



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

# RELAC newsletter

Your Pension and Health Care Watchdog

May/June 2019 Vol 54-3

## President's Message

by Dave Muir

### RELAC's Scholarship Program

RELAC implemented a scholarship program this year on a pilot program basis. If successful, we will consider making the program permanent. The program is designed for members interested in exploring their continued education goals, their enhanced personal development and/or the educational goals of their families.



We have reserved \$5,000 to fund five \$1,000 scholarships in 2019. Two are designated for members and three are designated for immediate family members.

We hope our members will take advantage of this new program. With only 18,000 members, I suspect the odds of being awarded a scholarship may be pretty good.

Many of us are aware of the staggering cost of a college education. According to a February 2018 report on the "CNBC make it" website, student loan borrowers graduate with an average of \$37,172 in student loan debt. "That's about the same as ... a 10% down payment on a \$370,000 home, a brand-new Audi 4, a Ford F-204 pickup, a swimming pool, or the start-up costs for a business."

### LACERA's Securities Litigation Program

I doubt many of you are aware of LACERA's securities class action litigation program. The program was implemented by me in 2001 while I was serving as LACERA's chief counsel. It was in response to a multitude of corporate financial fraud scandals. Many of you may remember the Enron and WorldCom cases involving accounting fraud that resulted in huge losses for shareholders.

Federal litigation procedures allow shareholders with the largest losses (usually institutional investors like LACERA) to apply to the court for "lead plaintiff" status with the right to control the litigation. LACERA has been appointed lead plaintiff in numerous cases. As of the end of 2018 (the most recent period for which data is available), LACERA has recovered more than \$71 million under the program. In some cases, LACERA was also able to recover the costs of the LACERA attorney and other LACERA staff that worked on the case. LACERA is widely viewed as a leader in security litigation pursued by institutional investors as a result of this very successful program.

Thanks to all our readers for your membership and support of RELAC.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Santa Anita Golf Tournament,**

June 3. (Page 7)

**Whittier General Membership Meeting,**

June 19. (Page 16)

**Anaheim Regional Meeting,**

July 18. (Page 5)



## "Every Step Counts"

### RELAC Walks for Medical Research

RELAC members are encouraged to continue making donations through June 28 to RELAC's fund-raising effort on behalf of the March of Dimes.

RELAC's March for Babies Team 2019 was scheduled to join County employees on Saturday, April 27 to help raise funds for medical research and support families in need. This year's motto, "Every Step Counts," promotes awareness of the County's partnership with the March of Dimes, one of the County's most important advocates for mothers and children.

The March of Dimes mission is to promote maternal health, prevent birth defects and reduce infant mortality by providing the research, advocacy and supportive services for families in need.

Donations made through June 28 will be included in the RELAC Team fund-raising total. Please send your check made payable to MOD, noting "RELAC Team" in the lower left hand. Mail your check to: RELAC, Attention Linda Hopkins, MOD Team Chair, 1000 S. Fremont Ave., Unit 15, Alhambra, CA 91803.



# Retirement Board

by Les Robbins, Member  
RELAC Board and  
LACERA Board of Retirement



Things at LACERA are winding down since the March Madness period (our period of the highest retirements of the year) is over. This was a particularly busy one for at least one department, the Sheriff's Department, due to the high volume of retirements from upper management people as a result of the election of a new sheriff.

There is good news for everyone retired as the COLA for our retirees will be felt on the end of April paychecks and everyone will get the statutory maximums (2% or 3%) depending upon which retirement plan that they are in. In order to get this raise, all you had to do was be retired before April 1 and the raise will show up in your April checks.

There is some good news on the political front in that the first of three court cases making their way to the California Supreme Court was decided in March. This was the Cal Fire case that dealt with the purchase of service credit, or what has been affectionately referred to as "air time." The change in the law several years ago made air time illegal and the state firefighters were challenging that law. The court ruled that the law (PEPRA) that stopped air time was legal. The good news in this decision is that the court kept its decision very narrow and did not impact any changes in the "California Rule." The California Rule is the law in California that states that whatever pension benefits you have when you are hired will remain until you retire. The big fear in this ruling is that it would invalidate the California Rule and that could have some far-reaching impacts on all public employees in California.

Lastly this month, the total fund returns for LACERA have been meager so far this fiscal year. As many of you know, the stock market had a tough time in the fourth quarter of last year and while it has rebounded nicely so far this year, the fourth quarter 2018 losses were significant. As of the end of February, with four months left in our fiscal year, the overall fund return is a positive 2.3%, net of fees. It is highly unlikely that we will see enough of rebound for us to reach our assumed rate of return of 7.25% by the end of the fiscal year. If this happens all it really does is fuel the fire of the anti-public pension community out there, which is still very much alive!

Until next issue, enjoy your retirement because you earned it!

# News from LACERA

by JJ Popowich  
Assistant Executive Officer



I hope this edition of the newsletter finds you happy and healthy and enjoying your retirement. I also hope you have all been able to stay dry given all the rain we've had in the last few months. While it seemed to rain forever, I found it refreshing and it reminded me of how Southern California used to be when I was growing up.

It's been a busy "March Madness" season for LACERA this year. "March Madness" is our nickname for the period between December and March when we see the most members retire each year. This is the most popular time as members want to retire in time to be eligible for any April 1 cost of living adjustment (COLA). This year we processed 1,758 retirements between December and March. That is up slightly from last year's total of 1,685 and still higher than our five-year average of 1,466. That's a lot of new retirees.

The LACERA family is a group of hardworking people who truly care about all of you and work very hard to ensure that you receive your promised benefit on time each month and to take care of your concerns whenever you reach out to us. We recently had a new family member join our team – LACERA's new CEO Lou Lazatin.

Ms. Lazatin has been with us for just a few months, but she fits right in. She has worked hard to re-energize staff and is actively looking for opportunities to improve the level of service. One of the things we have been focusing on lately is our strategic plan. LACERA's three-year strategic plan is filled with goals that are designed to continually improve LACERA through improved governance, funding sustainability, reducing complexity of our operations, transforming health care to help keep it affordable for everyone, cultivating a risk intelligent organization, and to create a high performance and diversified team. The last few months we have been discussing the current goals and looking for opportunities to complete as many goals as possible.

One of the goals we are focusing on is the redesign of LACERA.com. A cross-divisional workgroup consisting of members from Communications, Benefits, Disability Retirement Services, the Executive Office, Financial Accounting Services, Internal Audit, Investments, the Legal Office, Member Services, Retiree Healthcare, and Systems have developed a plan to completely redesign the website. This goal has been in the works for a few years and started with a lot of hard work by our Systems Division as it created a site architecture that is modern and flexible. The site has a responsive design that adjusts to whatever size screen the user viewing the website is using. This allows the full functionality of the website to be available to users regardless of whether they are on a desktop or a smartphone.

The workgroup has reviewed a dozen or so pension and financial websites to identify best practices and ideas to be used as we develop our new website. The workgroup most recently settled on the "categorization" of data on the website and how it will be organized. The next phase is the content review phase, as we go through the website to refresh all the content and images. We have months of work ahead of us, but it will be worth it when we launch a sleeker, more functional, and easier to use website. I'll keep you all up-to-date on how it's going.

That's just one of the many projects we are working on. Other projects include a redesigned annual benefit statement, a redesigned retirement benefit estimate and election form, as well as a number of internal process and software improvements that will allow us to provide better service. I am excited for the future of LACERA and so happy that I get to be a part of this family as we continue to focus all of our efforts on making sure you continue to enjoy your retirement.

Well, that's it for this month's edition. As always, I hope everyone is enjoying retirement (you should – you've earned it!!) and I'll see you in the next edition of the newsletter.



## Ida Leon Ramos Named Interim Office Manager



Ida Leon Ramos is serving as interim RELAC office manager while the Board of Directors searches for a permanent replacement for Pat Koulos, who resigned Feb. 28 due to health reasons.

Ramos, who has worked part time for various County departments since she retired in 2004 as chief of personnel and public affairs of the Department of Public Works, began her new RELAC responsibilities on March 11 and has agreed to serve for up to one year.

A member of the RELAC Board of Directors from 2006 to 2011, Ramos said she recognized the major void caused by Koulos' departure so agreed to help on an interim basis. "The mission and objectives of RELAC are critical to current and future LACERA recipients. This is one way of giving back," she said.

Ramos and her husband, Jim, split their time between their Alhambra and Palm Desert homes.

## RELAC Website is Packed with Information for Retirees

If you don't want to wait for the newsletter to view the latest list of retirees who have died, go to RELAC's website at [www.relac.org](http://www.relac.org) and click "In Memoriam." We update the list monthly. We also publish a monthly list of new retirees.

Other items you will find on the website are:

- Calendar of events.
- Announcements of general interest.
- Supplementary benefits information.
- Discounts available to RELAC members.
- Past newsletters, beginning in 2011.
- Membership applications and information.
- Links to websites of interest to retirees.

Check out the website and let us know if you have any ideas for improvement. Send comments to [admin@relac.org](mailto:admin@relac.org). We welcome your suggestions.



## RELAC ANNUAL REPORT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES, REVENUE EXPENSE

### I. Changes in Assets & Liabilities 2018 vs 2017

ASSETS	12/31/2018	12/31/2017
Checking Account	85,623.00	65,291.00
Money Market Account	143,663.00	130,942.00
Petty Cash	200.00	200.00
Other Assets	9,050.00	8,945.00
Security Deposit	2,591.00	2,591.00
Office Equipment-Less Depreciation	3,073.00	5,956.00
Litigation Reserve	1,172,127.00	1,216,435.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,416,327.00</b>	<b>1,430,360.00</b>

### LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Current Liabilities	31,963.00	431.00
Retained Earnings	1,410,061.00	1,164,267.00
Less Net Income	(25,697.00)	265,662.00
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>1,416,327.00</b>	<b>1,430,360.00</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	<b>1,416,327.00</b>	<b>1,430,360.00</b>

### II. Operating Results 12/31/2018 12/31/2017

#### REVENUE

Member Dues	399,952.00	404,501.00
Investment Income	14,319.00 (1)	12,329.00 (1)
Miscellaneous Income	500.00	2,932.00
Member Events & Misc.	19,779.00	22,630.00
Interest	5,988.00	5,096.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>440,538.00</b>	<b>447,488.00</b>

#### EXPENSE

Office Expense	100,894.00 (2)	99,773.00 (2)
Personnel & Payroll	94,352.00 (3)	87,764.00 (3)
Board of Directors Meetings & Expenses	11,267.00	9,087.00
Committee Meetings & Expenses	4,947.00	7,328.00
Membership & Conferences	13,252.00	7,393.00
Insurance	4,949.00 (4)	2,969.00 (4)
Membership Meetings	23,521.00	8,097.00
Membership Benefits & Promotions	70,706.00	69,337.00
Elections	-	4,484.00
Newsletter	59,313.00	56,696.00
Website	900.00	2,159.00
Investment Expense	240.00	260.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>384,341.00</b>	<b>355,347.00</b>

## Keep Us Up-To-Date on Contact Information

**Are you moving? Did you change your name, address or e-mail address?**

Please notify RELAC **directly** to advise us of any changes. Call us at (800) 537-3522 or (626) 308-0532; e-mail us at [admin@relac.org](mailto:admin@relac.org) **OR** cut out the address portion of this newsletter, correct it, and mail it to us at RELAC, 1000 S. Fremont Ave., Unit 15, Alhambra, CA 91803-8802. Please keep in mind that notification to LACERA *will not* be sent to us. In order to avoid interruption of communications from RELAC, you must keep your contact information current with the RELAC office. And it would help if you would print when you make the updates by mail...we are having trouble reading some of your writing.

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

February 2019 – March 2019

- Agric. Commissioner/Weights & Measures** – Laurence Nolan
- Chief Executive Office** – Amelia Bennett
- Children & Family Services** – Barbara Butler
- Consumer & Business Affairs** – Armando Nogal
- County Counsel** – Patrick Wu
- District Attorney** – Michelle Wallace, Denise Ellis
- Health Services** – Sharon Graham, Mary Ann Berliner
- Internal Services** – Joseph Sandoval
- Olive View Medical Center** – Beatrice Ballard
- Probation** – Robert Jackson
- Public Social Services** – Stephanie Dillard, Rose Marie Nuno, Marsha Trotter
- Public Works** – Rani Iyer
- Regional Planning** – Carol Bright
- Sheriff** – Alicia Ault, Daniel Beringer, Michael Doucet, Carol Mahood, Joe Ochoa, Alejandro Ramirez, Shelly Reddix, Mai Tu, David Walters
- Superior Court** – Mary L. Martinez
- New Associate Members** – Eric Ault, Marianne Beringer, Elizabeth Doucet, Terence D. Howse, Vaidyanathan K Iyer, Mindy Jackson, Gregory Mahood, David Martinez, Jesus Nuno, Beatriz Ochoa, Alonzo Williams

## Thanks for New Member Referrals

We would like to thank the three members who recruited colleagues to join RELAC during February and March 2019. Due to our aging membership, we must be 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](mailto:admin@relac.org) or go online at [www.relac.org](http://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):

**Judy Hammond**, *Armando Nogal*, Consumer and Business Affairs

**Mary K. Rodriguez**, *Shelly Reddix*, Sheriff

**Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran**, *Rani Iyer*, Public Works

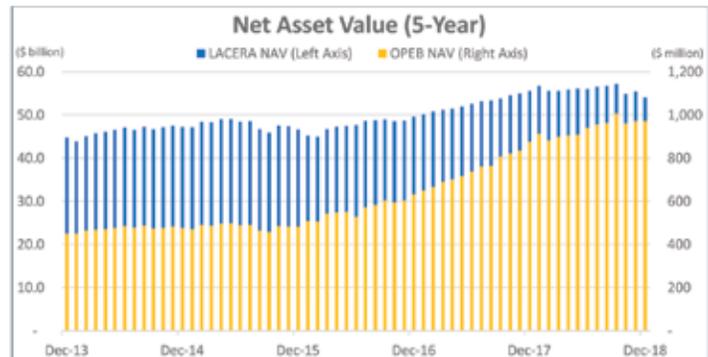
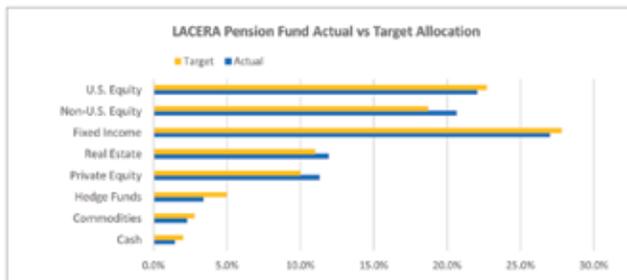


Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association

## Investment Dashboard

As of 12/31/2018

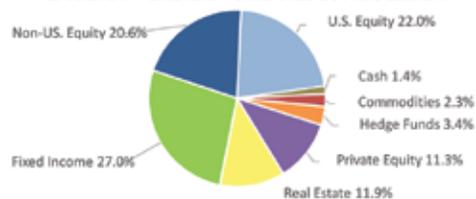
	Quarter End Balance
LACERA Pension Fund	\$54,028,425,418
OPEB Master Trust Fund	\$972,057,349



### FUND PERFORMANCE\*

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
<b>LACERA PENSION FUND</b>				
Policy Benchmark	-1.8	6.9	5.7	8.3
Outperformance / Underperformance	-1.3	6.6	5.7	8.2
	-0.5	0.3	0.1	0.1
<b>PERFORMANCE BY ASSET CLASS:</b>				
U.S. Equity	-6.8	8.2	7.4	12.9
Non-U.S. Equity	-12.6	5.4	2.9	8.1
Fixed Income	0.0	3.8	3.2	5.6
Real Estate	9.4	8.3	9.8	3.9
Private Equity	19.2	14.8	14.9	13.1
Hedge Funds	1.3	3.0	2.8	---
Commodities	-11.6	1.7	-7.9	-1.6
Cash	2.1	1.4	0.9	1.3

### LACERA Pension Fund Asset Allocation



### OPEB MASTER TRUST FUND:

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Los Angeles County	-5.1	6.9	5.0	---
LACERA	-5.2	7.0	5.0	---
Superior Court	-5.3	---	---	---

### OPEB Master Trust Asset Allocation



### PERFORMANCE BY ASSET CLASS:

Asset Class	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Growth	-9.8	---	---	---
Credit	---	---	---	---
Inflation Hedges	---	---	---	---
Risk Reduction & Mitigation	2.8	---	---	---

### NEWS / UPDATES

Open RFPs/RFI:  
Emerging Manager Fixed Income Core / Core Plus

\*Fund performance returns are net of investment fees. OPEB Master Trust Fund's new asset allocation was implemented in the 2nd quarter of 2018.

\*\*All financial data, returns, and net asset values are unaudited.

# Regional Activities

by Diane Sandoval, Chair, Regional Support Committee



To those of you who attended our regional meeting at the Elks Lodge in Lancaster – a big Thank You!

Our speaker, Elizabeth Ben-Ishai, who is with the Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office, spoke on how and what Los Angeles County is doing to help the homeless. In 2018 there were approximately 53,000 in Los Angeles County without a home, including 3,200 in the Antelope Valley. Approximately 14,000 vehicles are used as a substitute for homes.

Mental illness, substance abuse and economic factors, such as high rent and income not keeping up with daily living expenses, are a few reasons families and individuals are homeless. California has the highest poverty rate in the USA.

In order to help families and individuals move from homelessness to housing, in 2017 Los Angeles County introduced Measure H (added a quarter of 1% to the sales tax). Once approved by the voters, it provided the funding to implement the Homeless Initiative. L.A. County's goal is to help 45,000 families in five years. Additional information on the Homeless Initiative can be found on L.A. County's website.

**Moving on – A message to our members residing in Orange County. Our next meeting this year will be at the Anaheim Public Library, 500 W. Broadway, Anaheim on July 18.** Our speaker, Beth Yetzer, is a volunteer with the Speaker's Bureau Network, Orange County Office on Aging. Her presentation will be on "Practical Facts of Home Safety."

According to Ms Yetzer, the major causes of home accidents are falls, fires and medication errors. By taking us through a virtual tour of our homes, she will identify causes of accidents and discuss preventative measures. Ms. Yetzer utilizes over 30 years of experience as a nurse to offer health and safety education to the community.

RELAC's meeting in Anaheim will begin at 10:30 a.m. (Please note: the library doors do not open until 10 a.m.) A complimentary continental breakfast will be served prior to our meeting, which begins at 11 a.m. In order to ensure sufficient refreshments are available, please call our RELAC office at (626) 308-0532 or (800) 537-3522 no later than July 11 to let us know you are planning to attend. I look forward to seeing you at our meeting in Anaheim. Until then, thank you for your support and for attending our events. Enjoy your summer!

## Lancaster Attendees



Raymond H. Dortch, 92, who retired as director of the roadside tree division in the Parks and Recreation Department, was among retirees.



Steve Pettee of Pacific Group Agencies assists members enroll in supplemental insurance program offered by RELAC.



Jerrilyn Nicodemus, who attended the meeting with husband, Roger, won \$25 gift certificate in drawing.

Photos by Ida Leon Ramos

## What's Happening?

by Evelyn Gutierrez, Chair  
Special Events Committee



**Save the date for our Annual Picnic on Saturday, Sept. 28.** This "country-western" picnic will feature the Bobby Z Band playing line-dancing music, and free western bandanas. Country-western attire is optional. A special prize will be awarded to the person completing the country-western singer-song quiz!!

We want you to stay connected to our County family and have identified a number of special events which we hope you will enjoy in May and June:

Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. (April 17 to Sept. 11) -- The California Yacht Club puts on the Sunset Series **Sailing Regatta**. Best viewing spots are at Fisherman's Village and Burton Chace Park, 13650 Mindanao Way, Marina del Rey. (424) 526-7910.

May 18-19 – **ARTSEA** at the Marina "Mother's" Beach hosts outdoor art galleries, interactive art workshops, dance performances, all-day musical entertainment and food trucks.

May 23 – Sept. 26 -- **Beach Eats Food Trucks** will be located in the parking lot at Marina "Mother's" Beach on Thursdays from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Local bands will perform from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is FREE.

June 1 (Saturday) – **Kahanamoku Klassic**. The Southern California Outrigger Racing Association hosts a special canoe event. You can view the teams paddling the main channel en route to the ocean course from the Marina "Mother's" Beach area.

June 22-23 -- **Marina Fest**. A boat show with vendors, yacht and sailboat displays and kids activities (Sunday only) at Burton Chace Park.

**July 4 Fireworks!!!** -- Marina del Rey's waterfront fireworks can be viewed from Fisherman's Village and the Burton Chace Park. Admission FREE.

Event information provided by the County Department of Beaches and Harbors.

For additional information on other special events, visit our website at [www.relac.org](http://www.relac.org).

## Veterans Resource Centers Go Mobile

by Linda C. Hopkins, Chair, Community Support Committee

The LA County Library will start visiting sites throughout the County this month to launch a mobile Veterans Resource Center project. This mobile service will target community gatherings focused on veterans and will also visit various County library locations. Information to be provided will include veteran's benefits and a broad range of library services.

Four County libraries (Lancaster, La Puente, Norwalk and Lawndale) also host Veterans Resource Centers. Each center provides a one-stop shop to help veterans and their families find materials of interest and information about services and resources available.

For more information, visit [LACountyLibrary.org/veterans](http://LACountyLibrary.org/veterans).

# Bracelet Tracking System Implemented to Help Locate Individuals Who Wander

by Victoria Pipkin-Lane  
Member, Newsletter Committee

When Manhattan Beach resident Nancy Paulikas went missing during a family visit to LACMA in October 2016, widespread outreach by her family and news reports raised public awareness of a growing problem affecting numerous families – wandering by Individuals with cognitive impairments.

Wandering is a common problem associated with dementia, autism and Alzheimer's disease. Los Angeles County has more than 177,000 people who struggle with Alzheimer's. About 60 percent of those with dementia will wander at some point, according to the Alzheimer's Association, and a recent study by the Interactive Autism Network found that 49 percent of children with autism will engage in wandering behavior.



Project LifeSaver, a bracelet tracking system, was launched by L.A. Found in partnership with L.A. County last year to reunite such missing individuals with loved ones.

To qualify, caregivers must first schedule a telephone interview with either the Sheriff's Department or the County's Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services Department at [www.LAFound.com](http://www.LAFound.com).

After eligibility has been confirmed, caregivers may purchase a special bracelet for \$325, plus shipping and handling, and then register the safety device with the Sheriff's Department. Leasing opportunities also are offered.

Presently, a waiting list exists for those seeking a free bracelet. There are two options for those interested in being placed on the waiting list: Send an e-mail to [LAFound@WDACS.lacounty.gov](mailto:LAFound@WDACS.lacounty.gov) or call (833) 569-7651.

L.A. Found, in partnership with the County of Los Angeles, provides a uniform and coordinated response to missing persons with Alzheimer's, dementia, autism and other cognitive impairments.

The bracelets are not under constant monitoring. When a person wearing a bracelet goes missing, the caregiver should promptly call 9-1-1 to file a missing person's report and alert the operator about the individual's electronic bracelet. The operator will inform the local police agency or sheriff's station. The latter's Mental Evaluation Team will be advised, and trained staff will use radio frequency technology to send a signal to assist in locating the missing person.

"I have talked to the husbands, wives, parents and adult children of individuals with autism and dementia, who live in constant fear of what might happen if they turn their back for just one minute," said Supervisor Janice Hahn at the project's kickoff last year. "L.A. Found will not only save lives, it will provide peace of mind to caretakers countywide."

## County Officials Instrumental in Launching Project LifeSaver

The road to Project LifeSaver, the bracelet tracking system launched by L.A. Found last year to locate persons with cognitive impairments who have gone missing, was paved with compassion and collaboration.

The impetus was the disappearance in October 2016 of Nancy Paulikas, 55, who had early onset Alzheimer's disease and wandered away from her family during a visit to the County Art Museum.

"I am not sure exactly when in 2016 I heard that Nancy Paulikas was missing, but it was during a regular gathering of retired vice presidents from the aerospace industry," recalled Rod Gibson, a member of the County's Quality and Productivity Commission. "I worked under her dad, George, at the Aerospace Company."

To help locate Paulikas, the family created and distributed a flyer to private nursing facilities and other places. Gibson brought the flyer to the Quality and Productivity and Commission office, where another flyer was created and distributed to all County departments.

When Supervisor Janice Hahn joined the effort to find Paulikas, who lived in her district, the campaign to locate missing loved ones gained momentum.

Hahn was joined by Supervisor Kathryn Barger on a Board of Supervisors motion calling for a Bringing Our Loved Ones Home Task Force. The group met with community members and subject matter experts and, among other items, recommended the County pilot a program to provide trackable bracelets to County residents.

L.A. Found and Project LifeSaver was launched in September 2018, and provided a uniform and coordinated response to missing persons with Alzheimer's, dementia, autism and other cognitive impairments.

Paulikas' charred remains were found on a steep hillside above Sherman Oaks on Dec. 26, 2018, two years after her disappearance, although the coroner said she had died 21 months earlier, on March 11, 2017, when the hillside burned.

"The family never gave up, and took her photo to numerous assisted living places to see whether Nancy was there," Q&P Commissioner Gibson said. "The family did have closure when Nancy's remains were identified by the coroner."

"I am heartbroken," Supervisor Hahn said following the discovery of the body. "For two years we have kept hope alive that Nancy would be found safe and could be reunited with her family. I want to thank everyone who continued to search for Nancy. May she rest in peace."

--Victoria Pipkin-Lane

## RELAC NEWSLETTER

Vol 54 - May/June 2019  
Number 3

Retired Employees  
of Los Angeles County  
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Fax (626) 308-2901

E-mail: [admin@relac.org](mailto:admin@relac.org)  
website:  
[www.relac.org](http://www.relac.org)

### Board of Directors

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**Dave L. Muir**

Vice President

**Brian Berger**

Secretary

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Linda C. Hopkins  
Dyanne Nelson  
Alice Prouty  
Les Robbins  
Diane Sandoval

# Golf News

by *Gil Sandoval*  
RELAC Golf Director



## La Mirada Golf Tournament March 25

The Golf Gods smiled on us at La Mirada as our weather was perfect and the play reflected it. The scores were the best as a group that we have ever seen. The "A" flight players had their best day in some time as Michael Hernandez brought in a net 63 for the win. Following in second place at net 67 was Mike Barreras, who was unable to catch his playing partner. Benny Martinez, after coming back from a mild stroke, took third place with a net 69. Nice come back, Benny!

The "B" flight was an easy win for Ken Swan as his net 64 was the second lowest score of the day. Playing well was Pete Serrano as his 67 took second, and his playing partner, Luis Martinez, had a nice net 69 for third place.

The ladies flight was taken by Charlene DeBie, shooting a net 78. Molly Silva gave a valiant effort as she finished at net 81 for second place after having knee replacement surgery in November. Nice going, ladies, as we appreciate your participation. However, we need more ladies to join the festivities and increase our playing rolls.

Benny Martinez is much better and the wife of Rick Richter is much improved; we thank you for your prayers as they both suffered strokes. The membership rolls of RELAC are becoming smaller and if you can help RELAC recruit new members who are golfers, it would be more than great. So, please take this plea to heart and help us grow.

The next tournament is at the Santa Anita Golf Course on June 3. First tee at 8 a.m. The entry form can be found on the RELAC web page: [www.relac.org](http://www.relac.org), follow the link to activities (Golf). Note: Only ONE GUEST per member.

## La Mirada Results

### "A" Flight Winners (19 and under)

1<sup>st</sup> Michael Hernandez (63)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Mike Barreras (67)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Benny Martinez (69)

### "B" Flight (20 to 26 Handicaps)

1<sup>st</sup> Ken Swan (64)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Pete Serrano (67)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Luis Martinez (69)

### "C" Flight (27 and up Handicaps)

1<sup>st</sup> Miguel Ortiz-Marroquin (65)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Frank Martinez (66)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Arthur Stan Dass (67)

### Women's Flight

1<sup>st</sup> Chalene DeBie (78)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Molly Silva (81)

### Closest to the Pin on Par 3s

#### MEN

# 3 - Tony Asuncion  
# 5 - Frank Barajas  
# 9 - Miguel Ortiz-Marroquin  
#11 - Rex Loughran  
#13 - Mike Barreras  
#17 - Miguel Ortiz-Marroquin

#### WOMEN

# 9 - Chalene DeBie

### NEXT TOURNAMENT:

Santa Anita Golf Course  
June 3, 2019  
8 a.m. Start  
**Entry deadline: May 16.**



## Happy Birthday!

### RELAC Centenarians

Happy birthday to our members who will be 100 and older in May and June.

They are:

**Antonia O. Perez**, 101, May 10, 1918,  
LAC+USC Medical Center.

**Pearlie Scaever**, 101, June 5, 1918,  
Health Services.

**Rutilia Atanasoff**, 102, June 26, 1917,  
Public Social Services.

**Carnell Wallace**, 102, May 8, 1917, Probation.

**Charlotte F. Hammett**, 103, June 25 1916,  
LAC+USC Medical Center.

**Anderson Johnson**, 105, June 14, 1914, Sheriff.



## RELAC Member Harriet W. Canister Celebrates 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Our apologies to member Harriet W. Canister for omitting her from our RELAC centenarian birthday column in the last edition of the newsletter. Canister, who retired from the Department of Health Services in 1991, turned 100 on April 13. A happy belated birthday!

Editor: Judy Hammond  
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Office Hours  
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Monday - Thursday  
Closed Friday,  
Saturday, Sunday &  
Public Holidays



RELAC member Loretta Lopez, who retired from Regional Planning, with mother, Lupe, on Lupe's 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

## Happy Mother's Day

Mother's Day is a special celebration honoring motherhood, the mother of the family, extended family "moms" and the influence of mothers in society.

The first Mother's Day was proclaimed by President Woodrow Wilson on May 9, 1914.

President Wilson asked Americans to extend a public "Thank you" to their mothers and all mothers. Usually celebrated on the second Sunday in May, historians tell us that a prior celebration was established by Anna Jarvis on May 10, 1908. And that wearing a carnation on Mother's Day was a custom started by Anna in honor of her mother, whose favorite flower was a carnation.

In California we will celebrate Mother's Day on Sunday, May 12. A special "Happy Mother's Day" wish is extended by RELAC's Board of Directors.



RELAC Board member Dyanne Nelson, who retired from Auditor-Controller's Office, with mother, Marjorie. "Memories of my time with my mother make me smile."

## Sheriff Retirees Invited to 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion

All L.A. County Sheriff's Department retirees, including civilian, and traveling companions are invited to gather at the Inter-Mountain Fairgrounds in McArthur, California from June 16-21 for the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion.

The location is Highway 299, approximately 70 miles east of Redding. This beautiful place lies between the peaks of Mt. Lassen and Mt. Shasta. The registration fee is \$10 per person, paid upon check-in.

Bring your RV, tent or stay in one of the local motels in Fall River Mills. Full hook-up camping, showers, laundry and 30-amp and some 50-amp service is \$15 per night starting Friday prior to the event. Early camping arrivals prior to Friday will pay the normal campground rate.

Activities include golf tournaments at a championship 18-hole golf course, Bocci ball, card tournaments, potluck dinners, steak fry, a catered dinner, a pancake breakfast, fishing, casino nearby, sightseeing or just kick back and relax. Plenty of war stories, tales of then and now and lie swapping may be heard daily. Newly retired and surviving spouses are especially welcome.

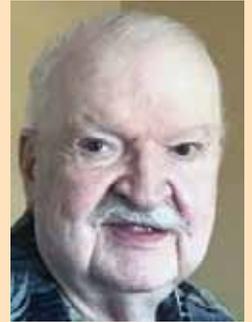
Please RSVP and for additional information, contact:

Ron & Bonnie Moya -- (818) 521-0695 or 521-2682, bonron@dslextreme.com

Tom Sargent -- (530) 243-8982, ts907@charter.net

Richard or Judy Smith -- (626) 444-0686, retiredstars@earthlink.net

## Reflections: Now "Hare" This



Working on Easter "doings" today, I had my lesson in life for the day. I always thought the hare was the fancy, more correct name for rabbits, but I've been wrong my whole life. They are two separate breeds, with the hare having longer ears and longer feet than a normal rabbit.

As a kid I had rabbits and loved them. I think I paid 10 cents apiece for my first pair. They are so adorable when little bunnies. But you cannot leave the adult male with the female as he will kill their babies. They must be separated, and there are other species of animal males out there who will also do the same. When the female rabbit gives birth to a bunch of little ones, she pulls the fur from her belly to line the nest.

See what you kids growing up in the city missed out on! Now that's more info to clog up the ole brain....

--Bill Yaney, Retired, Community and Senior Services

## Historic Journals Discovered by Assessor's Office Give Glimpse into L.A. County's Past

In a small library, deep in the basement of the County Hall of Administration, Assessor Jeffrey Prang discovered 20 historic journals that will now become part of the collections at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. Dating from 1934 to 1951, the red-covered journals are packed with handwritten notes, newspaper clippings, Assessor-related documents, and personal mementos. These were all compiled by the late D.G. Cathcart, chief personal property appraiser.

"I knew they belonged at the Natural History Museum," said Prang, who found the journals on a bookshelf in the old "Assessor Library" while searching for new training space. "They offer a fascinating window into life in Los Angeles during the first half of the 20th Century. Mr. Cathcart seemed like a civically engaged person that cared about the political structure and growth of the County. In the journals, he kept articles and comics that dealt with assessment and property tax issues, giving insight into how the Assessor's Office functioned prior to Proposition 13. In fact, there are many amusing references to how household furniture and even livestock used to be assessed."

A history and genealogy buff, Prang said he was thrilled with the discovery. "I recognize the significance of these historical documents and find it remarkable how they capture the evolution of the Assessor's Office. As a County elected official, it is imperative to know the history of the very area I represent, and I encourage all to take a visit to the museum to view the journals. I'm sure everyone will be just as intrigued and find something related to the area of the County they live in."

Once the preservation process is complete, the journals will be available to view by appointment at the History Museum's Seaver Center for Western History Research Center.



# Keeping Up With Retirees

Ed. Note: Life has certainly changed for RELAC member Mike Antonovich since he retired from the Board of Supervisors in 2016 after being on the Board for 34 years. He now refers to himself as “Mr. Mom,” taking over responsibilities once handled by his wife, Christine, who needs a kidney transplant and requires dialysis eight hours daily. “My daughter is a high school senior and doesn’t drive, so I am her Uber, etc.,” says Antonovich. His son Michael is a freshman at Concordia University Irvine and on the soccer team. And Antonovich has discovered he has a grown son, conceived while he was in college 53 years ago. The following article about that startling discovery was written by Theresa Walker of the Southern California Newspaper Group. Antonovich gave approval to republish it in the RELAC newsletter.

## Using DNA tests, Dwight Manley found his birth father: L.A. politician Mike Antonovich

by Theresa Walker, Southern California Newspaper Group

It only takes one look to spot their likeness. It’s there in the eyes. Blue. But the kind that can look green at certain times, the father and son say almost simultaneously. Blue is also both their favorite color. They only recently discovered that mutual personality trait. It hasn’t been a year since they learned of their relationship.

A present given to Dwight Manley for Christmas 2017 unlocked the secret to his birth father. Now, they both get to celebrate Manley’s 53rd birthday this year. The connection between the two pairs of blue eyes is one story among thousands generated in an age of affordable genetic testing and deep-rooted genealogy websites, unknown origins resolved with a saliva sample and a DNA kit dropped in the mail.

The discovery likely would be of little interest outside of family and friends. Except for who they are. The son: a rare coin expert and successful sports agent who represented basketball bad boy Dennis Rodman in his multi-million dollar heyday with the NBA champion Chicago Bulls and other big-name players. And the father? One of the most well-known elected officials in Los Angeles history: Michael D. Antonovich.

Manley recognized the name instantly when he saw “mantonovich\_1” pop up as a parent/child connection on Ancestry.com. So would anyone familiar with state and local politics over the past five decades. The former Los Angeles County supervisor, whose civic engagement continues in retirement, earned the moniker “mayor of Los Angeles County” for his 34-year tenure representing the sprawling 5th District from 1980 to 2016. Antonovich also served three terms as a state assemblyman in the 1970s. He chaired the California Republican Party for a couple of years in the mid-1980s and has held positions on numerous government agencies. His public service includes being named to presidential committees, along with failed bids for lieutenant governor and the U.S. Senate. A hiking trail near San Dimas and a regional park in the Santa Susana Mountains bear his name. So does Michael D. Antonovich Jr.

Antonovich, 79, married late in life and has two young-adult children with his wife of 21 years, Chinese actress Christine Hu Huiling. He had no clue until March 2018 about Manley – conceived, it turns out, during Antonovich’s grad student days at Cal State Los Angeles.

Antonovich learned that he had fathered Manley when he got a call from a close friend in the world of politics, Republican strategist Jon Fleischman, who had agreed to break the news. Manley felt awkward about doing it himself, along with the possibility of facing rejection. “I didn’t want that, but I was prepared for that,” he says.

Looking for a go-between, Manley contacted a mutual acquaintance, Susan Kang Schroeder, the former Orange County District Attorney chief of staff. She got in touch with Fleischman. The revelation that introduced father to son began with a cliché straight out of a Hollywood movie, recalls Fleischman, a former executive director of the California Republican Party who had been

mentored in politics by Antonovich. “Are you alone?” Fleischman asked. “Are you sitting down?” Fleischman describes the story



that unfolded afterward as one that has generated its own positive spin. “It’s turned out to be a really tremendous blessing. Both of them are happy about the circumstance.” But, Fleischman also remembered thinking as he rang Antonovich’s number, “*You can’t make this up.*”

Her doctor in Whittier arranged the private adoption. That was a common practice of the time. Back in 1965, abortion wasn’t legal. She would have had to travel to Mexico for the procedure, or seek out a more dangerous alternative. But she is not offering any insight. The woman who gave birth to Manley declined, through her lawyer, to be interviewed for this story. Her name is not being published because of her desire for privacy.

This much is known: At 18 and a college freshman attending what was then called California State College at Los Angeles, she chose not to raise her son. Baby Davis, as the court record designated Manley, was born Feb. 23, 1966. Days later, a couple who shared the same obstetrician as his birth mother legally adopted him. Robert and Sharon Manley wanted a child but could not conceive. They named their son Dwight. Dwight Manley, raised mostly in Brea, became the couple’s only child. They divorced when he was still young. Both would remarry, adding stepparents to Manley’s manufactured family tree. His adoptive mother died four years ago; his adoptive father lives in Valencia. “We did not meet the birth mother or father or anything,” says Robert Manley, now 76. “We did not know who they were. It was a win-win for all concerned. We were able to adopt Dwight and that was with the wishes of the birth mother.”

Manley says his birth mother never held him – he was whisked away that quickly. He learned this detail from her, he says, after tracking her down

## Birth Father continued from p.9

in 1993 through a private detective he hired to search for his birth parents. The man she identified as Manley's father was a high school classmate she saw as a college coed when he came home on leave from the Air Force. Antonovich's name never came up until Manley got the results of the DNA kit. Manley learned later, by her admission, that she had been involved with three different men at the time he was conceived. He would come to believe that she lied about his paternity, something she denied. They broke off communication following heated e-mail exchanges when Manley learned Antonovich was his father.

Antonovich, during a recent interview where he sat comfortably beside his son on a couch at Manley's spacious home in the hills of Brea, claims not to remember much about the birth mother. He did recognize her face in a high school photo Manley showed him. Mother and son also bear a striking resemblance. But whatever the nature of their liaison, Antonovich provided no details except to say, "I had no recollection of a girl being pregnant."

Antonovich was 26 at the time, president of his graduate class and a leader of the Sigma Nu fraternity on campus. He says he had a lot of girlfriends in college. He was pursuing a master's degree in health science, with an eye toward becoming an educator like Sara Schafer, the woman who remained a mentor into her 90s, from the time she was his fifth-grade teacher in South Los Angeles to her death.

A lifelong conservative, Antonovich also served as president of the Young Republicans during his graduate years and was an Associated Student Body representative. His decades in elective office launched in 1969 with a seat on the inaugural Los Angeles Community College District Board of Trustees, along with another young politician who later became a four-term governor of California, Jerry Brown. Brown, it would turn out, was among the first to learn that Antonovich was Manley's father. Manley, who has known Brown since his days as state attorney general, says he texted the then-governor the day he first met his dad in person. The two politicians exchanged some words. "Governor, you've known my son longer than I have," Manley recalls his dad saying. "And Brown said, 'What the heck is going on here?'"

Manley learned he was adopted when he was about 8, after a cousin called him the black sheep of the family. Robert Manley says he neither encouraged nor discouraged Manley from finding his birth parents. "As a young man, he decided he wanted to inquire as to who his birth parents were. He took it upon himself to do that search."

Manley had skipped college, achieving success through his self-taught knowledge of numismatics. By his early 20s, his drive had made him a nationally known collector who dealt with rare coins worth millions. Then he became business manager and agent for Rodman, nicknamed The Worm by his mother because he wiggled while playing pinball. A 1997 Sports Illustrated story called Manley "The Man Who Turned The Worm" for his ability to guide the controversial athlete into lucrative deals on and off the court.

But Manley's success could not quell his deep questions about himself. He says he "craved" the answers to fill a big void in his life. Who was he? Who were his people? "I felt incomplete." He sought help from the Adoptees' Liberty Movement Association, or ALMA, a nonprofit that maintains a registry to assist in searches like Manley's. But it took a private eye to locate his birth mother. When he first met her – for lunch at Big Canyon Country Club in Newport Beach – Manley felt an instant connection as they hugged. Later, when he met the man that he says she identified as his birth father – the private eye tracked him down in Westminster – Manley did not feel that same inexplicable bond. And he looked nothing like the man. Manley was blue-eyed and stood 6-foot-3. This man had brown eyes, like his birth mother, and was under 6 feet tall. Still, when Manley showed up in 1994 at his alleged father's little house in Westminster, "He started crying. He was so happy." Manley would see the man he thought was his dad only a half-dozen times, including a hockey game they attended together. "It answered a question but we didn't have anything in common." With Antonovich, it's been different, Manley says. "There's like a sixth sense thing that happens."



*Mike Antonovich, left, shares a laugh with son Dwight Manley in Manley's Brea home. Manley discovered Antonovich was his father after doing a DNA kit in 2017. (Photo by Jeff Gritchen, SCNG)*

Dwight Manley and Christine James have been friends since attending Brea Olinda High. It was James who gave him the gift membership to Ancestry.com. "It's one of those things I always struggle with," James explains. "What to get Dwight for his birthday and Christmas?" It took Manley several weeks before he sent in the kit, figuring he already knew the identity of his birth father.

Once contacted by Fleischman, Antonovich responded swiftly. Beyond the DNA evidence, the circumstances and dates that Fleischman outlined regarding Manley's birth lined up. Fleischman had Googled information about Manley that he sent to Antonovich. His son's achievements impressed him. Still, he had lots of questions that Fleischman could not answer: Does he look like me? What's he really like? Is he a nice person?

Antonovich told his wife Christine right away. She gave open-hearted encouragement. "I said thank God he's not a hobo and she said, well, we'd have to love him just the same," Antonovich recalls. His son and daughter were excited by the news as well. They are close in age to Manley's son and daughter. The four of them range from 18 to 21 years old. There have been family get-togethers at Antonovich's home in Glendale and Manley's in Brea. Their sons think Antonovich, who jokes that he used to be 6-foot-3, and Manley are clones of each other.

Manley, who is investing his time and energy these days in Brea's development, figures he gets his civic involvement from his dad, whom he proudly introduced at a city council meeting in October. Antonovich, who had served as a reserve police officer in Los Angeles, watched as Manley donated a new vehicle to the local police explorer program. Antonovich at one point also collected coins. Both are over-achievers. Neither drinks much. These similarities they are discovering gradually. But the first time the two men met in person, a year ago March 9, for lunch at the Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles, they could easily see the evidence of their biological connection. Manley's gaze lingered in the same place as Antonovich: "I couldn't stop looking at his eyes. It was like I saw my own eyes."



Auditor-Controller **John Naimo**, 39 years of service.



**Scott Stevenson**, director of community and economic development, Community Development Commission, 30 years.

## Welcome to Our World, New Retirees

The number of Los Angeles County employees who retire during “March Madness,” the period between December and March, continues to climb, with this year’s total hitting 1,758. That’s about 70 more than last year and about 300 over the annual five-year average of 1,466. This is the most popular time for retirement because those who leave by the end of March are eligible for the April 1 cost of living adjustment (COLA).

Among the March retirees were these eight executives, who received retirement scrolls during special presentations by the Board of Supervisors.



**Kathy Hanks**, director of contracts and grants, Department of Health Services, 38 years.



**Dave Mitchell**, deputy director, Probation Department, 34 years.



**Steve Estabrook**, litigation cost manager, County Counsel, 12 years of service.



**Patrick Wu**, senior assistant, County Counsel’s Office, 42 years.



**Epifanio Peinado**, chief deputy director, Department of Human Resources, 34 years.



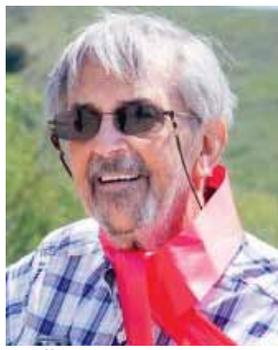
Alternate Public Defender **Janice Fukai**, 39 years of service.



Belanger



Corina



Wallace



Jacobson



Loew

# PASSAGES

Compiled by Judy Hammond, Newsletter Editor

## RETIREMENTS:

Alternate Public Defender **Janice Fukai**, the department's first chief deputy, who began her County career in 1980 with Public Defender's Office. Auditor-Controller **John Naimo**, 39 years of service. Superior Court Commissioner **Rocky L. Crabb**, 16 years. **Robert Hill**, assistant executive officer of LACERA, who had served as acting chief executive officer following retirement of Greg Rademacher, 34 years of service. **Epifanio Peinado**, chief deputy director of Department of Human Resources, 34 years. **Patrick Wu**, senior assistant county counsel, 42 years. **Dave Mitchell**, deputy director, Probation Department, 34 years. **Scott Stevenson**, director of community and economic development, Community Development Commission, 30 years. **Steve Estabrook**, County Counsel's litigation cost manager, 12 years. **Kathy Hanks**, director of contracts and grants for the Department of Health Services, who also worked for the Auditor-Controller, Chief Administrative Office, Treasurer-Tax Collector, and Internal Services Department during her 38 years with the County. **John "Lower Taxes" Loew**, perennial candidate for assessor, after 34 years in Assessor's Office. **Mark Child**, deputy director of advanced planning at Regional Planning Department, with 24 years of service, who has moved back to his native England.



Mitchell

## DEATHS

**Don Wallace**, former deputy to Supervisor Ed Edelman. **Andre Previn**, 89, former music director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. **John Walsh**, longtime Board of Supervisors gladfly. **Fredric "Mike" Francis**, 76, former director of joint development for the L.A. County Metropolitan Transit Authority (1991-98), from prostate cancer. **Maurice Oppenheim**, 86, deputy district attorney from 1960-1993. **Felipe Plascencia**, former deputy public defender who was recognized as Attorney of the Year by the Mexican American Bar Association in 2009. **David "Jake" Jacobson**, 74, retired in 2010 as director of child support for District Attorney's Office. **A. Frederick Gerstell**, 81, former board member of the Museum of Natural History. Sheriff's Lt. **John Corina**, 58, who planned to retire this year after 36 years of service, died after a brief illness. Former Sheriff's Lt. **Michael McAndrews**, who retired in 1988 after 20 years. Former Sheriff's Sgts. **William Gillespie**, retired in 1975 with 18 years of service, **Bruce McLellan**, retired in 2000 after 32 years, and **Richard Shockcor**, retired in 1988 after 29 years.



Plascencia

## ELECTIONS

State Sen. **Holly Mitchell** is running to replace Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, who is terming out in 2020, bringing the number of announced candidates to five.



Previn

## COURTS:

**Carlos Enrique Castillo**, 55, who pleaded no contest to sending child pornography on his personal computer while an employee of the Department of Children and Family Services, received a two-year suspended state prison term and was placed on five years of formal felony probation. Six probation officers – **Marlene Wilson**, **Janeth Vilchez**, **LaCour Harrison**, **Claudette Reynolds**, **Maria Guerrero**, and **Karnesha Marshall** -- charged in connection with unlawfully using pepper spray on five teen-age girls at Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall.



Walsh

## HONORS:

A memorial wall was dedicated at the Sheriff's Walnut/Diamond Bar Station in honor of Deputy **Steven Belanger**, who died in 2018 from head injuries suffered 23 years earlier after being shot while on patrol. County supervisors renamed the Claremont Public Library in honor of philanthropist **Helen Renwick**.

# Inside LA County

by Judy Hammond  
Newsletter Editor



The dispute between the Board of Supervisors and Sheriff Alex Villanueva has intensified over the sheriff reinstating deputies that were terminated before his election last November. Supervisors say Villanueva does not have the authority to reinstate the deputies, but Villanueva claims the department had engaged in mass firing that was illegal, denying employees due process.

Supervisors killed the proposal to convert the Mira Loma detention facility in Lancaster into a women's jail and asked staff to look at building affordable housing there instead. The Board approved tearing down Men's Central Jail in downtown L.A. and replacing it with at least one mental health treatment facility, to be overseen by the Department of Health Services instead of the Sheriff's Department.

Supervisors voted unanimously to phase out the use of pepper spray at juvenile detention centers by the end of the year. They cited concerns about the spray being counterproductive, needlessly punitive and potentially medically and psychologically harmful. The District Attorney's Office has charged six Probation Department officers with unlawfully using pepper spray on five teen-age girls at Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall.

The County's health agencies are partnering with Planned Parenthood and school districts to create "student wellbeing centers" in 50 high schools to provide STI testing, birth control, referrals for substance use disorder treatment, support groups for students with physical and mental health concerns, and other mental health services.

The District Attorney's Office granted more than 60 percent of the petitions filed by 1,126 inmates since 2012 for resentencing under state law that modified the Three Strikes Law and reduced some felonies to misdemeanors.

Gov. Gavin Newsom appointed Dr. Mark Ghaly, the County's director of health and social impact, to head California's Health and Human Services Agency. Chief Executive Officer Sachi Hamai called Ghaly "an exceptional physician and public health visionary" and said it had been an honor to have him working on County issues for the past eight years.

Supervisors have renamed the Regional Planning Department head as director of regional planning (instead of director of planning) to more correctly reflect the position's responsibilities.

Work will get under way in fall 2020 to clean up Baldwin Lake at the County Arboretum, correcting water quality issues that have caused murky water. Supervisors have asked that an ordinance be prepared to require all County-funded housing allow residents to have pets.

Given the potential increase in extreme weather, the County is exploring whether to seek the transfer of ownership for 40 miles of flood-control channels along the L.A. River from the federal government to the Flood Control District. Since the Army Corps of Engineers receives only 10-15 percent of the funds it needs for maintenance and operation, the County feels it might do a better job of making repairs and upgrades.

Supervisors have asked recommendations by Dec. 1 on how the closed Sybil Brand Institute and the Eastern Hill area could be utilized to help the surrounding community, focusing on economic development, affordable housing, and open and recreational space. Sybil Brand, built in 1963, was damaged by the 1994 Northridge earthquake and closed three years later.

The Board of Supervisors has created the Office of Violence Prevention within the Department of Public Health to develop strategic ways to prevent violence across the County, addressing the root causes of violence to prevent it from occurring.

The draft regional sustainability plan prepared by the County Chief Sustainability Office calls for reduction of on-road diesel particulate emissions by 100% by 2035, sourcing 80% of water locally by 2045, and achieving carbon neutrality, or net-zero carbon dioxide emissions, countywide by 2050.

The Department of Public Social Services – responding to reports that many students can't afford food -- is going to college campuses to provide information on the CalFresh program, formerly known as food stamps.

The LA County Library has installed book kiosks at two public housing sites and at a café near a transitional age youth housing facility, and plans to offer other programs such as book clubs and cultural programs. Each kiosk has a rotating collection of 800 books.

Supervisor Janice Hahn began a petition campaign to persuade USC to reverse its plan to change the name of the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum to the United Airlines Memorial Coliseum, saying the facility is a memorial to those who served in World War I and it would be an insult to their memory to replace "Los Angeles" with a corporate sponsor's name.

The Probation Department, as part of its program to provide educational and culturally enriching experiences to youth under its supervision, took seven young men from Camp Afflerbaugh to the Griffith Observatory. For most of them, it was the first time outside their neighborhood.

Supervisors have put a moratorium on the use of glyphosate – the main ingredient in the weed-killer Roundup – by county departments after growing evidence that it is carcinogenic to humans.

Supervisors have strengthened its non-smoking ordinance, banning smoking in all outdoor areas of County facilities, including near windows and entryways, handicap ramps, parking lots, and



## Letters To The Editor Write On!

Thanks for sending a copy of the March-April newsletter. Joel (Bellman) wrote a beautiful essay on Barbara and captured her completely. Thank you for honoring her in this way.

**Zev Yaroslavsky, Los Angeles, California**

*(Yaroslavsky served on the Board of Supervisors from 1994 to 2015. His wife, Barbara, died Dec. 26, 2018 from complications of West Nile virus.)*

Thank you so much for including me in the RELAC newsletter. I am so pleased! I will share it with my family and friends.

**Armando Nogal, Norwalk, California**

*(A photo of Nogal signing his retirement papers was included in the March-April newsletter. And we are very pleased that he has joined RELAC.)*

Thank you for the outstanding memorial tribute to Jerry Lubin in the poignant article by Frank Binch in the March/April 2019 RELAC newsletter. Thanks for another outstanding edition.

**Barry Hunt, Inglewood, California**

Just wanted to express my thanks to you for writing such a great article about my Patty. Her health crisis hit all of us like a ton of bricks. I know she really hated leaving RELAC. However, her health is number one priority. Again, thank you for writing an article that encompassed the history of her L.A. County career.

**Pat Guin, Phoenix, Arizona**

*(Pat Koulos resigned as RELAC's office manager Feb. 28 due to health reasons. She retired from the Chief Administrative Office in 1985 and had worked at RELAC's Alhambra office for the past 12 years.)*

Thanks for the latest newsletter. Judy Hammond is the best thing that ever happened to the RELAC newsletter! I read with great interest that I am a new member of RELAC, joining in December/January. I had been laboring under the misapprehension that I retired in 2004 and became a member of RELAC a short time later. Oh, well. I look forward to seeing myself listed on the In Memoriam page. When I do, I will send you an e-mail from The Other Side and ask for a retraction! Again, thanks for a very newsy issue.

**John McKibben (Retirement Class of '04), Long Beach, California**

*(We apologize for the error; McKibben did indeed join RELAC in 2004 shortly after retiring from the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors. We are not sure how he landed on our New Members list in December.)*

What a surprise to receive the Valentine check. Thank you so much. I appreciate all that you do for the retired employees. Again, thank you.

**Margaret Moore, Bullard, Texas**

Dear RELAC, thank you so much for the Valentine surprise check for \$25. I appreciate being one of the lucky winners. I am always so grateful for the years I spent with DPSS and now for my years in retirement. God bless you all.

**Joyce Breslin, Pasadena, California**

Dear RELAC Staff: Thank you! My gratitude for being chosen a Valentine's Day winner; it is a blessing and so is being a RELAC member. With my love to ALL.

**Carmen Falcon, Apple Valley, California**

Please thank the Outreach Committee for the birthday card they sent me. It made me very happy! It is nice to be remembered. Thank you again.

**Patricia McGrath, Oro Valley, Arizona**

## Inside LA County continued from p.13

driving range and eating areas at County golf courses, and in County vehicles and at parking areas of public beaches and parks; and restricting smoking within 25 feet of outdoor areas for all dining and bar establishments that offer food to the public, within 40 feet of any mobile food vendor or temporary food facility, and at bus stops in unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County.

A \$70 million renovation of the Magic Johnson Park represents the largest investment in a park improvement ever by the County.

Construction is under way on the \$4.5-billion Automated People Mover, a 2.25-mile electric train system to LAX that is expected to be fully operational by 2023. The system will include six stations — three outside the airport terminal loop and three inside -- and will connect with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's light rail system.

The Board of Supervisors passed Supervisor Hilda Solis' motion to conduct a thorough study of deputy cliques or secret subgroups within the Sheriff's Department.

The Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office says its new website makes it so easy for the public to find information they need that they no longer will need to call, e-mail or write the department.

## Picture Perfect



*Interim Office Manager Ida Leon Ramos snapped this beautiful photo of the poppies in bloom in the Lancaster area on the day RELAC held its regional meeting there.*

## IN MEMORIAM

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

**Alcohol/Drug Programs Admin.** – John C. Estrella

**Ambulatory Care Network** – Andrews Johnney

**Animal Control** – Leila M. Mount

**Antelope Valley Rehab. Center** – Joan E. Baber, Herman Sabsay

**Assessor** – Webster Aggrey, Carmelita T. Basco, Mary Eley, Marilyn Hutchinson, Paul N. Lipson, Lorraine D. Lynes, Celia S. Perez

**Auditor** – Clifford A. Mansfield, Dixie C. Tobey

**Beaches & Harbors** – Richard W. Evans, Fred A. Gerth

**California Children's Services** – Teresita C. Adofina, Nilda Fricke

**Chief Information Office** – Gilford Tyre

**Chief Executive Office** – Haruko Kurachi

**Child Support Services** – Nancy L. Chew, David C. Jacobson, Casandra Harrison

**Children & Family Services** – Mary L. Bailey, Theodora M. Bass, Richard C. Bennett, Mary L. Blount, Carl Q. Clay, Richard Clayton, Rebecca V. Gutierrez, Edna S. Hernandez, Maye H. Leffall, Eddy J. Taylor, James Vasquez, Alvaro B. Zarate

**Correctional Health** – Zamsur D. Gomonit

**County Counsel** – Marion Douglas, Norman J. Gilbert

**District Attorney** – David F. Correa, John J. Gocke, Stephen F. Huggard, Maurice H. Oppenheim, Augustus L. Staton, Margaret S. Tadros, Bernice Van Horne

**Fire** – Harry L. Abercrombie, Roger D. Basler, John W. Devonshire, George C. Fisher, Jack M. Holton, Rodney W. Olney, Paul E. Ouellette, John H. Spencer

**Harbor/UCLA Medical Center** – Claudia K. Allen, Diane C. Coats, Velma J. Fields, Teresita T. Fortuna, Frances D. Harrison, Chang-Woo Lee, Olga E. Mohan, Theodore A. Potter

**Health Services Administration** – Kwame R. Jobronewet, Ronald J. Marchant, Virginia McCormick, Mary A. Moore, Quantrell T. Mosley, Clarence A. Nelson, Raul R. Nunez, Dorothy A. Pierson, Josefina Salgado

**Internal Services** – George Bajenaru, Carl E. Chovan, David L. DeCamp, Stephen P. Henry, Sam Kurachi, Jack W. Lapraik, Ronald C. Layman, Nancy C. McNeal, Gordon T. Nesvig, Marie C. Sibrie, Philip Whitley

**King/Drew Medical Center** – Frances D. Cottrell, Marie Curry, Theodore Q. Miller, Maxine L. Nowell, Gloria V. San Miguel

**LACERA** – Donna L. Williams

**LAC+USC Medical Center** – Margaret Aguirre, Marylou R. Agustin, Virginia Banks, Philip S. Chiang, Margie Dunn, Raymond Felix, Deion Garrett, Ernest Grant, Gilbert C. Greene, George Gums Jr., Clara J. Haines, Frederick D. Henry, Robert G. Henry III, Raul Holguin, John W. Hunter, Clifton M. Johnson, Sandra E. King, Steve Leong, Felicitas Marquez, Carla J. Martin, Lino Quintana, William W. Parkison, Mary L. Scheuer, Barbara J. Simmons

**Mechanical Department** – Wilfred Cavell

**Mental Health** – Rita B. Agee, Robert W. Carlin, Carlos V. Guzman, Edna M. Hill, Henry E. Robinson, Patricia J. Wolfe

**Olive View/UCLA Hospital** – Vera M. Broughton, Jean Gordon, Nick G. Lamas, Jean W. Robertson, Alvin Schatz, Joan Verrone, Edith J. Wyatt

**Parks & Recreation** – Stanley Balitzer, Marjorie Cresap, Daniel Espinosa, John A. Pegorari

**Probation** – Milton Davis, Luis A. Garcia, Paul M. Garcia, Jean M. Iverson, Gregory T. Johnson, Maryon E. Leonard, Betty G. McCold, John H. McQueen, Howard M. Pitts, Russell Rhames, Cynthia D. Seten, Yukio Yamasaki

**Public Defender** – Daniel Blum, Dora Costantine, Geneva E. Phillips-Beaver, Stanley R. Langford

**Public Health Program** – Jennie L. Barfoot, Hampton Deslonde, Sherif Hassan, Mary Krishnamurty, Frank G. Pacino, Frances Perez, Rutha M. Pruitt, Herbert Sowe

**Public Library** – Barbara K. Courson

**Public Safety** – Terry B. Mitchell, Jose Moreno

**Public Social Services** – Willie J. Adams, Haydee M. Artilles, Estella Bonner, Anita E. Brown, Joseph Calderon, Shirley J. Chamot, Frank E. Cipolla, Alice M. Claven, Yvonne A. Davis, Adabelle S. Day, Mark R. Deaver, Salah A. El Nahass, Carmen Q. Espinosa, Wendell W. Greenlee Jr., Mary E. Hill, Evelyn Jerricks, Miguel Jimenez, Minor M. Jimenez, Ferra Kimble, Tilla Kronish, Ellen Lomas, Victor M. Lojero, Shirley A. Matijevich, Phyllis Morrison, George Movsessian, Amuthasaka Namasivayam, Manuel Nunez, Uan M. Nguyen, Romulo N. Padilla, Kenneth L. Pavlick, Evelyn Porendowsky, Marie M. Ragin, Lawrence Silberman, Jacqueline Smith, Ding-Men Tang, Diana I. Zozaya

**Public Works** – William Apodaca, Michael A. Duette, Richard L. Fabrick, Jack R. Fry, Antonio Gonzalez, Mary Hrynowski, George G. Jones Jr., Alfredo B. Lange, Bennie Lewis, Robert W. Scott, Hugh Staples, Jonavo Starbuck

**Rancho Los Amigos Hospital** – Irsyl F. Bates, Dorothy L. Grzeskowiak, Ernest C. Neely, Joan H. Phillips, Bernice M. Sawyer, Judy Valdez, Raymond L. Valenzuela, Clarita Q. Verdin, Betty B. Webber

**Reg-Recorder/County Clerk** – John H. Wesley

**Sheriff** – Sydney R. Anderson, Fidel L. Adriano, Avelina S. Apeles, Margaret Barker, John M. Bikle, Samuel R. Castro, James E. Craig, Violet R. Craig, Daniel J. Castaneda, Eleanor M. Crough, Michael C. Devereaux, Paul D. Donnan, Gerald L. Dudley, Othello Farnsworth, Dave B. Feinberg, Brian D. Fitch, Thomas R. Galusha, Stanley E. Garrett, Sandra L. Geoffrion, William H. Gillespie, Sonja R. Hagen, Thomas M. Harwood, Thomas R. Hehir, Billy N. Hoffman, Kevin J. Johnson, Idiona Jones, Debra E. Kindles, Guadalupe Lopez, Linda R. McCoy, Ada D. McElderry, Bruce A. Mc Lellan, Ronald S. Merrill, Robert I. Najmowski, Mary A. Nix, Betty C. Oliver, John J. O'Neill, Janardana Pai, Robert J. Pangborn, Frederick D. Price, John D. Quintal, David R. Ramirez, Thomas J. Rogers, Mary L. Vendenti, Alan M. West, James N. Wheatley

**Superior Court/County Clerk** – Clemon L. Brown, Haldane D. Campbell, Teresa M. Czene, Carmine Falcone, Lucille G. Haupt, Suzanne M. Hernandez, Richard P. Martinez, Adeline Michaels, Gordon E. Modesti, Arnold R. Pena, Zita Y. Rodrigues, Doris M. Stewart, Nancy A. Van Hamme, Beverly D. Walker, Johnny C. Williams, Jeanann Zager

**Workforce Dev., Aging & Comm.** – Kathye A. Pouncey, Varre Stimmell

**Department Not Designated** – Charles Ballard, Richard J. Chartok, Lillian J. Crispin, Hassan I. Deif, William R. Gelpi, Antoinette A. Gomes, Richard L. Hubinger, Alice M. Hill, Clifford L. Joy, Celia C. Marquez, Paul J. Schnerk, Charles L. Wright



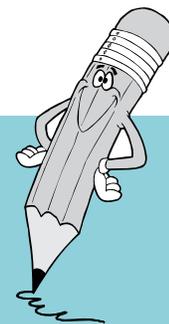
RETIRED EMPLOYEES  
of LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
1000 South Fremont Ave. Unit 15  
Alhambra, CA 91803-8802

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PASADENA, CA

# General Membership Meeting

Mary K. Rodriguez, Chair, Program Committee



**June 19, 2019**

## Liberty Community Plaza

14181 Telegraph Road  
Whittier

East of 605 Freeway at Valley View  
Phone (562) 273-0700

9 a.m. – Complimentary Refreshments  
10 a.m. – Meeting Begins

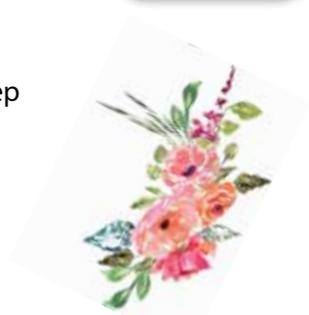
### Featured Speaker:

To be Announced – Sheriff's Department Rep

**Topic: Senior Fraud and Cyber Crimes  
...Today's Trending Scams**

### DOOR PRIZES

*Please bring your RELAC membership card*

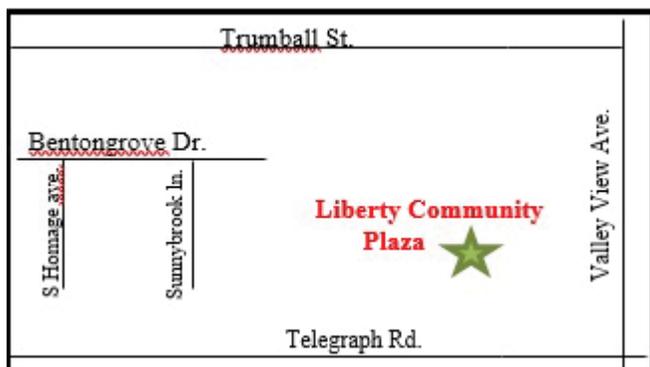


**IMPORTANT!**  
*Are you moving?  
Did you change your  
name, address or  
e-mail address?*

Cut out the address  
portion of this  
newsletter, correct it  
and mail to:

RELAC  
1000 S. Fremont Ave.,  
Unit 15 Alhambra, CA  
91803-8802 or  
Phone:  
(800) 537-3522  
(626) 308-0532  
Fax: (626) 308-2901  
e-mail:  
admin@relac.org  
website:  
www.relac.org

Note: It is important  
that you mail this  
to RELAC or contact  
RELAC by phone as  
we **DO NOT** receive  
your address change  
from LACERA.



### DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

From the 605 San Gabriel Fwy., going either north or south – exit at Telegraph Road. Proceed east to Valley View, turn left. Facility is on left. If you pass Colima, you've gone too far.