

RELAC newsletter

Your Pension and Health Care Watchdog

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

President's Message

by Brian Berger

Depending on where you live, January and February were months of inclement weather and monstrous rains. Mudslides, flooding and debris were prevalent. Geneva and I were constantly checking the hills around us, and nearby gutters and drains. We hope all of you who reside in storm-impacted areas survived unscathed, and we send positive thoughts and prayers to all those who are in recovery mode.

RELAC's Calendar of Events is filling up for this year with numerous events for your enjoyment and pleasure. Dates are tentative for some activities, but as soon as the confirmations are done, emails will go out to members and details posted to the website, www.relac.org. Check back often for updates.

The Spring General Membership meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 21, 2024, 9:30 a.m., in Cerritos. Details to follow soon. Information on retiree services will be available from LACERA, Pacific Group Agencies and Southland Credit Union. There is no charge to attend the meeting.

RELAC continues its partnership with the Los Angeles County Management Council (LACMC) this year by participating in its Spring Conference, to be held March 21, in Santa Barbara. As a past president of LACMC, I view these gatherings as a unique opportunity to speak directly with County employees, who are getting close to retirement. These individuals enjoy their current jobs, but also want to know about retirement benefits. Each month they contribute to a pension fund with the expectation that those funds are secure and will be available upon retirement. They learn about RELAC, and its proactive role as their pension and healthcare watchdog.

We'll also taking advantage of similar opportunities to promote RELAC to County employees who are nearing retirement but are not members of LACMC. These rank-and-file employees oftentimes have spent decades working for the County. We want them to learn about and enjoy the benefits and activities of RELAC, too. Let me know about other County employee groups you want to be made more aware of RELAC's mission and purpose.

Our technology improvement program is underway. These significant changes are long overdue, and will enable RELAC to be more efficient in its customer service and office operations. Thank you for your ideas and suggestions. With the digital improvements, RELAC's vital programs will be upgraded, user friendly for staff, and provide functionalities currently not available to us. As we look at software programs, we're making sure that RELAC has the ability to pivot to new technologies.

RELAC has a bright future. I hope many of you will consider joining us beyond being a member. We currently have vacancies on the Board of Directors, and your skills can be an asset. The

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Treasurer-Tax Collector Keith Knox Retires: Aims to Collect Hobbies and Memories Instead of Taxes!

(Editor's Note: Keith Knox is a highly regarded County official, who agreed to answer questions about his career journey exclusively for the RELAC Newsletter. Below are his responses, which have been edited for space. He retired March 31, 2024.)



Knox with, from left, former Supervisor Sheila Kuehl and current Supervisors Kathryn Barger and Hilda Solis.

When did you decide to retire? Was it part of a multi-year plan or strategy?

I have always had a target retirement age in mind, but I never thought of it as a hard deadline. I've been very fortunate in my career and wanted to make the most out of my tenure as Treasurer and Tax Collector. However, I am a big believer in "nothing in life is guaranteed," and I wanted to leave as much time as possible for a post-County life.

Do you have a list of bucket items to fulfill? If so, which items are on the Top 3 list?

I wouldn't call it a bucket list so much as a whole bunch of pails! I have been keeping a list of things to do, some large (trip to the Galapagos Islands), some small (build my own computer). I would like to start a business at some point, but that's more aspirational than a must-do.

How is your family responding to the news of your retirement? Any specific adventures planned with them?

Everyone is happy (I think). My wife, Maria, retired from the County five years ago, so I think she's had enough of a head start! We have some fun trips lined up, including some with our adult kids, who love to travel with us.

Looking back on your County career, cite 3 accomplishments for which you are most proud?

I am proud of how my career has turned out, but it's less about being proud of my individual accomplishments, and more about being appreciative of everyone that supported me over the years, including supervisors, managers, mentors, friends, and family members.

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RELAC Dues Increase Effective April 1, 2024

Membership dues for regular RELAC members will increase from \$2.50 to \$5, and for associate members from \$1 to \$2 per month, effective April 1, 2024. It has been more than nine years since the last increase in dues.

At the December 2023 General Membership meeting, retirees voted unanimously to amend Article II of the Bylaws, Section 7, to increase the monthly dues.

The affirmative vote "recognized the need to upgrade RELAC's technology, improve customer service, and office operations," said President Brian Berger.

News From LACERA

by JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

A belated Happy New Year. I apologize for missing the Jan.-Feb. newsletter. I misread my calendar and missed the due date by a few days. I do hope your year is off to a great start. I can tell you that LACERA is off to a great start for 2024 with lots of updates and changes that we believe will improve the overall member experience.

Since my last article, when I announced our newly adopted Strategic Plan and Mission, Vision, Values statement, we have been laying the groundwork to implement our five-year plan while also focusing on our new vision and shared values. During October, we held a management offsite meeting with the theme of "Leading with Shared Vision and Purpose." The discussion focused on transitioning from strategizing our future to realizing it as we strive to fulfill our mission and keep our commitment to you. Keep an eye out over the coming months as we unveil these action plans, all designed to improve the LACERA member experience!

Speaking of improvements, I'd like to highlight a recent change we've made to your paystubs to include more information about your federal and state tax withholdings, designed to support changes made by the IRS made to how federal tax withholding elections are declared and reported on a form called W-4P. In addition to minor changes to your paystubs to streamline and simplify them for you, we've added some new fields that will provide additional, useful information as part of the superior member experience you expect and deserve.

For example, there is now a new payee ID field designed to protect your identity and security using a unique, secure number LACERA has generated. If you have not made a tax election or changed your tax election since January 2023, you will see the new fields on the paystub that correspond to the new federal tax elections, but some of those fields may be blank. This is nothing to worry about since the information provided is based on a pre-2023 tax election. If you filed and updated your W-4P, you'll find this valuable information on your paystubs. If you're still having trouble figuring out what all these new boxes mean for you, review the insert we included in your November and December paystubs, or visit lacera.com > Retirees and Families > Your Paystub. Here you'll find a breakdown of everything you need to know about your paystub and tax withholdings. We're glad we can provide this new data for you so that you'll always be up-to-date and know if or when you need to make an adjustment to your taxes or deductions.

Another change we made this year to improve the member experience is mailing the 1099-R a week or two earlier than we have in the past. Speaking of tax elections - if you find that you *do* need to make a change to your taxes or deductions, you



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Volunteers Welcomed to Join RELAC Special Events Committee

By Nora Jackson, Chair

The RELAC Special Events Committee is gearing up for an incredible lineup of activities to entertain members throughout the year. It is our pleasure to invite YOU to be a part of the magic by becoming a RELAC volunteer.

Some of the exciting events planned include the annual Recognition Luncheon, scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 2024, at Almansor Court in Alhambra. We will honor scholarship recipients and veterans. We also look forward to another unforgettable Day at the Dodgers, and cheering on Dodger sensation Shohei Otani.

We hoping to revive the annual picnic and Day at the Races. Visit the website, www.relac.org for more information and updates on all RELAC special events.

These activities provide opportunities for retirees to come together, celebrate accomplishments and create lasting memories. Enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers are needed to assist with the special events. Whether you have a passion for event planning, or an expert in organization, or just want to contribute, there is a place for you at RELAC.

We welcome your creative ideas, energy, and desire to make a difference. Contact the RELAC Office at (626) 308-0532 or (800) 537-3522.

Investment Board

by Debbie Martin, RELAC Director
Trustee, LACERA Board of Investments

Greetings!

It is an honor to represent my fellow retirees, and I want to thank all of you who supported me in the election. As I stated in my campaign platform, I am committed to proactively representing you and your interests on the Board of Investments (BOI).

In January, I attended a BOI meeting for the first time. It was full of information and I want to share a few important highlights:

- BOI Officers for 2024 – Patrick Jones, Chair; Keith Knox, Vice-Chair, and Herman Santos, Secretary
- New Trustees – Nicole Mi, elected by general membership, and Mike Gato, appointed by Board of Supervisors
- Pension Fund – Total market value is currently \$74 billion, and LACERA's seven percent (7%) annual targeted rate of return has been consistently met over the last decade
- LACERA Investments – Pension funds are invested in five areas: equities, fixed income, commodities, infrastructure and real estate.
- Interest Rates – Vote taken at December 2023 Federal Open Markets Committee to keep interest rates at 22-year high of 5.25 percent to 5.5 percent. Federal Reserve reports progress on slowing inflation, which is good news for us.
- Treasury Bonds – Ended 2023 at rate of 3.88 percent.

I look forward to keeping you abreast of BOI activities.



Retiree Calvin Kwan started the New Year reuniting with former Rancho Los Amigos Rehabilitation Hospital colleagues, who he said gave him a start with the Department of Health Services more than 40 years ago. From left, Randy Means, Mack Oliver, Keith Kovack, Susumu Yokohama, and Kwan.

President's Message cont. from p.1

work we do for RELAC may be demanding at times, but we volunteered to be on the Board. It mirrors our previous lives before retirement when we worked with, discussed and resolved issues with many of you. RELAC gives you the opportunity to continue those contacts, while being a part of the team protecting your pension and healthcare benefits.

If you're interested in joining the Board, contact me at admin@relac.org. I will follow-up with you and answer any questions you may have about serving on the Board. I am confident you will discover it's a truly rewarding experience.

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A Labor of Love: The Eric Hansen Art Collection

by Ron Hansen, RELAC Member



Eric Hansen in 1938.

During my 36-year career with Los Angeles County, I had rewarding work experiences with the Departments of Public Social Services and Health Services, and as the health deputy to Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky. I retired in 2005 and dabbled in consulting for a while before deciding to pursue other callings. During the years that followed, no one thing caught my attention, until seven years ago

when something happened that changed all that.

I had acquired, over time, more than 150 paintings and drawings done by my father, Eric Hansen. They spanned a 50-year period from the early 1920s to 1970. One day my son, Leif, asked me if he could make a film of my dad's artwork for a cinema class at Los Angeles City College (LACC). I said yes, and Leif, my wife, Vicky, and I went through the paintings, chose about 15, and made the film. Vicky was the narrator and Leif the cameraman. The entire film was 5 ½ minutes long. At LACC, each student's film was shown to the class and the top five were chosen to be shown at the LACC Morgan Freeman Theater. Leif's film was one of them.

This experience inspired me to take a close look at my dad's art collection. His paintings were hanging on the living room walls, stored in closets, hidden behind furniture or crowded in various corners of the house. Many showed the wear and tear of age. Underneath all this, I saw a wonderful collection of art. With the help of selected crafts men and women, I began restoring the paintings to their original condition, putting them in frames and preparing them to be shown to others. This was a seven-year journey, which was completed only a few months ago.



Eric Hansen painting of Grand Canyon

My dad was born in 1909 and grew up in Seattle, Washington. He started drawing pictures at a young age. By the time he entered high school, he was a very talented artist. His drawings began to appear in the school newspaper, yearbooks, and posters of school events. He also kept a diary of daily activities which included exquisite drawings of realistic subjects, along with wholly imagined inventions of people, places and things. Today, these tiny masterpieces are an important part of the Eric Hansen Art Collection.

After finishing high school, my dad attended the Cornish School of Art in Seattle. The years that followed were a very creative period of his life, producing numerous paintings of the Seattle area: its waterways, cityscapes and an entire series of paintings of Mount Rainier.

In 1937, he moved to Los Angeles and was hired by Walt Disney Studios as a background artist. He worked on numerous short and full-length animated pictures, including the productions of "Pinocchio" and "Fantasia." He left Disney in 1945 and began a career as a freelance commercial artist. He worked in scratchboard, a form of fine point etching of light images from a dark surface, resulting in detailed illustrations used in advertising. These included cosmetics, machinery, furniture and other products. His work also included motion picture ads featuring celebrities, including Gregory Peck, Jimmy Stewart and Ingrid Bergman.

As a parallel to his commercial art career, he produced personal scratchboard drawings of scenic areas such as Vasquez Rocks, the Sierra Mountains, and the Giant Redwoods. He also continued to create oil and watercolor paintings of people, places and the surrounding environment. During the 1960s, he traveled to the Grand Canyon to survey the sheer beauty of the place.

From then on, he created several paintings of his favorite scenes of the Canyon. My dad died in 1970 while he was painting a mural of the Grand Canyon on his living room wall.

On Jan. 6 and 7 of this year, we held an inaugural exhibit (and a kind of memorial) of the Eric Hansen Art Collection at the Grace E. Simons Lodge in Elysian Park. There was universal appreciation of his art among the attendees. With regard to the future, time will tell what our next steps will be for my dad's art collection, but for now we have a sense of gratification that we can finally share his works of art with others.



Ron Hansen, then 28, sitting in front of the unfinished mural in his father's living room.

"Tea Time" Program, Serving AAPI Community, Celebrates 1st Anniversary

It was created in the aftermath of the Lunar New Year mass shooting on Jan. 21, 2023 in Monterey Park, CA., where 11 people lost their life and nine individuals were injured. The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) started the "Tea Time" program to allow Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) individuals to grieve in a supportive, group environment, according to a recent Department statement.

Since its launch, Tea Time has grown rapidly from an average attendance of 50 people a day in February, 2023 to 180 seniors in December of last year. Now it is a place to break down barriers and address stigmas in a safe environment, said LACDMH officials.

AAPI older adults participate in the program Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Langley Senior Center, 400 W. Emerson Ave., Monterey Park. More than 160 people have been referred for an intake appointment.

"We are so grateful that Tea Time has been a welcome and popular addition to the community, serving as a bridge to offer hope and healing," said Dr. Lisa H. Wong, LACDMH Director, in the statement. "Programs like this are the types of culturally sensitive approaches we can provide, recognizing the needs of the diverse residents and communities we serve," she added.

Staff utilizes casual conversations over green tea and snacks to promote mental health services. "Many older adults in the AAPI community have a stigmatized view of mental health," said Ryan Nam, who with Tea Time co-worker, Trung Du, speak with residents in their native languages. They are fluent in Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, and English. Nam is a clerk, and Du is a community health worker with the East San Gabriel Valley Mental Health Center.

Tea Time will continue in Monterey Park throughout the year, and similar programs are planned for other communities, said LACDMH officials. For more information on Tea Time, contact the East San Gabriel Valley Center in Covina at (626) 430-2900, or the Langley Senior Center at (626) 307-1395.

LACDMH is the nation's largest public mental health department, providing access to care and treatment for vulnerable residents in a County of more than 10 million people. Its annual budget of \$3.8 billion funds programs designed to provide hope, recovery and well being for those in need.

RELAC Connections

(Serving Members & the Community)

by Linda Hopkins, Chair

RELAC has started its annual fundraising campaigns for the March of Dimes with a goal of \$5,000, and the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, goal of \$10,000. Contributions may be made online.

Here are the links.

www.marchforbabies.org/team/RELAC

<https://give.lafoodbank.org/relac-24>

Elder Justice

RELAC continues to support NCEA's Elder Justice Champion Program. It's a unique opportunity to participate in the NCEA's Community Advisory Board. Through this group, older adults leverage their skills, passions, and experiences to raise awareness of elder abuse and advance elder justice.

NCEA offers a variety of ways for interested persons to get involved, from virtual roles to in-person engagement. Applications are accepted online.

Submit a resume (optional) to: elaine.chen@med.usc.edu. If assistance is needed with the application form or process, contact NCEA's Elaine Chen via e-mail or voicemail at (626) 457-4207.

The RELAC Board representative for the NCEA program is Linda Hopkins, who may be reached at lhopkins1054@gmail.com.

Scholarship Deadline

The deadline to submit an application for a RELAC Scholarship is **Saturday, March 30, 2024**. RELAC members and members of their immediate family are eligible to apply. A family member is defined as a child (including adopted children), stepchild, grandchild, or great-grandchild. A family member application must be sponsored by a RELAC member.

Scholarship applicants must attend an educational institution that is an accredited two or four-year school that leads to a degree or certification. A Statement of Goals and Statement of Community Service must be included along with a certified transcript, two (2) adult references with contact information, and a one-page personal statement outlining career goals and ways to achieve them.

The RELAC member application or family member application are available online at www.relac.org.

Happy Birthday, RELAC Centenarians

March

Frances E. Duffy, 100, District Attorney
Wadres L. Gaffney, 100, Olive View/UCLA Medical Ctr.
Yoshiharu Honkawa, 100, Health Services
Gladyce V. Mickelbury, 100, Public Social Services
Genevieve O. Minjarez, 101, LAC+USC Medical Ctr.
Henrietta Shrader, 102, District Attorney
Estella J. Tompkins, 102, Sheriff
Esther L. Van Buskirk, 101, Fire

April

Alma J. Hill, 101, Public Social Services
McMinney Ward, 102, Mechanical

Knox retires cont. from p.1



More on the personal side, I am proud to have carried on a legacy of County service in my family. My dad and brother both spent their careers in the Sheriff's Department, and although I went a different route, I love the sense of tradition.

Lastly, I am proud to have served as a trustee on the two Boards at LACERA and the Plan Administrative Committees for the defined contribution (401/457) plans. Our retirement benefits really are incredible, and to have served in these capacities has been a privilege. I am passionate about retirement planning

and saving for the future, and I love to talk to employees about these topics!

All careers provide challenges, please cite a few of your major obstacles and how you overcame them?

I was appointed Treasurer and Tax Collector on December 19, 2019. My honeymoon as a new department head ended three (seemingly short) months later when the pandemic struck in mid-March 2020. With our second property tax installment due on April 10, we faced tremendous economic uncertainty regarding property tax collections. You may recall that both the President and the governor extended the deadlines to file income taxes, so the natural question was, "Mr. TTC, when are you going to extend the property tax deadline?"



Our property tax deadlines are set in State code, and only the governor can extend those. The challenge for California TTCs, was that we wanted to avoid an extension as property tax revenues are critical for counties, cities and schools, and the dollars we collect fund the very services we need most during a pandemic. I collaborated on messaging with my peers that emphasized the importance of collecting these funds with a commitment to working with those who were unable to pay by the deadline due to COVID-related circumstances.

One of our biggest accomplishments during this time was responding to a historic increase in Penalty Cancellation Requests (PCRs). Pre-COVID, my office received 3,000 PCRs annually; however, in 2020, we received over 40,000!

I am extremely proud of my team's efforts, which not only resulted in a high property tax collection rate, but also accommodated so many taxpayers who needed additional time to pay.

As you enter retirement, what would you say to a younger Keith just starting out in his County career?

I know you like spending money on Dodger games, but don't wait until you're 29 to start contributing to the 401 Savings and 457 Deferred Compensation plans!

The financial suggestion to his younger self is sound financial advice. The funds are used to supplement pension and other benefits in retirement.



Knox earned an AA degree from Saddleback College, a BA from the University of Colorado, and an MBA from the University of Southern California. His professional affiliations and honors include serving as secretary for the California Association of County Treasurer and Tax Collectors; Chair and Vice Chair, LACERA Board of Investments; Vice President and Treasurer, Los Angeles County Management Council; and completing the SACRS Public Pension Investment Management and Harvard University's Audit Committee programs.

Golf News

By Gil Sandoval
RELAC Golf Director



Mother Nature was good to RELAC golfers, giving them a gorgeous day to play a round at Los Amigos Golf Course in Downey. Tony Bacon was on his game and won the "A" flight with a net 68. There was a close battle for second place between Mike Pearson and Art Morris, with Pearson winning in a card off. Michael Hernandez was closest to the pin on #17, and it was only three inches from a hole-in-one.

On the "B" flight, Jeff Phillips, Rick Richter and Fred Whiting all had a net 70, but Phillips won. Terry Black, who finished second in the last tournament, won the "C" flight with a net 73. Harlan DeBie was only one stroke back and finished net 74. He really gained ground on Phillips on the back nine. Richard Duran finished third with a net 78.

In the Ladies Flight, Norma Gutierrez won with a net 70 and a 12-stroke lead over second place finisher Shirley Johnston, net 82. Johnston won three closest to the pin prizes. Charlene DeBie took third with a net 83. We encourage and welcome women to join RELAC's Golf Program. Bring your friends who play golf and enjoy a round.

The next tournament will be March 25, 2024, 8:00 a.m. start, at La Mirada Golf Course, 15501 E. Alicante Rd., La Mirada, CA 90638. Entry forms are on the RELAC web page, www.relac.org. Follow the link to the calendar. Unfortunately, an increase in the use of golf courses forced us to increase the entry fees this year to \$46 per player.

We're always open to hear from you, and welcome your suggestions for golf courses. Send them to me at admin@relac.org.

County's Military and Veterans Affairs Helps Homeless Veterans

A Homeless Services Division will be created within the County's Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (MVA) with funding from Measure H, an initiative approved by voters in March of 2017 to address and prevent homelessness.

Last year, MVA's One Team successfully placed nearly 1,800 veterans in permanent housing. The new division will build upon that foundation, while laying the groundwork for even larger gains, said MVA officials.

"Los Angeles County is addressing our homelessness crisis with urgency, including offering intentional, targeted services to our veteran community," said Supervisor Lindsay Horvath, Third District, and Chair of the Board.

"Any service member living without shelter is a tragedy that we have the responsibility and opportunity to correct," said the Supervisor.

Los Amigos Golf Tournament Winner Results

January 29, 2024

"A" Flight Winners (19 and under)

1st	Tony Bacon	(68)	\$16
2nd	Mike Pearson*	(70)	\$12
3rd	Art Morris	(70)	\$8

"B" Flight (20 to 26 Handicaps)

1st	Jeff Phillips*	(70)	\$16
2nd	Rick Richter*	(70)	\$12
3rd	Fred Whiting	(70)	\$8

"C" Flight (27 and up Handicaps)

1st	Terry Black	(73)	\$16
2nd	Harlan De Bie	(74)	\$12
3rd	Richard Duran	(78)	\$8

Women's Flight

1st	Norma Gutierrez	(70)	\$16
2nd	Shirley Johnston	(82)	\$12
3rd	Charlene De Bie	(83)	\$8

* *Winners in a Card Off*

MEN

# 3	Mike Pearson	\$8
# 7	Rex Loughran	\$8
#10	Al Kelly	\$8
#13	Michael Hernandez	\$8

WOMEN

# 2	Shirley Johnston	\$8
# 7	Shirley Johnston	\$8
#13	Charlene De Bie	\$8
#13	Shirley Johnston	\$8

2nd Shot Closest to the Pin None
Low Putts None

Total Tournament payout: \$208

Contest Drawing Winners for Member Referrals

Congratulations to the 20 winners of RELAC's annual cash drawing to thank members who recruit colleagues to join the organization. Each will receive \$25. Your efforts to help RELAC grow its membership are greatly appreciated. Another drawing will be held in January 2025 for those making referrals in 2024. Those individuals who made referrals but whose names have not been drawn will be automatically reentered. Members may win multiple times – one ticket is awarded for each referral. (RELAC directors and staff are not eligible for the drawing.)

Winners of the 2023 drawing were:

- Juliet Abdelshehid
 - Roberta Abner*
 - Joycelyn Askins
 - Elena Cervantes
 - Christopher Fierro
 - Sharon Gonterman
 - Celia Hernandez
 - Margaret Hernandez
 - Fred Hungerford
 - Joseph Kelly
 - Christina Loust
 - Joan Marks
 - Lisa Sevin
 - Joyce Stallworth*
 - Rhoden Valinda
 - Michael Waldman
 - Andrea Washington
 - David Yamashita
- *multiple winner

RELAC NEWSLETTER

Vol 59 - March/April 2024
Number 2

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Office Hours

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Monday - Thursday

Closed Friday,

Saturday, Sunday &

Public Holidays



Inside LA County

by Judy Hammond
RELAC Member

L.A. County, which was to be one of the first counties to implement the new state law that allows the creation of CARE courts to order treatment for severely mentally ill persons, has delayed implementation until 2026 due to logistical concerns. Supervisor Janice Hahn was the only supervisor opposing the delay.

Construction has begun on the new outpatient building at the Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and construction of the inpatient building is scheduled to begin this year. This is year two of the \$1.7 billion five-year replacement project.

Eight probation officers were placed on leave for allegedly allowing a group of juveniles to beat a teen at Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall. In the past, such an incident would have been investigated by the Probation Department's internal affairs, but the Sheriff's Department took the lead on this one at the request of Chief Probation Officer Guillermo Viera Rosa. The Board of Supervisors approved a motion initiated by Viera Rosa to assess the feasibility of using outside organizations to conduct internal affairs investigations in the future.

A \$5 million settlement was reached with Eugene Yu, the founder and CEO of Konnech Inc., a company used by L.A. County for election management software to handle poll worker information, who claimed his civil rights were violated and his business and reputation were damaged when he was arrested and company servers and digital devices seized in 2022 by district attorney investigators. The charges were dismissed by the D.A.'s Office a month following the arrest. The D.A. initially alleged that personal information of poll workers was stored on servers in the People's Republic of China, in violation of contractual requirements. Konnech, however, said that all of its U.S. customer data was stored exclusively on protected computers in the U.S. In addition to the \$5 million settlement payout, the County paid \$673,372 to a private law firm that handled the case.

The family of firefighter Jonathan Flagler, who suffered a heart attack and died two years ago while battling a house fire in Rancho Palos Verdes, accepted an out-of-court settlement of \$2.95 million from the County. A Fire Department investigation found Flagler's colleagues lost track of him and did not hear the alarm triggered when his tank started to run out of air. He was alone for more than 10 minutes inside the home, which was filling with smoke, before his fellow firefighters found him not breathing in a bathroom.

In another lawsuit filed by a family member of an employee, the widow of Sheriff's Deputy Arturo Atilano-Valadez is asking \$20 million from the County, alleging her husband committed suicide during a deep depression caused by exhaustive, mandatory overtime. Her lawsuit followed that filed by the parents of Deputy Ryan Clinkunbroomer, who also cited excessive overtime as being responsible for his death. They said fatigue prevented Clinkunbroomer, who was shot in his patrol car while waiting at a stoplight, to stay alert to threats. Atilano said the public is not safe because deputies are "a bunch of zombies walking around who are tired." The Sheriff's Department says it is trying to find a solution to the overtime issue, which is the result of about 20 percent of deputy positions being vacant.

Supervisors approved what they are terming "a world-class" cultural center to be built on a County Public Works yard along the L.A. River in South Gate, saying it will address long-standing inequities in arts access in Southeast Los Angeles. The state has already provided \$124 million for the Frank Gehry-designed project.

After it was revealed that some deputies at the Industry Sheriff's Station were tattooed and known as the Industry Indians, the Board of Supervisors asked the Sheriff's Department to provide a report to the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission's Deputy Gang Ad Hoc Committee that detailed how long the group has been in existence and any incidents of misconduct.

Supervisors approved providing \$20 million in Measure B funds to Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital over the next four years to help stabilize its finances after the facility announced it would run out of money in December 2024 without assistance. Measure B is a property tax assessment approved by voters in 2002 to support trauma centers, emergency medical services and bioterrorism response. Last year 100,000 patients were treated in MLKCH's emergency room, but most were covered by Medi-Cal, which provided less than the actual cost of care.

Dr. Darrell W. Harrington, who served nearly 20 years as Harbor-UCLA Medical Center's director of graduate medical education and designated institutional official, resigned after being accused in two lawsuits of ignoring allegations of sexual misconduct and misogyny lodged against Dr. Louis Kwong, former chief of the orthopedics department. Harrington, who continues as chief academic officer for the Department of Health Services, said the litigation has had a significant impact on him and his family. Dr. Carmen Mendez replaced Harrington as interim designated institutional officer at the hospital. Kwong is on administrative leave.

The County -- under its Delete the Divide program -- has provided more than 2,500 free laptops to students, seniors, families, veterans, community-based organizations, and people experiencing homelessness. It hopes to distribute another 7,500 in 2024.

Supervisor Janice Hahn has found a new way to "market" herself. She began a "Supervisor at Your Supermarket" program in January, spending 90 minutes at local supermarkets on Saturdays to meet with constituents to find out what's on their minds.

The County has created the LGBTQ+ Commission to assist in promoting equity and equality for the LGBTQ+ community.

In commemorating Korean American Day on Jan. 13, it was noted that L.A. County is home to 230,000 people of Korean descent (a fifth of the Koreans in the U.S.), the largest concentration outside Korea.

The Military and Veterans Affairs Department is strengthening its efforts to help veterans who are or have been in jail. It has formed a new committee of veterans formerly incarcerated to make recommendations on how to better serve this population and assigned a staff member to track all self-identified veterans in jail to connect them to services.

Seattle Seahawks linebacker Uchenna Nwosu was among those celebrating the reopening of Carson Library, which was closed for renovation for four years. As a child, Nwosu and his sisters spent many afternoons after school and on the weekends at the library.

The Department of Public Health has updated its analysis of the medical debt burden of L.A. County residents, saying it now exceeds \$2.9 billion and affects approximately 1 in 10 adults. The Board of Supervisors is exploring purchasing the debt; hospitals often sell medical debt for a fraction of the total owed. Public Health had earlier estimated it would cost \$24 million to purchase \$2 billion in debts.

The District Attorney's Office filed more than 200 organized retail theft cases in 2023 against adults and juveniles involved in brazen smash-and-grab incidents at both major and small businesses.



LACERA continued from p.2

can easily modify the amount deducted from your monthly benefit payment. Just log into My LACERA and select "Tax/1099R," "Adjust Election," make your changes, then click "Confirm." Or, if it's easier for you, you can always print, complete, and upload to My LACERA or mail your new *Federal & CA Income Tax Withholding on Retirement Income* (W-4P, DE4P) Form to LACERA.

For decades LACERA has offered two methods of payment for members who receive a monthly benefit: direct deposit (the preferred method) and physical checks. For the last year we have been working on finalizing an agreement to offer a new option—a pre-paid debit card! LACERA strongly recommends members choose to receive their retirement benefits via direct deposit. However, some members still wish to receive payment by check for a variety of reasons.

In the next few months, you will hear more about this offering, but here are the major details. When offered, if you elect to receive your retirement benefits this way, the pre-loaded debit card can be used to make purchases anywhere a MasterCard is accepted, including in stores and online. You can also get cash through ATMs, pay bills, and monitor your account through a secure online portal, or you could transfer the funds to another bank account.

You may wonder why we have been working so hard to bring this new service to you. First and foremost, it is part of our disaster preparedness planning. During the COVID pandemic, some of our members who opted to receive physical checks each month faced payment delays that, in some cases, especially for our members living internationally, were quite significant. We could generate the checks, but due to mailing restrictions and quarantine protocols, we couldn't mail them.

Secondly, and quite frankly, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) is simply not as reliable as it once was. In December of 2023, we suffered our second major delayed mail delivery incident of 2023. In fact, over the last two years we have noticed a significant decline in the reliability and timely delivery of mail by the USPS (despite the fact we meet our mailing deadlines and send our benefit payments First Class). In a normal month we see a few pockets of random delayed mail delivery, but by the middle of December 2023, only about 48% of our members who are paid by check had cashed their checks. Based on USPS mail tracking data, a significant number of those members have been impacted by mail delivery delays.

This is why we highly encourage members who still receive checks to either go on direct deposit or sign up for our pre-paid debit card once we officially offer it. Both services are entirely electronic once established and access to your funds are immediate on LACERA's pay day. Both services are also more secure. Nationwide crime statistics reveal an increase in mail theft. We expect the debit card program to tentatively deploy next year, so stay tuned for more information on how to enroll. We hope all members currently receiving a check will convert to this safer and more convenient method to receive monthly benefits.

If you would like to enroll in direct deposit, log into My LACERA, select "Direct Deposit" from the menu, and follow the instructions. Whatever method you prefer, we're thrilled to continue providing you with the service that works best for you.

One more big announcement to make. In January we launched a redesigned My LACERA member portal! The new portal has a lot of new features for both active and retired members. It's easier to find information on the newly designed welcome page which now has "panels" designed to correspond to our member's journey. Retired members will see a panels showing information on their current benefit, their retiree healthcare plan information, their primary beneficiaries and access to common account maintenance functions all right on the welcome page. And if you haven't registered for My LACERA yet, please do!

Well, that's all from me. I'd like to convey our sincere appreciation for your contributions to Los Angeles County and extend a warm welcome to all our new retirees. Enjoy the cooler months, stay healthy, and here's to a fulfilling year ahead!

Letters To The Editor Write On!



Judy and Terry

A 53-Year Love Story

My wonderful husband, Terry, passed away on Dec. 13 at 11 p.m. from a rare form of cancer, mucosal melanoma, which was diagnosed only at the end of September. Terry suffered a major stroke five years ago, which resulted in the loss of the use of his left side. Despite being bed-bound, Terry never lost his sense of humor and was an inspiration to family and friends. He was always positive during this time and asked his family to be the same. We are grieving the loss of our beloved Terry and know nothing will fill the void created by his passing. He was truly one of a kind. I want to thank all my RELAC friends, including those whom I have never met but forged a friendship while editor of the newsletter, for the support they have provided during this difficult time. The e-mails, cards, notes and phone calls have brought tremendous comfort.

Judy Hammond Conklin, San Dimas, California
Former RELAC Newsletter Editor

Dear Loretta Lopez [Membership Outreach Committee Volunteer], thank you very much for remembering my birthday and sending me a beautiful card. Hope you will enjoy your service for us and Happy all the time too! Sincerely yours,

Vincent B. Kan
Northridge, California

Dear Retired Employees of L. A. County, sorry for the late reply, and to have missed the [General Membership December Meeting] luncheon! Praying for a prosperous New Year in 2024.

Joanne Eno Oden
Torrance, California

Dear Retired Employees of L.A. County, c/o Diane Sandoval, Membership Outreach Committee Chair:

It sure made my day for your very gracious remembrance to me; to receive a beautiful and thoughtful Christmas card. Truly it's a blessing to be remembered. My prayers that each of you are well, in good health, and joyful days ahead. Thank you again.

With sincere thoughts,
Carmen Falcon, retiree
Apple Valley, California

Note: The RELAC Membership Outreach Committee sends birthday and holiday cards to honor and acknowledge our senior members who are 90 years of age and older.



“Staying Safer in the Digital World”

Each item is designed to help you stay safer and avoid being scammed

PASSWORDS

Try not to use shared passwords.
Make email and bank passwords unique.
Make your passwords memorable-length can be better than overly complex.
Use a password manager.

WI-FI

Use only Wi-Fi with passwords.
Doublecheck Wi-Fi names.
Turn off Wi-Fi and Bluetooth when not in use (e.g., traveling).
Use your mobile plan instead.
“Forget” saved Wi-Fi from hotels and public places.

CARDS

Look out for card skimmers—if suspicious, look, jiggle, and pull.
Use contactless feature if possible, rather than inserting or swiping the card. Swiping is the most risky.
Use the gas pump or register facing the clerk.
Use your hand to cover PIN entry.

DIGITAL LIFE

Share only general information on public social media, if at all.
Set social media posts to be visible only to friends (and decide if you want “friends of friends”).
Use a fictitious persona for non-legal, financial, governmental, and other websites where real identity does not matter.
Be on the lookout for phishing email—source address, grammar, layout, etc.
Back up your data. It’s the best tool against ransomware, loss, and theft.
Beware of people looking over your shoulder in public places
Educate yourself about AI “deep fakes”.

FINANCIAL LIFE

Digital cash (Venmo, Zelle) should be sent to friends and known contacts only. Verify account by first sending \$1.
Use credit card where possible, then debit, then checks. Credit cards provide the most protection. Some cards can be credit and debit—ask the merchant to use it as credit.
Urgent call asking for money is usually fraud.
When someone calls from the bank, ask for a case number and call back using the number on the back of the card.
Use Google or Bing to search for a website rather than typing in the address.
Keep up-to-date pictures of everything in your purse or wallet and sync pictures to the cloud.
Offer Up, Craigslist, Facebook, etc. are commonplaces for scammers. Do not send money ahead of product. Meet face-to-face when possible.
Use an identity monitoring service and lock your credit profile with Experian, Equifax, and TransUnion.

DEVICES

If you travel with your computer, turn on encryption (Bitlocker for Windows and Filevault for Mac).
Bring your own charger, do not use public chargers.
Disable iPhone AirDrop and NameDrop.
Beware of suspicious text messages.
Guard your devices in public places.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

December 2023 - January 2024

Assessor – Hermino Arbas, Susan Ferro

Beaches & Harbors – Gilbert Conn

Chief Executive Office – Jessie Comer

Child Support Services – Jacqueline Amos, Eleanor Duran

Children & Family Services – Edna Alfred Alley, Dianne Bean, Evelyn B. Berrios, Mariah Favela, Edward Flores, Susan Celentano

Community & Senior Services – Brenda Mendoza

County Counsel – Frederick Bennett

District Attorney – Douglas Davis, Bridget Fallon, Armenui Galstyan, Karen Tandler

Fire – Craig Fleetwood

Harbor-UCLA Medical Center – Beatriz P. Acosta, Tammy Criss, Marylou Custodid, Bonnie Rachman

Health Services – Estella Alegria, Elaine Arbas, Rosemary Ashcraft, Inez Baker, Kathryn Baldwin, Esperanza Briones, Graciela Contreras, Tipsukon C. Crase, Karen Cygan, Melvin Dayrit, Francisca De La Montte, Alfredo Dizon, Elizabeth Estrada-Federizo, Nestor Eulgencio

Human Resources – Jacqueline Sloniker

Internal Services – Yvette Coogler, Ernest Luna

LAC+USC Medical Center – Lanomay Benjamin, Mary Castro, Charlotte Chang, Kueiling Chu, Margaret Criner, William Cuttles, Janice Daniels, Timothy Del Cano, Rosanna Mesteth

LACERA – Brenda Barton, Pauline Wau Cheng, Nancy Fuang

Medical Examiner/Coroner – Clarissa De La Torre

Mental Health – Raini Bagai, Nancy Bejune, Samuel Chan, Lissette De Leon, Gina Gonzalez-Nunez, Bernard Hudson

Olive View-UCLA Medical Center – Wenlin Andrade, Jorge Diaz

Parks & Recreation – Constance Douglas

Probation – Patricia Bateman, Bruce Bates, Victor Coleman, Ronald Padilla

Public Defender – Gustavo Bermudez, Holly Creamer

Public Health – Johanna Asrrian-Anderson, David Bob, Carole A. Cahfin, Young Lee Chiang, Edy Cumare

Public Social Services – Hilda Ambriz, Dagmani Andom, Henrietta Beasley, Joyce Bell, Janis Carroll, Betty Cowart-Harris, Caroline Daniely, Joe Doan, Lalago Fao, Elena M. Marcos, Jo-Helen Shumate

Rancho Los Amigos Hospital – Beverly A. Atkins, Ronald Rosborough

Regional Planning – David Mc Donald

Registrar Recorder – Lola Davalos, Patricia Frias

Sheriff – Carlene Adams, Joan Adatao, James Ames, Craig Anderson, Yolanda Astorga, Elsa Avila, Ted Barnes, Alfredo Castro, Amelia Centers, Kathryn Clark, Patrice Coke, Eric Conway, Glenn Crites, Jennifer Crowley-Sullivan, Carolyn Detjen, Steve Eastman, Pedro Echeverria, Courtney Falconer, Robin Falzbot, Alicia Forgues, David Gaede

Superior Court – Rosemary Bailey Arbuckle, Sheri Blackwell, Belia Borrego, Conjetta Cella, Georgianne Ciavirella, Carol Dalrymple, Patricia Davis, Marjorie Follings, Laureano Irueta

Work Force Development – Bobbie Cubit

Associate Members – Roy S. Ashcraft, Leobardo Astorga, Bernard Au, Francisco Avila, Rita Ayala, Rani Bagai, Terry E. Baker, Pauline Barnes, Carla Bates, Mary E. Bennett, Kimberly Bermudez, Velma H. Bobo, Penny Jolene Buck, Robert Centers, John K. Chiang, Anthony Kamlam Chiu, Dorothy Conn, James H. Contreras, Lloyd Dalrymple, Yvonne Davis, Steven Dawson, Francisco Atilano De La Torre, Linda Diaz, Edelwin Dizon, Alicia Eastman, Donna A. Fleetwood, George Fuang, Terrell Gafford, Philip A. Gonsal, Chauncy Harris, Jon Hockey, Keven Jackson Sr, Teddy E. Marcos, Pedro A. Mena III, Mitch Rachman, Elias A. Shabazz, Sandy Tandle

Department Not Designated – Donald Dlugos

Thanks for Referrals

Our thanks to the members, shown in bold, for referring new members, shown in italics.

December 2023 – January 2024

Les Robbins, *Glenn Crites*, Sheriff

Ron Williams, *David Gaede*, Sheriff

Marian Gallegos, *Jacqueline Sloniker*, Human Resources

PASSAGES

Compiled by Judy Hammond,
RELAC Member



Ludwig Hudson



Frost



Solorzano



Zavala

Deaths:

Coleman A. Swart, 84, who served 24 years as a Superior Court judge after working as a deputy district attorney from 1967-1982. **Ken Brecher**, 78, associate artistic director of the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles from 1974 to the mid-'80s. **Tony Luna**, 84, a public defender before being appointed a court commissioner in 1991. **William Ackerman Allen**, who became a Superior Court commissioner in 1988. **Stephen Redd**, 78, a sheriff's deputy from 1967-73 who was on death row for fatally shooting a supermarket manager during a robbery in 1994, found dead in his cell; the cause of death was not immediately released. Superior Court Judge **Richard James Burdge, Jr.**, 74, who served on the bench since 2014; from complications of melanoma. **James C. White**, 91, a commander in the Sheriff's Department when he retired in 1988 after 33 years of service, died 10 days after the passing of Ruth, his wife of 62 years. **Jackie White**, who retired in 2014 after 41 years of County service, including serving as deputy chief executive officer in the Chief Executive Office; after four-year battle with cancer. **Barbara McGowan**, 76, a member of the health team in the budget division of the Chief Administrative Office under Richard Dixon and later a senior manager in the Department of Human Resources under Michael Henry, retiring in 2004 with more than 33 years of service. **Andrew Campbell**, 71, a former director of organizational development at the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, following 18-month battle with ALS. **Dirk "Bill" Ludwig Hudson**, 86, who spent his entire 32-year career as an attorney in the District Attorney's Office, retiring in 2001. **Camilla Chandler Frost**, 98, founding trustee of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) who served more than 20 years as an officer on the Board and its first female president, credited with giving the museum more than 2,480 works of art valued at more than \$20 million. **Richard A. Miller**, 81, who retired as medical director of the long-term care program in the Department of Mental Health in 2015 after 15 years of service, from cancer of the meninges.



Burdge, Jr.



Coleman

Retirements:

Brence Culp, former aide to Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky and chief deputy to Chief Executive Officer Bill Fujioka, who left to work for the City of Los Angeles, granted a deferred retirement, with more than 14 years of service. **Otto Solorzano**, chief deputy of the Justice, Care and Opportunities Department who was once acting director of the Community and Senior Services Department, with more than 33 years of service. **Celia Zavala**, executive officer of the Board of Supervisors since September 2018, with 30 years of service, working for the Health Services Department prior to transferring to the Executive Office 13 years ago as chief deputy. **Dean Aardema**, a principal analyst with the Chief Executive Office who has spent the last five years of his 35-year career helping redesign processes and enhance accountability in the real estate section (following the conviction of an employee for taking bribes) and assisting the new Justice, Care and Opportunities Department create and absorb pre-trial functions. **Armando Garcia**, executive secretary in the Department of Human Resources, with more than 41 years of service. Deputy public defender **Herman Santos**, who served as treasurer of the Public Defender Union, AFSCME and trustee on both the LACERA Board of Retirement and Board of Investments, with more than 34 years of County service. **Ronald Fifer**, a staff analyst with the Health Services Department, with more than 54 years of service.



Santos

Appointments:

Sharmaine Moseley, who previously led civilian oversight of law enforcement in San Diego and Albany, New York, named the new executive director of the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission. **Jeff Levinson**, chief deputy executive officer of the Board of Supervisors, named interim executive officer following retirement of Celia Zavala.



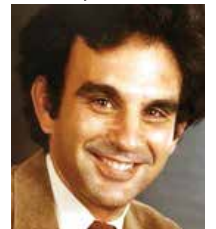
Moseley

Honors:

The Board of Supervisors renamed Fire Station 58 in Ladera Heights in honor of **Hershel Clady**, who broke the color barrier at the Fire Department, the first black to be promoted to engineer and then captain. Clady, who was assistant fire chief when he retired in 2001 after 32 years of service, died in 2023 at age 82.

Miscellaneous:

Eyvin Hernandez, a L.A. County public defender for 15 years who had been imprisoned in Venezuela since March 2022, was one of 10 Americans released in a prisoner-exchange. Hernandez, on vacation in Columbia, was accused of criminal association and conspiracy after joining a friend on a trip to the Colombian-Venezuelan border to resolve a passport issue involving the friend's stay in Venezuela.



Miller

Courts:

Two former sheriff deputies who forced a 23-year-old skateboarder into the back of their patrol car after he yelled at them to stop picking on teens at a Compton park and then filed a false drug arrest report to cover up the incident have received prison terms. **Miguel Vera** was sentenced to two years in federal prison and **Christopher Hernandez** to 18 months for deprivation of rights under color of authority. Former Sheriff's Deputy **Andrew Lyons**, 39, pleaded no contest to felony assault with a semi-automatic firearm and assault under the color of authority in the 2019 on-duty fatal shooting of an unarmed man in his vehicle in Willowbrook. Former County Supervisor **Mark Ridley-Thomas**, 69, has filed an appeal to get a new trial or reverse his fraud and bribery convictions, for which he has been sentenced to 3 ½ years in federal prison. An attorney who represented sheriff Lt. **Larry Waldie** in an unsuccessful civil lawsuit against the department has filed a petition with the state to decertify Undersheriff **April Tardy**, accusing her of perjury during court testimony.



McGowan

County Fire Station 58 Named in Honor Of Trailblazing Assistant Fire Chief Hershel Clady

by Victoria Pipkin-Lane, Editor



Hershel Clady was a trailblazing member of the Los Angeles County Fire Department from 1969 until his retirement in 2001. He rose through the ranks from firefighter, to firefighter specialist, to captain, to battalion chief, and finally to assistant fire chief in 1993. In most instances, Clady was the first African-American to promote to the position.

His leadership of Fire Station 58, where he oversaw the first all African-American firefighter crew, led to the facility becoming a training center that produced hundreds of firefighters for the County Department and other fire service agencies.

So, it was no surprise when County and Fire Department officials announced that Fire Station 58, located at 5757 South Fairfax Ave. in Los Angeles, would be named in his honor on Saturday, February 17, 2024. (For many years, the site was “unofficially” known as Clady’s Station.)

Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Second District, Fire Chief Anthony Marrone, retired Fire Chief Daryl Osby, and Battalion Chief Chad Sourbeer spoke at the ceremony, lauding Clady’s numerous accomplishments and commitment to helping others. They were joined by an enthusiastic and standing-room-only audience of family members, former colleagues, mentees, friends and community admirers.

Remarks were given by Deborah Clady, widow, Cassandra and Chandra Clady, daughters, and Hershel Clady II, son. Johnny Gray III, president, Los Angeles County Stentorians, and Brent Burton, historian, African-American Firefighter Museum, also were on the program. Fond remembrances were delivered by retired County Assistant Fire Chief Dan Scott and retired Fire Chief David Washington, Las Vegas Fire and Rescue Department.

Chaplain Mark Griffen gave the invocation, the County Fire Department Honor Guard presented the Colors, Explorer Joseph Williams, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Amber Weekes performed the National Anthem.

It was noted that Clady placed greater value on the success of others over anything he achieved for himself. Throughout his County career, Clady was “a role model to many in the fire service arena. He spent most of his career fighting for equal rights for minorities and women,” according to an obituary published in the San Diego Voice & Viewpoint newspaper (June 1, 2023). The Memphis, Tennessee native was born August 20, 1941 and transitioned on January 22, 2023, at the age of 81.

A closer look into the respect and admiration peers had for Clady’s 32 years of fire service was best summed up last year by Nicolas Thomas, deputy fire chief (retired), San Jose Fire Department. “He (Clady) had a forceful personality matching his booming baritone voice. I recall Chief Clady being extremely helpful to young men and women pursuing advancement in the fire service. He was a great fire service leader, a great family man, a great friend,” said Thomas.

In short, Clady’s was a life of purpose, of giving back, a life well-lived.



IN MEMORIAM

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

Alternate Public Defender - Charles W. Rogers

Ambulatory Care Network - Barbara S. Jacoby, Leticia Rodriguez

Animal Control - Stefen Edwards

Assessor - Bing S. Akuin, Janet A. Brown, Lilian H. Carnero, Doris M. Hicks, Eloise Holmes, Xiomara A. Klapp, Nancy M. Pexa

Auditor-Controller - Wilma B. Harris, Barbara June Heard

Board of Supervisors - Andrew C. Campbell, Barbara A. Hill

Chief Executive Office - Harriet M. Pope, Nicholas Noly Wiratma Simbolon, Jacqueline White

Chief Information Office - Louis Jackson

Child Support Services - Juanita Lee, Katherine A. Shomaker

Children & Family Services - Audrey M. Brown, Roberto G. Buluran, Dave K. Burris, John E. Desler, Alice V. Dickson, Angela L. Donovan, Inez Gafford, Pius A. Itodo, Ericka R. Jupiter, Edwin Kise, Clare Kjolsrud, Ester A. Literte, Wanda A. Longshore, Richard L. Margetts, Mary J. Newman, Eduardo Oquendo, Yvonne M. Pizzo, Andrew J. Ringer, Elsie Rivera, Lynn E. Robinson, Salina M. Salcido, Grace S. Tionko, Carole A. Upshur, Gwendolyn Walker, Travis J. Webb, Franklin H. Yun

Correctional Health - Sarah J. Tong

County Counsel - Sandra Magee, Alan K. Terakawa, Marie T. Wilson

Human Resources - Barbara M. McGowan

District Attorney - Dirk L. Hudson, Robert P. Imerman, Diane C. Labrusciano, Robert Philibosian, Jennie Reyes, Carolyn A. Welch-Fuller

Engineer Facilities - David C. Griffith, John S. Hale, Patricia B. Landis

Fire - Roy A. Arnold, Charles R. Askin, David J. Barros, Ulysses Duran, Frank P. Fosdick, Joseph A. Gandara, Donald Kirchenschlager, William E. Lenzen, Dennis M. Martin, Hilda J. McElwee, Gerald A. Meehan, Kenneth W. Roberts, Glenn A. Rogers, Albert R. Vasquez, Craig R. Zimmermann

Flood Control District - Michael C. Johnston

Forestry and Fire Warden - John J. Richey, Robert L. Service

Harbor/UCLA Medical Center - Anthony O. Austin, Jennifer K. Bradley, Mark Howard Braun, Letecia R. Cabal, Consuelo G. Captain, Phrenjello Caver, Chantal R. Girault, Kathleen Harrington, Charles S. Kimble, Leo J. Lundy, Beatrice Mason, Robert J. Morin, Skye Morrow, Bok-Soo Shin, Sherry Shipman, Rosemary Williams, Joseph Woods

Health Services Administration - Melvin Ables Jr., Anthony V. Barycki, Henry Boatright, Carol E. Cuthbertson, Joyce Marie Easley, Sherry L. Johnson, Glenn F. Richards, Judy M. Ross, Henry Williams

Internal Services - Lee R. Bonds Jr., Florine S. De Silva, Richard W. Forrest Jr., Frank M. Garrison, Frank Y. Hsia, Tony Johnny, Elnora Killgore, Donald L. Kirby, Christa K. Ladd, Anderson Moore, Clinton Murdock, Rita Pisarek, Rodolfo Rodriguez, Ronald J. Schuman, Diane Smith

Juvenile Court Health Services - Roger Howard Johnson

King-Drew Medical Center - Pearl V. Boykins, Margaret Calhoun, Keith H. Crossley, Sandra A. Edwards, Ruby Lee Fentry, Anna Bell Jackson, Jeff Lacy Jr., Reginald M. Miles, Sudha Patel, Marshall L. Scaife Sr., Victoria C. Simpson, Geraldine J. Welch, Alphonsa J. Wiggins

LAC+USC Medical Center - John W. Allen, Abundia Ancira, Meimy R. Awad, Raymon C. Bierman, Jaime M. Campos, Mildred R. Capiti, Myrna D. Carpio, Mary Chavez, Barbara C. Eastman, Charles L. Franklin, Andrea M. Franks, Colleen Gaw, Allyn L. Gazzarine, Emma R. Gonzalez, Cecilia Guerrero, Jacqueline Hamot, Florence L. Hatch, Marion Ruth Heyn, Addie R. Lee, Roger Marin, Angela McKittrick, Alice M. Nash, Christine L. Norfleet, Gloria A. Oghie, Wesley Petty, Lillia Plantilla, Blanca Roldan, Ofelia De Leon Sanchez, Alexandra A. Shin, Mary L. Stricklin, Edward Valenzuela, Luis Vega, Roger T. Ward, Ariel Zorrilla

Mechanical - Kermit C. Hicks

Medical Examiner-Coroner - Emily C. Leon, Melody S. Smith

Mental Health - Melba S. Bouquet, James A. Bush, Susan V. Graham, Damon W. Holmes Sr., Patricia D. Jimenez, Ali M. Khajawall, Timothy K. Lawson, David Leslie, Paul R. Miller, Constance Palmer, Judy Y. Peng, Ruth P. Walter, Darwin L. White

Olive View/UCLA Medical Center - Linda C. Forgit, Ruth E. Friand, Mary F. Marsh, Patsy J. Parker, Susana E. Peterson, Teofilo V. Santos Jr., Teresa Thomson

Parks and Recreation - Vincent Cortez, Jose A. Guerrero, Robert J. Guillen, Jose J. Jimenez, James Sorrell Sr., Richard R. Ziebol

Probation - Benedict J. Amorelli, John J. Campbell, Peter Davis, Charles Dyer, Venoy K. Garrison, Lorraine E. Geittmann, Robert G. Gillen, Kendall D. Good, Darlene Hunt, Charles C. Hypolite, Mpinduzi Khuthaza, Yvonne Mack, Elnora Marshall, Eugenio L. Mirto, Yoshi Miya, Antwine A. Murchison, Arlene M. Sauser, Sandra R. Seltzer, Gustave S. Smith, David L. Solin, Judith Evelle Torres, Joel B. West, Walter R. Westbrooks, Christine Wong, Clearese Young

Public Defender - Bobbie J. Anderson, Edith Y. Goya, Randal L. Later, Thomas B. Reitano, Martin W. Staven

Public Health - Stephanie Byers, James N. Day, Jacqueline A. Echols, Stephen T. Hale, Beverly Jones-Monroe, Lovelle Mansion, Yoshie Matsuoka, Rochelle McDonald, John T. Morgan, Donald E. Motley, Eliza Perez, Crystal Phillips, Gloria P. Press, Stanley Sarkisian, Mark C. Speers, Dennis Takessian

Public Library - Ozzie G. Freeman

Public Social Services - Daniel Alawerjan, Arthur B. Blandon, Shirley Bloom, Dolores E. Churchill, Ursula A. Clarks, Karen Clements, John R. Cliburn, Sharon L. Cobb-Geiger, Alicia Correa, Andres Corredeira, Lydia Cortez, Fred L. Dominguez, Virginia M. Duncan, Gloria J. Easley, Ynes Elias, Daniel Elias, Maura Enriquez, Haikui Garaoglyanyan, Yvette L. Gardner, Marysol Guerrero, Nagwa Guirguis, Nashay L. Harbin, Arlene Herron, Sadie R. Hines, Digna Jorge, Velma R. Lewis, Henry Loya, Teresa Mendoza, Fernando Merida, Mary Meyer, Virginia L. Mouzakis, Bich-Dong T. Nguyen, Audrey J. Nichols, Dorothy Pegues, Demeris P. Robertson, Patricia Annette Romero, Gladys M. Runkel, Viola C. Sanders, David Scheffler, Patricia A. Smith, Krikor Y. Terzian, Lucy B. Velasquez, Urania Watts, Karen P. Weiner, Viola E. Winston, Ernest V. Wisco, Sylvia J. Woods, Renea Wright, Alexander C. Young, Jameel Yusof, H. Gail Zube

Public Works - James C. Boykin, Richard R. Braun, Anthony Duran, James F. Erpenbach, Lyle L. Fann, Vincent A. Garcia, Ralph Gutierrez, Robert E. Kidd, Weifeng Lin, Daniel D. Marrufo, Michael McConnell, Robert Mickey, Gerald Moffett, Karl R. Price, Nancy L. Rashada, Dennis Rodriguez, Eddie L. Rubio, Feridon Shahbaznia, Martha Alicia Shimizu

Rancho Los Amigos Hospital - Helga Breaux, Joyce E. Crockett, Dallas C. France, Florida M. Johnson, Tommy L. Knox, Mildred Lloyd, Juan C. Maisch, John Marcelin, Kristy R. McIntosh, Richard J. Murray, Michael F. Rudolph, Ronald E. Saul, Curtis Ward

Reg.-Recorder/County Clerk - Venita Barnes, Anthony L. Rumfola, George T. Sieber, Keith Brasselle Thompson

Sheriff - Kenneth W. Allen, Enie S. Atienza, Ray C. Bame Jr., Brian K. Billing, Lawrence J. Bittner, William Campbell, Maurice Cannon, Peggy Casarotto, Danilo R. Castaneda Jr., Michael W. Chamberlain, Eric M. Christiansen, Patricia A. Craig, Ronald W. Curlis, Renee L. Dibb, Kenneth R. Duffey, Richard Evans, Susanne E. Gordon, Arturo L. Guzman, William A. Hagan, Sergio B. Herrera, Melvin E. Householder, Richard J. Jefferson, Stephen A. Kamens, Joseph J. Klempin, Valerie J. Lafond, Marlon C. Lazo, Milton D. Lee, Nolan B. Lyons Jr., Harold Lloyd Manskar, William L. Marsh, David W. Moran, Clifford W. Morden, Clark A. Nichols, Anthony J. Papa, Robert L. Payton, Russell J. Peck, Beverly R. Phillips, Alice R. Rogers, Adib F. Saad, Aurelio L. Sanchez, Roberto S. Santos, John H. Sontgerath, Frank Terkelsen, Verna L. Thomas, Anthony R. Toomey, Cindy A. Vukic, Stuart K. Ward, William Lee Webb, Laverta Sue Weekly, Heidi H. Ziebeck, Andres C. Zuniga

Superior Court/County Clerk - William A. Allen, Manuel Almendras, Marjorie R. Blasingame, James Ingram, Stephen Koshy, Tony Luna, Don E. McKinney, Margaret Melendez, Daniel Moreno, Erika Morgenstern, Barbara A. Sepulveda, Albert Sheen, Coleman A. Swart, Sue Thompson, James E. Toomey, Eleanor Verner, Ritzie Lee Williams, Linda L. Winkel, Suzanne S. Wong

Treasurer/Tax Collector - Mary A. Karambellas

Workforce Dev. Aging & Comm. Svcs. - Henrietta Lopez

Unidentified County Agency - Moat Ballard Sr., M. Stanley Finn, Norman R. Huggins, Jack K. Steinmetz



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

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WHERE ARE YOU?

We are missing current contact information for the following members. Please email us at admin@relac.org if you know how we can contact these members.

From California:

Compton - Gwendolyn C. Abrom, Vernell Collier, Charlotte A. Hack, Laura Henderson, Darcus Taylor, Sharron Thompson

Long Beach - J. Peter Fajardo, Susan Fowler, Carolyn Fryer, Darlene Gidley, Joe G. Hernandez, Carolyn Maddox, Marilyn G. Monsanto, Patricia A. Patterson, Donald R. Rouch, Gregory Tokeshi.

Los Angeles - Demetris Aguebor, Sandra Bobo, Bobby Cagle, Nadine Chastang, Carmelita Crenshaw, Teresa M. Disarufino, Albenis Draughan, Amelia G. Guerrero, Josephine Harris Tharpe, Kyoko Hondo, Quinton C. James, Peggy J. Knight, Laurette Lanier, Janice Henegan Lyons, Joyce J. Moore, Wilhelmina H. Raspberry, Maria Gloria Cenica Sagpao, Joe E. Salazar, Dakota Sands, Debra Sartori, Annette Silver, Barbara J. Smith, Richard D. Stewart, Eva L. Thompson, Jacqueline Triplett, Pamela Ward, Leroy Welcome, Dorothy Wheat, Evelyn Work



RELAC Spring Drawing

A popular RELAC tradition continues this Spring with the cash drawing. All members are eligible for the raffle, which consists of 20 prizes, \$25.00 each. To participate, simply complete the coupon below and mail to the RELAC office, 1000 S. Fremont Ave., Unit 15, Alhambra, CA 91803-8802. **Coupons must be received no later than April 8, 2024.**

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