tabloid that labeled him a wife beater, saying that it was Depp’s ex-wife that was the abusive one. The Board of Supervisors approved \$5.5 million to settle a lawsuit filed by a teenage girl who was sexually abused in 2017 by former Sheriff’s Detective **Neil David Kimball**, who is now in prison for the crime.

HONORS:

Deputy Probation Officer II **Martha Corbett** awarded the department’s Medal of Valor for helping to rescue a despondent 11-year-old boy who was standing on railroad tracks as a train rapidly approached last October.

ELECTIONS:

Rep. **Adam Schiff** and Assemblywoman **Laura Friedman** withdrew their re-election endorsements of District Attorney **Jackie Lacey** amid the calls for criminal justice reform following the death of George Floyd.



Gallagher



Pye Jr.



Sterling



Meyer



Gill



Brown



Geernaert



Perkins



Corbett



Huntsman



Garcia



Rivas



Bett



Hollins



Inside LA County

by Judy Hammond
Newsletter Editor

Chief Executive Officer Sachi Hamai said if the County doesn't get federal funding to cover some of its losses from the coronavirus-19 pandemic, it will begin laying off more than 650 employees beginning Oct. 1 -- this on top of the more than 3,000 positions (mostly vacant) that were eliminated July 1. The pandemic cost the County \$1.2 billion the first half of

this calendar year and is expected to take another \$1 billion toll through next July. Sheriff Alex Villanueva, whose department took a \$162.1 million hit, accused the Board of Supervisors of being swept up in nationwide calls to slash law enforcement funding. But, supervisors said the cuts were necessary because his department is primarily funded with sales tax and local revenues that have been severely reduced by the pandemic.

However, even more cuts are looming for the Sheriff's Department if a charter amendment on the November ballot is approved. The Board of Supervisors on a 4-1 vote (with Chair Kathryn Barger opposed) approved asking voters to mandate that a minimum 10 percent of the County's general fund revenue (currently about \$400 million) be set aside annually for social programs as part of an effort to "re-imagine" Los Angeles County's justice system. Villanueva said it would further defund his department and result in more crime. "They're talking about unicorns and rainbows. I'm looking at hard stats." Chief Executive Officer Sachi Hamai, during the Board discussion, cautioned that the amendment could result in deep curtailments and layoffs. But, Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, author of the charter amendment, said the Board has for years talked about creating alternatives to incarceration under its "care first, jails last" approach, but could only do so much without additional funding. "The supervisors have said we want to move people from custody to care, and our constituents are pleading with us to expand housing and treatment options and stop relying on punitive, outdated law enforcement tactics," said Kuehl. "The Board is prepared to make a long-term commitment to this effort, so we're asking voters, as required for a charter amendment, 'Are you with us?'" Supervisor Hilda Solis said the amendment would "continue on our path to dismantle structural racism and long-standing inequities within our systems that have harmed communities for far too long." The amendment would prohibit any of the 10 percent of the County's locally generated revenue to go to the Sheriff, District Attorney, or Probation departments or Superior Court. Villanueva and County unions say they do whatever they can to defeat the measure.

Supervisors also cited their desire to prioritize "care first, jail last" when voting to close Men's Central Jail. The vote, said Supervisor Hilda Solis, was in recognition of the changing nature of the County's jail population and community demands to defund jail systems to invest in community-based mental health treatment and services. "No one heals locked up alone in a cell. Closing Men's Central Jail will restore dignity in our residents' healing process and will advance calls for needed reforms."

The 2020 County Homeless Count showed a 12.7% increase since last year, causing some supervisors to say the current strategies need to be re-examined.

Los Angeles Times reporter Molly Fiske-Hennessy, who once covered the County government beat, was shot with rubber bullets, tear-gassed, and pursued by Minnesota State Police during protests there. L.A. County supervisors cited Fiske-Hennessy's experience when adopting a resolution opposing targeting, harassment, use of excessive force, and arrest of the media by L.A. County law enforcement agencies.

Oops, she did it again. Despite including a photo of a park sign with the correct spelling, Supervisor Janice Hahn's blog for the second time referenced the approval of a dog park at "Schbaurum Park" in Rowland Heights. The park is named after former Supervisor Pete Schabarum.

Supervisors approved a \$1,350,000 settlement to dismiss a civil case filed by the Howard Jarvis Association and two administrative actions by the state Fair Political Practices Commission in relation to two ballot measures to increase taxes to pay for homelessness programs and stormwater reclamation. The County was accused of illegally using public funds for TV, radio and social media ads to advocate for the measures. County Counsel recommended the settlement, saying the County continues to deny that it did anything wrong because its efforts were "educational," but there were risks and uncertainties of litigation.

The state Attorney General's Office filed three misdemeanor charges against District Attorney Jackie Lacey's husband, David, for waving a gun at three Black Lives Matter protesters who knocked on the front door during a noisy early morning protest outside the couple's home. Lacey said her husband reacted in fear as she had received death threats. The first black to be district attorney, Lacey has been criticized for not prosecuting police officers involved in fatal shootings. David Lacey is a former investigative auditor in the D.A.'s office.

Four men pled guilty to providing money and cigarettes to homeless people on Skid Row in exchange for false and forged signatures on ballot petitions and voter registration forms.

The Los Angeles Philharmonic is projecting a \$90 million loss of revenue due to the pandemic-caused cancellation of the Hollywood Bowl summer session and the spring and fall seasons in Disney Hall.

Department heads signed a declaration against racism, pledging to use their offices to advance racial and social equity, diversity and fairness. They said that many of the equities that their departments address are the result of systematic racism and discrimination.

Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer – like many public health officials in the nation – has received death threats from individuals unhappy with restrictions imposed to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

Officials revealed that the long delays in voting in the March election were due primarily to network and capacity issues with the new electronic poll books used to register voters.

Miguel Santana announced he will not extend his contract in January after four years as president and CEO of the Fairplex, saying he has no job lined up but wants to work on issues of equity in L.A. County. Santana, former chief deputy to then-Supervisor Gloria Molina and a deputy chief executive officer under then-CEO Bill Fujioka, has been mentioned as a possible successor to CEO Sachi Hamai.

Some staffers of Supervisors Kathryn Barger and Hilda Solis circulated an anonymous letter complaining that the two supervisors put them at risk because they would not let them work from home. The other three supervisors allow their staff to work remotely. In response, Barger began letting staff telework on staggered days and Solis allowed teleworking but said she would be evaluating on a weekly basis.

Sheriff Villaneuva's chief of staff Capt. John Burcher was reassigned to the East Patrol Division after being criticized for a Facebook post in which he said an 18-year-old fatally shot in the back by a deputy "chose his fate." In another post he called someone a racist: "Sorry, your life does not matter more than mine, you racist (expletive)."

LAC+USC Medical Center Chief Medical Officer Dr. Brad Spellberg said the pandemic had pushed the hospital to the verge of capacity, with the medical teams stressed and weary.

A lawsuit alleges that a 16-year-old boy at Eastlake Juvenile Hall in 2019 developed large breasts after he was prescribed estrogen to treat a behavioral problem.

The 2020 assessment roll grew by almost 6 percent, hitting \$1.7 trillion and \$17 billion in property taxes.

Brad Pye, Jr., Known Best for Pioneering Work in Black Sports Community, Dies

Brad Pye Jr., who worked for the County for 24 years, including as assistant chief deputy to two supervisors and as a manager in the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), died July 5 at age 89. He had been in poor health for some time and died in his sleep.

Pye was hired by Supervisor Kenneth Hahn in 1987 as a deputy and was promoted to assistant chief deputy within three months. He worked briefly for Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke when she replaced Hahn and gained her support in creating the Aquatics Foundation, a free program that helps youth pursue their passion for swimming. In 1993 he transferred to DCFS as a division chief, where he served as the Americans with Disabilities Act coordinator, managed the Disaster Services Section and directed the exams/recruitment section. He retired in 2011.

It was his pioneering work in the black sports community, however, for which Pye will be long remembered. He was the first recognized black sportscaster in Los Angeles. He served as sports director for four major African-American radio stations -- KGFJ, KACE, KDAY, and KJLH -- and was the sports editor for the Los Angeles Sentinel for nearly 30 years.

The Los Angeles Angels hired him in the public relations department in 1961, making him the first black to hold that role in Major League Baseball. He later became the first black administrator in the American Football League under then-AFL commissioner and eventual Oakland Raiders owner Al Davis. He worked to establish racial equality not just for journalists but also for athletes, officials, and other professionals in the field of sports.

He was the first black president of the L.A. Department of Recreation and Parks Board of Commissioner and in 2015 the city named the gymnasium at Saint Andrews Recreation Center the Brad Pye, Jr. Athletic Center in his honor.

"Brad Pye is maybe one of 10 guys throughout the country who are the pillars of the black press," said Danny Bakewell Sr., publisher of the Sentinel. "In Los Angeles, I don't think he had an equal. I'm proud to have known him as a friend and proud to have had him associated with the paper. He made us better."

Pye used his connections and status to recruit black athletes onto college and professional teams in the state. Bakewell, who knew Pye for 50 years, said Pye had strong working relationships with sports icons such as Muhammad Ali, Jackie Robinson and Jesse Owens. "Nobody wanted Brad Pye's pen to be on the other side of them," Bakewell said. "His pen was lethal, and people knew his pen was just and right."

Pye Encouraged Young Black Journalists, Including Me

by Victoria Pipkin-Lane
RELAC Newsletter Committee

I worked with Brad Pye, Jr when we both served as deputies to the late Supervisor Kenneth Hahn. I first met Brad in about 1975 while still a student at Pepperdine University. He was the renowned sports editor for the Los Angeles Sentinel newspaper and I was an editor for the student newspaper, both of which were printed by the same company. I'm really dating myself. LOL! His column used "switch reels" as the transition phrase from subject to subject.

I knew Brad and had a lot of respect for him. He was a man of integrity, with solid ethics, a family man and civil rights champion. Brad was an early adviser to the late Al Davis of Raiders fame. He wrote about nearly every black athlete, high school, college and pro. It was amazing how he knew young black athletes across this nation and promoted them in the LA Sentinel.

Brad was close to Muhammad Ali and Ali's official photographer, Howard Bingham, who lived in Los Angeles' African-American community. Brad's radio show on KGFJ-AM was very popular in the late '60s, '70s and '80s.



He also encouraged young black journalists, including yours truly. I always treasured his encouragement during those Thursdays at the print shop.

Anna Elena or Anna Laura: Will the Real Anna Cervantes Please Stand Up

by Elena Cervantes, RELAC Member

Being identical twins, we have always dealt with people confusing us throughout our lives. It became more so when my sister and I started working together in the Chief Administrative Office. All the old Department of Personnel and Department of Health Services folks out there will remember me as Anna. Chief Administrative Officer Richard Dixon was the one who told me I had to go by "Elena" or "#2" since he knew my sister Anna Laura first. I guess it was a no brainer at that point! Actually, a German nurse from Texas who attended my mom during our birth recommended it as a solution to my mother's dilemma. My mother wanted her first born daughter to be named Anna, but did not expect twin girls. So the nurse suggested my mother do what she had seen done in Texas, which is something akin to Mary Sue, Mary Jo, Mary Ellen, in other words give us the same first name with a different middle name. God bless Mom's soul, but our lives have been hell ever since!!

Supervisor Kathryn Barger with Anna and Elena



To this day no one has agreed to who is who in this photo.

Zimmerman continued from p.10

I make dinner and we watch Jeopardy and whatever else we're currently into on TV. Probably my greatest passion since the pandemic has been cooking, which I never did before. I'm truly enjoying it and gradually becoming less recipe-driven. I even had a vegetable garden planted recently by a high school student looking for summer work, to supplement my culinary adventures. We did finally do one weekend getaway recently to visit the wine country in Temecula, and had an incredible time wine tasting under canopies outdoors, distanced, and overlooking the vineyards. I've had to suspend onsite volunteering for the youth homeless center, but they are trying to develop more virtual volunteer opportunities in the near future. Until then, I am looking into doing virtual volunteering to assist the Census Bureau with following up on non-respondents. We've also been gradually having one or two folks over for dinner and cocktails, outside and socially distanced. which has truly been a tonic. There's no telling how long the current restrictions will last or how they may evolve. I try not to focus on that, but rather how to enjoy the life that I can lead now and make the most of it, whatever the limitations.

IN MEMORIAM

This list includes retired employees, both RELAC members and non-members.

Agricultural Comm./Wts. & Meas. - Steve L. Rawald, Norman J. Willis
Alternate Public Defender - Bruce A. Hoffman
Ambulatory Care Network - Maria Teresa Banson, Cesar Bueno, Cherri M. Jenkins-Newman
Assessor - Lynn H. Collins
Auditor-Controller - Mary L. Emer, Narvella Wright
Board of Supervisors - Arturo S. Almanza, Lawrence R. Aubry
California Children's Services - Vivian Allsup
Chief Executive Office - Lee D. Cady, Jr.
Child Support Services - Adame R. Cartoneros, Frances H. Louie, Dorothy L. Mc Bride, William A. Mc Cann, Lloyd Nelson, Rene M. Perez, Joann P. Porter, Alana Tillmon
Children & Family Services - Connie Amstone, Evelyn Baker, Sharon Bell-Peer, Louis C. Bethley, John R. Bingham, Hermes Cruz, Juanita Dunlap, Doris M. Escujuri, Frances L. Evans, Barbara Fields, Marjorie Glass, Wanda J. Glass, Anna M. Glenn, Kathleen Kay, Floyd M. Mc Connell, Brad Pye, Jr., Janice L. Sheldon, Myrna A. Speirs, Mary B. Steen, James W. Taylor Sr., Amy Whitis, Cheryl Williams
Correctional Health - Eric Louis Shepherd
County Counsel - Sharon M. Gallagher, Delfina Rosas
District Attorney - Mary M. Belna, Iluminada C. Diaz, Nota Flewellen, James I. Knapp, Robert M. McCune, Evelyn P. Tapia, Joyce M. Vereen
Engineer Facilities - James Padick, Raymond Rodriguez
Fire - Brian K. Ballentine, Eric L. Buege, Curtiss W. Davis, Charles A. Gamble, Stephanie Ige, Reid A. Kirk, John P. Laughlin, Gary T. Maccleverty, Frank J. Marasa, Anthony P. Moore, Leslie K. Norried, Richard Rebol, Michael Scruggs, Donald L. Struve, Robert C. Tomlinson, Erlinda Valencia
Flood Control District - Ralph Haros, Donald Ragsdale, David Tom
Harbor/UCLA Medical Center - Debbie Allen, Lemmarie Allen, Conswelo Alsup, Joy A. Aubery, Janice A. Christensen, Doris Edmonds-Harris, Brenda C. Jackson, Georgia M. Jones, Rosemarie Paz, Georgette Maureen Petrone, Barbara Jewel Prothro, Ronnie Ramirez, Grace S. Sanwo, Gesner Thamas, Christine P. Tiu, Karlman Wasserman
Health Services Administration - Nashaat Faheym Dawood, John Fuschetti, Inez D. Henry, Olga B. Juarez, Bernadeane Norman, Bertha Ortega, Alfredo Ovalle, Anil Raikhy, Maria Carmen Venzor, Elaine T. Webb
Internal Services - Michael Avooske, Mittie K. Bryant, Vicenta Caldera, Jose A. Cambron, Peter H. Conrad, Armando E. Gonzales, William H. Hiraga, Jorge R. Paoli, Herbert Prioleau, Barbara L. Rathbun, Charles R. Smith, Donna Tillotson, Gregory D. Warren, Boyd L. Wheeler, Chester B. Wong
Juvenile Court Health Services - Dorris M. Mills Norris
King-Drew Medical Center - Juan Jose Arce, Ethel M. Bailey Mitch, Michael M. Fraga, Rena Roxanna Graves, Marilyn H. Haywood, Lisa Tong Kim, Johnnye W. Milligan, Gloviestyne B. Parker, Manuel B. Sinon, Eva Volair
LAC+USC Medical Center - Ephraim Akalon, Rosemary Allen, Al M. Anacleto, Ralph M. Beal, Laura E. Chavez, James B. Cooke, David Diaz, Thelma Farrior, James R. Fleming, Adele Green, Luz Hernandez, Jean L. Hopkins, Elizabeth J. Hornback, James C. Jackson, Roger W. Jelliffe, Lelia E. Jones, Antonio Linares, Lucyann R. Martin, Alexander Martinez, Yvonne Mc Daniels, Joseph Melgard, Ira M. Napoleon, Aurora A. Nava, Collins Nnaemeka Ojimba, Arturo Puertos, Carlos Rodriguez, James E. Scott, Lorraine Murphy Smith, Esther A. Strand, Charles E. Thompson, Odilia A. Titzck, Lucy B. Uruena, Jewel D. Young, Jenny E. Zeigler
LACERA - Mary K. Rodriguez
Malibu Municipal Court - Angela B. Ellis
Mental Health - Elizabeth M. Briscoe, Gloria D. Fisher, Steven M. Lowenstein, Raquel Maya, Leroy E. Moore, Joellen Perkins, Carolyn Sumner, Anne Tobey, Joan D. Vitale
Museum of Art - Ulysses Smith

Museum of Natural History - Jorge R. De la Torre
Office of Public Safety - Samuel L. Adams, Bobby Blakely, Willie B. Brooks, Thomas M. Bryant, John Christou, Pamela S. Dixon, Donald E. Hein, Aureliano Morales, Philip H. Starks, Manuel I. Valle, Emanuel Washington, Taylor Wilson, Etsel K. Yamasaki
Olive View/UCLA Medical Center - Rafael V. Beltran Jr., Carrie A. Fox, Donald E. Spiller, Ved P. Talwar
Probation - Margaret G. Aungst, Raymond W. Baker Jr., Paul Lawrence Dorsett Jr., Mark H. Forte, Earlene M. Gayles, Gwendolyn I. Hyatt, Charles W. Jones, Robert M. Konoske Jr., Thomas C. Lister, Herman A. Meschwitz, Anthony T. Miller, John E. Montez, Amalio B. Munoz, Charles L. Pierson, Richard E. Reese, Carol J. Stephens, Janice E. Taylor
Public Defender - Joseph C. Fontaine
Public Health Program - Epifanio Braganza, Inga E. Hoffman, Williezell K. McCarty, Eugenia Orellana, Lisa M. Romero, Emanuel Schweid, Robert Snow, Dolores J. Stewart, Mary Urbien, Adia Varn
Public Library - Mary J. Noonan
Public Social Services - Lydia T. Aguinaldo, Donald E. Brown, Leland Brown, Josephine Ceglia, Nancy Chan, Rodolfo Cruzada, Bernice M. Delaney, Vinh V. Dinh, Naomia M. Downs, Lavonne Fahie, Natalia Fierro, Jerelene Fonteno, Edward Garabedian, Manuel Garcia, Tagouhi Gozalian, Barbara A. Hargress, Belline F. Heinly, Chester A. Holliday, Shirley J. Hunter, Irene Hutson, Denise Marie Jacobo, Rudolph Johnson Jr., Anita Jones, Marsha Karp, Marie Lapolla, Felicitas Bonifacia Lara, Hsueh C. Liao, Mary H. Lopez, Blanca Lukasiewicz, James M. Mc Carthy, Leslie M. Munoz, Jesse C. Oropeza, Abi Oshun, Nardito D. Pascual, Andrew Payton, Esmeralda P. Ramirez, Alda G. Ratkovic, Johnnie Mae Robinson, Ruth A. Rushing, Frances E. Sims, Salathia E. Smith, Kathleen Stanton, Joyce I. Streit, Aiko Takeshita, Betty J. Webb, Charles M. Wiley, Bobbie J. Williams
Public Works - Howard E. Bridges, Robert C. Cathey, Terrence Brotherton Deems, Santiago V. Dy, William R. Jordan, Jerry A. Kwan, Henry M. Lee, Edward V. Paparteys, Alfredo Vallejos, Calvin Wesley
Rancho Los Amigos Hospital - Virginia A. Aguilar, Angelina Ayala, Doris Johnson, Harvey D. La Tourette, Brian Art D. Lacson, Betty L. Love, Pedro D. Moret, Gilda M. Owens, Rosie M. Tanner, Betty E. Towns, Joseph Yi
Sheriff - Gwendolyn M. Addison, Conrad Alvarez, Roger A. Ballard, Robert G. Bolton, Maurice Bowman, Randall C. Bynum, Dennis E. Carroll, Carolyn A. Celestine, Robert S. Cotton, Dennis J. Curran, Philip E. Davis, Richard Denham, Willie Dixon, Jack Duran, R.M. Dusenberry, Lino R. Flores, Edward J. Galanski, Christina G. Garza, Dennis P. Gill, Nettie R. Goodner, Betty R. Greenleaf, Anna M. Herrera, Joe O. Herrera, Edward J. Hunt, Doris C. Johnson, Everitt A. Johnson, Richard S. Kennedy, Eugenia Lopez, Antonio D. Mallare Jr., Jackie Dean Neihouse, Dennis L. O'Neil, Norville G. Paschal, Barry F. Perrou, Lenora J. Raia, William F. Reed, Don D. Roberts, Sherry A. Roberts, Jane Y. Sawai, Maxine W. Schulhof, Waymon L. Scroggins, James M. Sears, Esther A. Spencer, Richard S. Steinhurst, Robert G. Stevens, Guadalupe G. Tirado, Dale S. Underwood, Josephine Uttke, Rudolph Valdez, James Williams, Dennis D. Wilson, Raymond Yliz, Frank Yturalde
So. Cal. Air Pollution Control - Oakereader J. Appleton
South Gate Municipal Court - J.J. Ferr
Superior Court/County Clerk - Amanda Caballero, Michael Dane Cavnar, Bienvenido Col Long, Evelyn Couzen, Carmella A. Crane, Dianna K. Crittenden, Bruce R. Geernaert, Dean C. Jenkins, Alta M. Mahaffey, Rosemary Padilla, Phyllis R. Pfau, Cheryl A. Pyles, Barbara A. Smith, Paul K. Son, Samuel Vasquez, Muriel Jo White
Workforce Dev., Aging & Comm. Svc. - Veronica Morley, Donna R. Patterson, Ralph Polak, Robert A. Singer, Vincent Terry
Unidentified County Agency - Adele W. White



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EVENTS CANCELED

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the RELAC Board of Directors has canceled all special events and membership meetings the remainder of the year, as well as the Annual Recognition Luncheon scheduled in early 2021.



Time is Running Out



Aug. 31 is the final day to vote in the elections for retiree representatives on the LACERA Board of Retirement and Board of Investments. If you have not voted, please do so today and vote for RELAC Directors Les Robbins and Joseph Kelly.

We want to thank the Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers Association for endorsing both candidates.

The Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors is conducting this election, so call (213) 974-1093 with procedural questions.

Protect your pensions and health care benefits – Vote Robbins and Kelly.



IMPORTANT!
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