



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

# RELAC *newsletter*

Your Pension and Health Care Watchdog

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## President's Message

by Brian Berger



The last few months have been, and the next ones are going to be, busy, productive times for the RELAC Board of Directors. If you have a pencil handy, write down June 22 on your calendar. That is when we will be holding our next general membership meeting at a first-time location, the Carson Community Center. Board member Victoria Pipkin-Lane and her General Membership Committee have been working hard to find and secure this new site, which takes our meeting to a different area of the County. We look forward to seeing all of you who can make it. March also saw the important addition of two members to the RELAC Board of Directors, Deborah Martin and James Brekk. These two high-energy and highly qualified individuals will ease the impact of the sudden loss and the resignation of two well-known, hard-working, and well appreciated Board members. You will find additional background on Debbie and Jim in this newsletter.

This newsletter will also include a new column provided by the Department of Aging and Disabilities. This informational column grew out of the very well-received presentation at our January general membership meeting by Dr. Laura Trejo, the director of that department, and the easy recognition of how much our membership was interested in staying current on any information that department could share.

It is spring and I hope that means our heavy, wet deluges are gone and many of us can begin or return to walking, swimming, outdoor workouts, picnics, or whatever was a part of your outdoor routines. I'm looking forward to reintroducing myself to the many dogs, and their owners, that seem to be a part of my normal route near the Rose Bowl.

There is a lot of important information in this edition of the newsletter, including that from LACERA and the Board of Investments. As usual, Judy amazes us with all she has pulled together and discovered, including articles submitted by retirees. So many of you continue to lead interesting lives, and thank you for sharing.

As I say each time, please continue to send us your questions, ideas, and suggestions. We look forward to the chance to see and share with many of you.



## Peinado Resigns Seat on RELAC Board

Epifanio "Epi" Peinado, who has served on the RELAC Board of Directors since January 2020, has resigned, effective Feb. 2.



Peinado was appointed to the Board to fill a vacancy and won election in 2022 to a new three-year term that began Jan. 1 of this year. "I joined the Board just as the pandemic was becoming front news and affecting our aged communities, and other opportunities have spawned now that the pandemic has lessened its grip on us. I had plans to stay with the Board for many years, but life sometimes has other plans for us," he said.

Peinado, chief deputy of the Human Resources Department when he retired in 2019, has opened his own human resources consultant firm and is currently working with a community-based health care organization. "Unfortunately, this has meant that I have less time and energy to give to RELAC," he said.

RELAC President Brian Berger said Peinado had been a valued member of the Board of Directors. "I will miss Epi's involvement, great skills in dealing with people, energy, ideas, and contributions as a Board member, but also understand his new outside responsibilities and the need to have more control of his time. I and the Board wish him all the best; plus, I also know that he is still deeply interested in all of the Board's activities and is only a phone call away."

At RELAC, Peinado headed the Office Management and Benefits committees. He said he had great respect for RELAC and its efforts on behalf of retirees. "I was drawn to RELAC given its mission to be an advocate for our retirees. What I experienced was working with a board of directors fully committed to giving back – whether it's providing community services opportunities, social events, newsletter (or really, a County lifeline), or keeping a watchful eye on our retirement. I owe a debt of gratitude to Linda Hopkins for recruiting me, and our friendship of 20 years was

*continued on p.12*

## Martin and Brekk Appointed to RELAC Board

by Judy Hammond, Newsletter Editor

Debbie Martin, chief deputy director of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) when she retired in 2021, and James Brekk, the top information technology and security officer at the Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association (LACERA), who also retired in 2021, are new members of the RELAC Board of Directors.

Martin and Brekk were appointed in March to fill vacancies created by the resignation of Epi Peinado in February and the death of Evelyn Gutierrez in 2022. Their terms expire Dec. 31, 2025.

RELAC Past President Dave Muir, who heads the Bylaws/Nominations/Elections Committee, said the committee interviewed both candidates and found them "extraordinarily qualified."

President Brian Berger said Martin and Brekk will be valuable additions to the RELAC Board. "When I talked to Debbie and Jim, I could see and feel their strengths and could visualize how well they will each easily team with other Board members and contribute and support the many activities of the different committees. Each has a great understanding of how the County operates and the individual experiences to know the how and the where to make things happen."



*continued on p.12*

## Board of Investments

by Joseph Kelly  
LACERA Board of Investments  
Trustee



In my most recent article, I noted that trustees voted to appoint Gina Sanchez as chair of the Board of Investments (BOI) and that she was the first woman to lead the BOI. Subsequently, I learned that Sandra Anderson served as chair of the BOI from 2002 to 2006. I would like to correct the record and acknowledge Anderson's service to LACERA members and to the board she led.

My current three-year term as the elected retiree trustee expires at the end of this calendar year. I announced at the March BOI meeting that I will not seek reelection this August, as my trustee role conflicts with several professional objectives I wish to achieve in retirement. I am proud to support a valued former colleague, Debbie Martin, in the upcoming election.

In March, financial markets were rattled by a run on the Silicon Valley Bank (SVB). Jon Grabel, LACERA's chief investment officer, informed the board that SVB's difficulties were caused by a mismatch between the duration (the sensitivity of a fixed income portfolio to interest rates) of its liabilities (customer deposits that can be withdrawn instantly) and that of its assets (longer-term U.S. Treasury bonds and government-backed mortgage-backed securities). The market value of SVB's assets declined as interest rates rose, and as a result, SVB did not have enough cash on hand when depositors wanted their money. Some of LACERA's private funds and their portfolio companies used SVB for cash management and borrowing facilities. Most of LACERA's partners have shifted fund-level deposits and credit lines to other institutions and advised portfolio companies to transfer assets out of SVB. Importantly, the collapse of SVB has had no identifiable impact on LACERA's private equity holdings.

I am traveling as I write this and have had little or no Internet access, so performance figures are excluded from this month's report.

## Board of Retirement

by Les Robbins, RELAC Director,  
LACERA Board of Retirement Trustee



This summer is very important for us retirees. This is the summer where retirees will have the opportunity to elect their representatives on the LACERA Boards of Retirement and Investments. For the past three years I have had the privilege of being the primary retiree representative on the Board of Retirement and RELAC Board Member J.P. Harris has been the alternate. Joe Kelly has been the retiree representative on the LACERA Board of Investments.

Voting will take place between Aug. 4 and Aug. 31 by MAIL THIS TIME. All retirees will receive ballots in the mail and will have the ability to vote on a written ballot. I am definitely running for reelection and so is J.P. Harris, but Joe Kelly has decided to NOT run for reelection. Subsequent to Joe Kelly's decision to NOT seek reelection, the RELAC Board has decided to endorse new RELAC Director Debbie Martin for the retiree position on the Board of Investments. Debbie has a very impressive resume and many years of

## News From LACERA

by JJ Popowich  
Assistant Executive Officer



Spring greetings from LACERA! April marks the end of our busiest retirement season, a time we call March Madness. And, as such, I'm excited to share some updates on recent projects at LACERA and some good news for all our new retirees.

First and foremost, we're happy to announce that we've finalized the proposed strategic plan that will guide the next five years at LACERA. In early April, we will be asking the Board of Retirement for approval of our plan. Assuming approval is granted, we will start deploying our new plans and implementing these great and productive ideas. The proposed plan is built on five priorities, including prioritizing your member experience, innovating through technology, investing in our staff, managing risks and compliance, and promoting fiscal durability. Each of these pillars will better prepare and improve LACERA to fulfill our mission to you and other retirees now and well into the future.

As you may have seen in your recent issue of Spotlight, cost-of-living-adjustments (COLA) have arrived for LACERA retirees. On Feb. 1, the Board of Retirement approved a 5 percent COLA increase for retirees and eligible payees. All retirees and eligible payees will receive the maximum allowable adjustment under the plans:

- Plan A: 3 percent increase
- Plans B, C, D: 2 percent increase
- Plan E\* members who retired on and after June 4, 2002: up to a 2 percent increase
- PEPRA Plans C (Safety) and G: 2 percent increase

This increase, effective April 1, will be reflected in your April 30 benefit payment. For more information about how COLA impacts you or how much aggregate COLA your plan and retirement year have accrued, visit [lacera.com/retirement-payments/cola-accumulation](http://lacera.com/retirement-payments/cola-accumulation).

Next, I am pleased to share that we are continuing our efforts to ensure our Member Service team is fully staffed. We are in the process onboarding our next class of retirement benefit specialists, who we expect to begin in May. It takes LACERA about 7-10 months to fully train specialists and get them ready to answer your questions. We look forward to this team helping us continue to reduce wait times and provide faster service. But training new staff is not the only way we're expanding how we help our members. We also have a call-back option, where members who call us on the phone are offered the option of being called back that same day rather than waiting on hold. And in late April we will begin implementation of a new automated member verification process for when members call into our Call Centers. This new pre-call process will make getting to a specialist quicker. We even plan to look at implementing a voice recognition system as an opt-in feature to make future calls even easier. LACERA is on the forefront of using technology to make your member experience excellent.

Another recent and exciting development is our deployment of new software to livestream, record, and archive our board meetings so that members like you can watch and stay informed at your own convenience. To watch a board meeting, visit [lacera.com/leadership/board-meetings](http://lacera.com/leadership/board-meetings) at the time of the meeting -- the Board of Retirement meets at 9 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month and the Board of Investments meets at 9 a.m. on the second Wednesday. Other features and improvements on this webpage include a calendar of upcoming board meetings, archives of previous meetings, agenda materials, and an enhanced search feature.

You can also view previous board meetings on LACERA's YouTube channel. Visit the site I listed above and click on "LACERA - YouTube" at the bottom of the page for a variety of videos, including recorded meetings and other helpful retirement information.

With that, I'd like to welcome and congratulate all our recent retirees from the March Madness retirement season. Thank you for all your service to our beautiful county. Now, it's our turn to serve you.





## RELAC Directors Endorse Debbie Martin To Represent Retirees on LACERA Board

By Judy Hammond, Newsletter Editor

The RELAC Board of Directors voted unanimously to endorse new director Debbie Martin in her bid to win a seat on the LACERA Board of Investments (BOI) in the upcoming election, representing retirees. Former RELAC Director Joseph Kelly now occupies the seat, but has indicated he will not seek reelection.

RELAC Director Les Robbins, who is now a member of the LACERA Board of Retirement (BOR) but has served on the BOI, said Martin would make an excellent trustee.

"Debbie has a very impressive resume and many years of management and financial experience with the County of Los Angeles. I have had the opportunity to spend some time with Debbie and I am very confident in both her qualifications and her commitment to being a sound fiduciary, as well as a great representative of our retirees who are members of LACERA and RELAC," he said.

Martin retired in September 2021 after a 38-year career with the County that spanned six departments: Auditor-Controller, Chief Executive Office, Parks and Recreation, Public Social Services, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, and Treasurer-Tax Collector. She began as an accountant auditor in the Auditor-Controller's Office in 1986 and progressed through several management executive positions, including deputy director and chief deputy in the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's Office, deputy director in Parks and Recreation, and chief deputy in Public Social Services.

Kelly, elected in 2020 to represent retirees on the BOI for a three-year term, said he decided not to seek a second term because the role of a trustee conflicts with other professional objectives he desires to achieve in retirement.

He approached Martin to see if she might be interested in running for the BOI seat. "I thought of Debbie because not only does she have the required skills, including having earned her CPA certification after college, but she was a working wife and mom -- an experience that mirrors that of so many retirees." A vocal advocate for gender diversity, Kelly noted that women are underrepresented on the LACERA boards. Currently, two of the nine trustees on the BOI are women.

Kelly said he met several times with Martin and was impressed with her understanding of the impact to retirees of the decisions made by the Board of Investments. "I was very excited when she told me she wanted to run."

Martin said when Kelly approached her about running for the LACERA seat, she said, "Count me in." She said the BOI position is aligned to her skillsets and would allow her to give back to her community (County retirees).

## RELAC Thanks Board of Supervisors Executive Office

The RELAC Board of Directors approved a motion to send a letter to Board of Supervisors Executive Officer Celia Zavala to express appreciation for agreeing to provide written ballots to all retirees in the upcoming LACERA election.

Zavala's office had initially indicated that retirees would have to vote by phone or computer, which RELAC opposed.

Paper ballots will ensure retirees will get to vote for their representatives on the LACERA Board of Retirement and Board of Investments, the directors said.

"If the retirees had been required to vote by computer or phone, it would have disenfranchised a significant number of them as many are not computer savvy and may find it difficult or even impossible to carry out the process of voting over a telephonic or online system. Moreover, there are 230 retirees residing outside the United States.

"Thank you for your willingness to listen to our concerns and take steps to ensure retirees' voting rights are protected," directors wrote.

## RELAC Votes to Support LACERA's Appeal

The RELAC Board of Directors has voted to file an amicus curiae (friend of the court) brief to support the Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association (LACERA) appeal of a judgment that the Board of Supervisors has the authority to set the salaries and classifications of LACERA employees.

LACERA contends that provisions of the California Constitution and the County Employees Retirement Law require the Board of Supervisors to include in the County salary ordinance the employee positions and salaries that are approved by LACERA's Board of Retirement and Board of Investments.

Superior Court Judge James C. Chalfant, however, ruled in December 2022 that while LACERA has exclusive authority over the management of the retirement system's assets and their delivery to its members, that authority doesn't extend to setting the salaries for all of its employees.

LACERA filed the initial lawsuit after the Board of Supervisors voted to reject or modify several personnel actions approved by LACERA's two boards. RELAC also filed an amicus curiae at that time, which was granted by the judge, who noted RELAC's important role in protecting retirees' interests.

LACERA attorneys do not anticipate an appellate court decision until late 2025.

## RELAC General Membership Meeting Set for June 22

RELAC's slate of candidates for the upcoming election for retiree representatives on the LACERA Boards of Retirement and Investments will be presented at the general membership meeting on June 22 at the Carson Event Center.

The RELAC meeting begins at 10 a.m. in the East Wing Activity Room of the center, located at 801 E. Carson St., Carson. A 9:30 a.m. continental breakfast will precede the meeting. Opportunity drawings will be held for a wide range of gifts, including RELAC logo merchandise and retail gift cards.

Guest speakers will provide information on Medicare for retirees, and health care benefits available.

The candidates endorsed by RELAC are: Les Robbins, Board of Retirement; J.P. Harris, alternate, Board of Retirement; and Debbie Martin, Board of Investments. All are members of the RELAC Board of Directors.

## RELAC At Los Angeles County Management Council



RELAC Director Linda C. Hopkins represented RELAC at the L.A. County Management Council's spring conference March 23-24 in Santa Barbara. The conference was themed "Connecting Challenges with Solutions while Delivering Compassionate and Equitable Services." County Treasurer-Tax Collector Keith Knox and RELAC member Fred Hungerford, retired chief deputy of the County Public Library, were among those stopping by the RELAC booth. RELAC maintains close relationships with current and former employees.



Rich Richter, Harlan DeBie



Cari DeBie, Kay Barrett, Charlene DeBie

# Golf News

by Gil Sandoval  
RELAC Golf Director



## La Mirada Golf

### Tournament – March 27

We had a beautiful day for our tournament at La Mirada as the rain stayed away. Michael Hernandez's outstanding play won the "A" flight with a net 66 the round of the day. In second place was Eddie Otero with a steady round of a net 72. Alan Jarvis in the card-off took third place, beating Tony Bacon, Bob Egusa and Tony Asuncion, who all brought in net 80s.

The "B" flight was an easy win for Miguel Ortiz-Marroquin as he came in with a net 73. In close battle for second place, Frank Martinez edged out Ernie Romero, Pete Serrano and Jeff Phillips by one point, with a net 76. Ernie, playing in his first tournament, took third place in a card-off.

In the "C" flight, Bob Boucher, another first-time player, won with a net 70. Richard Duran came in with a net 80 for second place and Terry Black followed in third place with a net 86.

We had seven women playing in this tournament and we look forward to have more in the future. The Women's Flight was an easy win for Shirley Johnston as she came in with a net 77. Following at net 81 was Molly Silva for a second-place finish. Norma Gutierrez brought in a net 85 for third place, just one stroke ahead of Carol Osbrink, Brenda Cohen and Charlene DeBie.

Closest-to-the-pin winners were: **Men:** #3 No winner. #5 – Bob Egusa. #9 – Alan Jarvis. #11 – Tony Asuncion. #13 – Miguel Ortiz-Marroquin. #17 – Miguel Ortiz-Marroquin. **Women:** #3 – Shirley Johnston. #5 – Shirley Johnston. #9 – Charlene DeBie. #11 – Norma Gutierrez. #13 – Molly Silva. #17 – Carol Osbrink. Thank you all for playing!

## Santa Anita Golf Tournament

The next tournament is scheduled on June 5 at Santa Anita Golf Course, 405 S. Santa Anita Ave., in Arcadia. First tee at 8 a.m. The entry form, which is on the RELAC website at [relac.org](http://relac.org) under the calendar menu, must be received by May 15. Only one guest is allowed per player. Due to increased charges from the golf courses for 2023, the entry fees are now \$44 per player.

If you have a course that you would like to play, please let me know and I can add it to our schedule form next year.



Richard Duran



Chuck McGlothlin,  
Frank Davanzo

## RELAC Marches for Babies for Sixth Year

RELAC will once again participate in the March for Babies sponsored by March of Dimes, this year set for May 20 at Gloria Molina Grand Park in downtown Los Angeles. The park is at 233 N. Spring St.

The march raises funds for the March of Dimes campaign to improve maternal and infant health by supporting research, leading programs and providing education and advocacy so that every family can have the best possible start. The United States remains among the most dangerous developed nations for childbirth, especially for women and babies of color.

RELAC Directors Linda C. Hopkins and Nora Jackson are serving as co-captains of Team RELAC and have set a \$5,000 fund-raising goal for the walk. As of April 11, \$2,593 had been raised.

Donations may be made online by going to RELAC's website at [relac.org](http://relac.org) or through the direct link [www.marchforbabies.org/team/RELAC](http://www.marchforbabies.org/team/RELAC) or by sending a check payable to the March of Dimes (noting "March for Babies" in the lower left corner) to the RELAC office at 1000 S. Fremont Ave., Unit 15, Alhambra, CA 91803-8802.



RELAC has participated in the March for Babies since 2018 and was the top fund-raising L.A. County team the past three years. This year's RELAC walk will be dedicated to the memory of former RELAC Director Evelyn Gutierrez, who died unexpectedly in 2022. She and Hopkins initiated RELAC's participation in the March for Babies and was one of the top fund-raisers and donors. "Evelyn and I worked together for many years on the March of Dimes March for Babies Walk. I saw her dedication and commitment, and it is fitting that this year we walk in honor of Evelyn," said Hopkins.

## RELAC Passes Halfway Mark in Food Drive

RELAC has surpassed the halfway mark in its 2023 goal of raising \$5,000 for the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank to fight against hunger impacting seniors, homeless, unemployed and low-income families.

As of March 28, donations totaling \$3,107 had been received.

"We are so appreciative of our RELAC members for their generosity," said RELAC Director Linda C. Hopkins, chair of the Community Support Committee. "Donating even a small amount goes a long way to help those struggling to buy food."

Over the last two years RELAC has raised more than \$26,000 for the Food Bank. If you wish to make a donation to the 2023 campaign, you can either use the online link <https://give.lafoodbank.org/RELAC23> or send a check payable to the L.A. Regional Food Bank to the RELAC office at 1000 S Fremont Ave. Unit 15, Alhambra, CA 91803.

The food bank also operates the commodity supplemental food program (CSFP) to assist seniors in getting food. CSFP is a federal program administered through local agencies designed to improve the health of low-income seniors by supplementing their diets with nutritious fruit, juice, vegetables, milk, cheese, grain and protein, including plant-based protein. Seniors may visit a distribution site with an ID and staff will complete an application with them. Each application can take up to two people of the same household who are 60+ years, but each person needs to be present with an ID. More information on distribution dates and locations is available by calling (323) 234-3030, ext. 170.

# Letters To The Editor

## Write On!

Please don't eliminate me from LACERA history! The sentence in {the March-April edition in} which Mr. Joseph Kelly congratulates Mrs. Gina Sanchez on being elected chair of the LACERA Investments Board: "This is the first time since the Board of Investments was constituted nearly 50 years ago that the board is chaired by a woman," . . . is factually incorrect. The general membership elected me as a trustee on the Board of Investments from 1988 through 1993. I was then elected as a retiree representative 2000 to 2006. During my service as retiree representative, I was elected chair of the Board of Investments and served as chair from 2002 through 2006. Please publish a correction in the next RELAC newsletter.

**Sandra Anderson, Long Beach, California**

*(Ed. Note: We apologize for the error and Joseph Kelly has corrected the record in his column on page 2. Also, we asked Anderson to do a profile for the Keeping Up With Retirees section. Read it on page 8.)*

Happy New Year to all. Hope your holidays were healthy and safe. As we work our way through 2023, let us enjoy each day, and as a country work on being kind to each other. It doesn't cost anything to be kind. To RELAC, thank you for all you did in 2022 and all you will do in 2023. Sincerely.

**Gloria Boothe, Wilmington, California**

Dear Judy and RELAC, thank you for another outstanding edition of the RELAC newsletter. Each month it brings back decades of fine memories of working with dedicated co-workers on worthwhile projects benefiting all residents of L.A. County. Best.

**Barry Hunt, Inglewood, California**

To Los Angeles Regional Food Bank staff, thank you for all that you do in the fight against hunger in our community. [Note included a donation for the food bank.]

**Barbara Dolan, Los Angeles, California**

Hope you all have a Happy Easter! Thanks for all you do! [Note included a donation for the L.A. Regional Food Bank.]

**Dee Parrish, Clarkson, Michigan**

Dear RELAC, thank you so much for my beautiful birthday card. It was so appreciated.

**Elizabeth Borsky-Smith, San Diego, California**

It was sad news to read about the death of Dr. Robert Tranquada. He was the administrator in the Department of Health Services I admired most. He was such a classy person and an excellent leader. A kind man and easy to work with.

**Tom Hibbard, Loma Linda, California**

I was sad to see the notice of the passing of Phil Ow. In his role as the Chief Administrative Office's ergonomic specialist, we worked closely together in establishing a Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) Joint Labor/Management Ergonomic Committee. Phil was instrumental in ensuring that both labor and management learned of proper ergonomic workstations/places. I lost contact with Phil following his retirement but was thrilled to see him last summer at the RELAC [Recognition] Luncheon at Almansor Court. I am so thankful that I saw him that day. I will always remember his smile. I also want to acknowledge the passing of Virginia Lee Maguire (DPSS). Miss Maguire (as I called her) saw something in me as a young eligibility worker in 1984 that led her to recommend me for a transfer to DPSS administrative headquarters. I believe that as a direct result of Miss Maguire's recommendation, I was able to rise into DPSS management and ultimately retired from a CEO executive team position. Thank you, Miss Maguire.

**Robinetta Campbell-Mack, Los Angeles, California**

Rossana D'Antonio has retired from the Department of Public Works, where she was a deputy director. I worked with her for several years on the County's Women's Leadership Development Conference. As County treasurer, I played a vital role in securing private sector funding for the annual conference. I commented as follows on LinkedIn on her retirement: Thank you for your service but also for your profound commitment to the women and girls in Los Angeles County. Recognizing, as the Honorable Shirley Chisholm once said, that the sexual, social and psychological stereotyping of women begins when the doctor says, "It's a girl!" - you stepped forward and stepped up to let these women and girls know that nothing was in their path

## Happy Mother's Day



### Like Mother, Like Daughter

RELAC member Susan (Langaker, Higgins) Coniglio and daughter, Madisen Higgins, 24, are lookalikes. Coniglio served 16 years in the Sheriff's Department before having to retire early due to neck and back injuries. She now owns and operates Star Struck Events, an event planning company, and historic venue La Villa Bella San Antonio in Upland.

towards success except the fears of yesterday. That is a tremendous gift that is, quite simply, priceless.

**Joe Kelly, Los Angeles, California**

I received the {extra copies of the} RELAC newsletters. I will give some of them to Dr. Noguchi next week. You are the best. We have received many compliments for the profile.

Regards.

**Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran, Arcadia, California**

I wanted to thank you for the wonderful layout of both our articles and the County Family tribute. My father was a long-time RELAC member and went to a number of functions with my mom. That's kind of how I even knew about RELAC initially. We all used to go to the Santa Anita Race Track Day. Including their photo was so special! Kind of realized I forgot about mentioning he was a long-time member. I'm sure other members reading it will remember him, which makes me happy!

**Roberta Abner, Upland, California**

## Happy Birthday, RELAC Centenarians

May

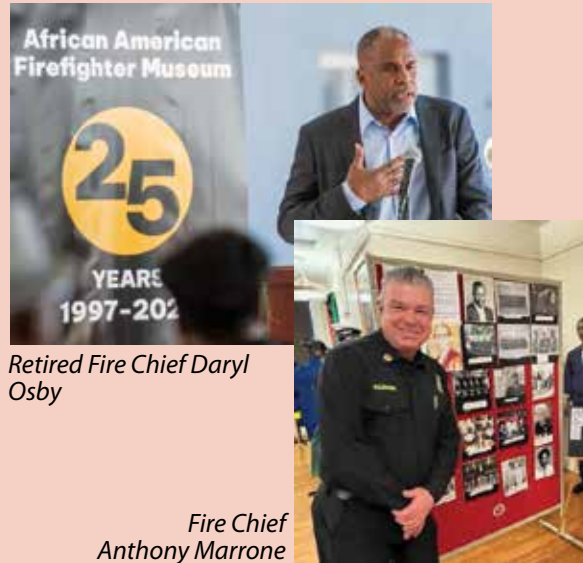
Verlender Dixon, 101, Public Social Services  
George E. Smith, 101, Assessor

June

Helen Dunning, 100, Mental Health  
Anderson Johnson, 109, Sheriff  
Lois S. Yagi, 100, Public Works

## Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of African American Firefighter Museum

Retired L.A. County Fire Chief Daryl Osby and current Chief Anthony Marrone were among those celebrating the 25th anniversary of the African American Firefighter Museum on April 1. The museum is housed at old L.A. Fire Department Station 30 – one of two segregated fire stations in Los Angeles between 1924-1955 -- built in 1913 to serve the Central Avenue community of Los Angeles. Now a Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument, the station is restored and has the original apparatus floor tiles, poles and kitchen out-building. The museum is dedicated to collecting, conserving and sharing the heritage of African American firefighters, providing a unique glimpse into the history of firefighting, race relations and segregation in the city. Open to the public, the museum exhibits display a wide array of firefighting paraphernalia, including vintage engines, uniforms from New York, L.A. County and City firefighters, badges, helmets, displays of African American women firefighters, and photographs.



Retired Fire Chief Daryl Osby

Fire Chief Anthony Marrone

## Aging and Disabilities Department Senior Centers Provide Social Connection, Wellness

by Michael Kapp, Director of Public Affairs  
Los Angeles County Aging and Disabilities Department

Under the leadership of Dr. Laura Trejo, the Los Angeles County Aging and Disabilities Department manages and operates 14 community and senior centers across the County. These centers offer a safe and inclusive space for people of all ages and backgrounds to come together and build strong relationships. The centers provide a variety of programs and services that are tailored to meet the needs of each local community.

Social services assisting individuals and families in need are one of the core services provided by the centers. These programs offer emergency food assistance, utility assistance, income tax services, congregate meals, and other critical services. Additionally, the centers are co-located with other County offices, such as the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, Department of Economic Opportunity, County Library, Department of Health Services, Department of Mental Health, and Department of Public Health, making it easier for community members to access critical services.

Cultural programs, including arts and craft, are also offered at the centers, providing opportunities for community members to engage in classes such as painting, crochet, knitting, sewing, quilting, and jewelry making. The centers also provide recreation and wellness programs that promote physical activity and healthy lifestyles, with classes such as Zumba, Tai Chi, and yoga.

Socialization is a key aspect of the community and senior centers, with activities such as game days, movie days, and dances. These activities provide opportunities for community members to come together, strengthen social ties, and promote a sense of belonging and social support, especially for older adults. The centers also offer information and referrals, assisting individuals with resources and making referrals to address a variety of issues, such as housing, health care, legal services, and other social services. Reassurance calls to community members, especially older adults, are also provided to connect and provide support during difficult times.

Youth services are designed to meet the needs of young people and promote positive youth development. The centers offer services such as the Toy Loan Program, summer camps, child care, and Head Start. Intergenerational activities bring community members from different generations together to interact, share knowledge, and build relationships through activities such as storytelling, arts and craft projects, and computer literacy programs.

The County's community and senior centers play a vital role in promoting social connection, wellness, and community engagement. By providing a space for community members to socialize, learn, volunteer, and participate in recreational activities, the centers help address social isolation and promote the mental and physical well-being of participants. The centers also serve as an important resource for the community, providing support and assistance to those in need. For a complete listing of centers and center-specific programs and services, visit [ad.lacounty.gov](http://ad.lacounty.gov) or call (800) 689-8514.



### Board of Retirement cont. from p.2

management and financial experience with the County of Los Angeles. I have had the opportunity to spend some time with Debbie and I am very confident in both her qualifications and her commitment to being a sound fiduciary as well as a great representative of our retirees who are members of LACERA and RELAC.

The new premium rates for our various LACERA insurance plans will go into effect July 1. We were very fortunate in that we did not see a big increase in the premiums. Remember, as LACERA members you can change plans up to twice a year, whereas active County employees can only change once a year. However, there is a six-month wait, so if you are contemplating a change, keep that in mind. Retirees who move out of California may have to change insurance plans, so keep that in mind and don't get caught without any insurance.

## RELAC NEWSLETTER

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9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Monday - Thursday

Closed Friday,

Saturday, Sunday &

Public Holidays



Visiting with students

## Finding Peace of Mind by Giving Back

During his recent trip to India, after suffering depression from the sudden loss of two close friends within a day of each other, former RELAC Director Greg Walia found comfort not only by visiting a sister and relatives he had not seen in a number of years, but by providing financial assistance and encouragement to underprivileged youth in villages there.

He received an overwhelming welcome at several schools he visited in recognition of what he called a personal small contribution in upgrading their facilities. Speaking to the students there, he stressed the importance of hard work, paying respect to teachers and danger of addiction to drugs. "I wanted to bring hope to kids there for a bright future that laid ahead for them through hard work," he said. The experience, he said, was "very humbling."

Walia's visit also included homage to the Golden Temple (Sikhs' holiest temple) as well as providing some financial support to orphans (kids age 5 and up) for their grade and high school education.

The trip was more than he could have hoped for to lift his spirits. "It was a gratifying visit," he said.

Walia said he wanted to acknowledge his gratitude to the RELAC Board for publishing the initial story in the newsletter about the grief he was experiencing after losing his two friends. As a result of the article, he received calls expressing encouragement and well-being.

"And a very special THANKS to Judy [Hammond] for encouraging me to share my grief and subsequent journey to India. She is God sent!"

"I feel good and look forward to rest of my journey of life with family and friends."



Discussing local issues with seniors



Made an honorary "maharaja"

## Denise Dilley Retires

Colleagues at the Live Oak Library in Arcadia knitted a blanket for Denise Dilley, at right, upon her retirement to express their appreciation for her commitment and friendship. Dilley served with the L.A. County Library for 37 years, most recently as the community library manager at Live Oak.



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Chief Executive Office – **Angela Nehrir**  
 Children & Family Services – **Onyelukachukwu Ajufoh, Ed Meshberg, Rhelda Shabazz, Amaryllis Watkins**  
 District Attorney – **Lawrence Arnwine, Christine Joston**  
 Fire – **Cyril Ogunnaya**  
 LAC+USC Medical Center – **Elvira Flores**  
 LACERA – **Gary R. Smith**  
 Olive View/UCLA Medical Center – **Rose Mayfield**  
 Parks & Recreation – **Ronald Smith**  
 Public Health – **Veronica Giles Moore**  
 Public Works – **Ronaldo Lacayo, Henry Lee, Yolando Lacayo Malacon**  
 Sheriff – **Marisela Barrera, Mark Erbacker, Sarah Watson**  
 Public Social Services – **Nancy Aguilar, Rudolph Aguilar, Lai Chan, Maricarmen Guevara, Debbie Martin, Saul Pepis, Natalia Sperling**  
 Associate Members – **Robert Chan, Jaime E. Flores, Jaime E. Guevara, Theresa Ann Lee, Calvin Moore, Shahriar Nehrir, Rahman Shabazz, Jodi Syn Smith, Yvonne Smith**

### Thanks for New Member Referrals

Our thanks to these 10 members (shown in bold) who recruited colleagues (shown in italic) during February and March 2023

**Lynn Baragona**, *Christine Joston*, District Attorney  
**James Brekk**, *Gary R. Smith*, LACERA  
**Diego Cadena**, *Yolanda Lacayo Malaco*, Public Works  
**Diego Cadena**, *Ronaldo Lacayo*, Public Works  
**Patricia Clemons**, *Amaryllis Watkins*, Children & Family Services  
**Don Fandry**, *Sarah Watson*, Sheriff  
**Celia Hernandez**, *Marisela Barrera*, Sheriff  
**Joseph Kelly**, *Debbie Martin*, Public Social Services  
**Joseph Kelly & Fay Mitchell**, *Rhelda Shabazz*, Children & Family Services  
**Elvia Ramirez**, *Veronica Giles Moore*, Public Health  
**Irma Tessier**, *Nancy Aguilar*, Public Social Services  
**Irma Tessier**, *Rudolph Aguilar*, Public Social Services

## Retirees With 40+ Years of Service

We salute the following recent County retirees who served 40 or more years.

AMBULATORY CARE NETWORK: **Clementina Rodriguez**  
 CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: **Emily Mata**  
 CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES: **Donna M. Moore**  
 DISTRICT ATTORNEY: **Lilly M. Ruiz**  
 FIRE: **James G. Bailey**  
 HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION: **Lynn Trevino**  
 HUMAN RESOURCES: **Armando Garcia**  
 INTERNAL SERVICES: **Susan Garcia, Gulshan Page, Thuy T. Vu, Elizabeth Wong**  
 LAC+USC MEDICAL CENTER: **Melvin W. Chin, Joan Taylor, Timothy Vale**  
 PROBATION: **Judy M. Anderson** (from deferred)  
 PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM: **Anna M. Meza, Kaye Young**  
 PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: **Barbara M. Brown, Margaret A. Jones, Michael Lopez**  
 PUBLIC WORKS: **Wilma J. Nezart, Curt O'Bryan, Gabriel E. Sanchez**  
 RANCHO LOS AMIGOS HOSPITAL: **Irma Castillo**  
 SHERIFF: **Christy L. Callahan, Rosa M. Moreno**  
 SUPERIOR COURT/COUNTY CLERK: **Tammy Gallehugh, Lilia M. Godoy, Michael Van Meter, Star L. Wilkinson**

# Keeping Up With Retirees

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



## SANDRA ANDERSON

As a 6-year-old born in Texas and attending her first integrated school in Marin City, California, I managed to adjust rapidly. Marin City offered an opportunity to attend Richardson Bay School in Sausalito and Tamalpais High School in Mill Valley. Talk about diversity and equity, I attended school with children of famous writers, shipping magnates, and the like for whom my mother worked as a housekeeper. The only way I knew to compete with my classmates was academically. My work paid off; I received acceptance to Stanford, Mills College and University of California at Berkeley. Berkeley offered me an alumni scholarship; the Prince Hall Masons awarded me a four-year scholarship, so off I went.

My senior yearbook has a goofy photograph and indicates my choice of a profession was a psychotherapist, about which I knew nothing. At UC Berkeley, I struggled the first semester because I enrolled in 16 ½ units. Fortunately, I survived; my class of more than 5,000 freshmen dwindled. My mother, a strong advocate of graduating in four years, did not accept the fact that most students only enrolled in 12 units or fewer per semester. After being slammed by organic chemistry, my anticipated pre-med major went out the window. At the end of my sophomore year, I searched the catalog for a major that would be completed in two years. Political science won!

Upon graduation from Cal, I received a scholarship from Atlanta University, where I was directly involved in the civil rights movement. Far from home and afraid of being arrested, I attended meetings and passed out recruiting leaflets. Upon graduation, I was offered a teaching position at Cuttington College in Liberia, West Africa. Unfortunately, I was denied the position just before my departure date because I was diagnosed with an anemia characteristic of Greeks and Italians!

With a master's degree firmly in hand, I found employment as a secretary in the Atlanta University Placement Office at an hourly rate of \$1.45. When a request came in for an instructor of history and social sciences at Alabama A&M College, I referred myself. With two years of teaching under my belt, I came to Los Angeles in search of employment. While riding the bus, I saw crowds of people at the Department of Public Social Services building -- then-known as the "Pink Palace" -- on Adams and Grand Avenue. Surprisingly, I soon found myself employed there as a social worker in June 1964. Serving the seniors in Los Angeles County allowed me to become familiar with communities using my resourceful "Renee Guide," later the Thomas Guide and now superseded by Google Maps and Waze.

Adams and Grand was great for me. When the sheriff assigned personnel to the building for our safety in 1965, my friends insisted that I speak with the "great guy" assigned to our building. Leon Anderson was the great guy, whose first wife passed two years before we met. Leon had two children, ages 6 and 15. Leon invited me to a Laker game. Three months and three days after our date, we were married in 1966 and remained married until his death in 2016.

The County gave me many advantages, not only meeting my husband, but also opportunities for advancement. I had progressive growth in public social service: social worker, supervising social worker, Division for the Blind supervisor, General Relief supervisor on 103rd Street, Hyde Park deputy director, and management



## LILY LEE CHEN

As I look back on my professional career with Los Angeles County, I am struck by how fast, exciting, rich, and blessed it all was. My life began in Tianjin, China in 1936. Because of the Chinese civil war, my family fled to Taiwan. Subsequently, I came to the United States and studied at San Francisco State University and earned a master's degree at the University of Washington, Seattle majoring in social work (MSW and ACSW). The events of my childhood and the empowerment of my education inspired me for a life dedicated to advocacy and community building.

I began my 27-year County career in 1964 at El Cerrito Hospital prior to working at the Department of Public Social Services, where I was able to establish the first Asian Pacific outreach program, making government services accessible to the Asian American and Pacific Islander community throughout Los Angeles. This program served as a prototype for other outreach centers across the nation. I also served as one of the executive administrators at the Department of Children and Family Services and developed an Automated Community Resource Information Bank (CRIB). In 1980, President Carter appointed me to the National Advisory Council on Adult Education. In this position, I was able to propose federal funding for English as a Second Language Program. Now, immigrants can learn English at any adult school without cost across the nation. When promoted to the director of the Planning and Resource Development Office, I was responsible for the planning and distribution of \$70 million in Title 20 funding for social service agencies across Los Angeles County's 88 cities. In 1976, the chair of L.A. County Board of Supervisors, Kenneth Hahn, honored me as a "symbol of immigrant contribution to America" at the Bicentennial Celebration. In 2016, President Obama awarded me the President's Volunteer Service Award.

I learned a lot working for the County. As an immigrant myself, I became highly aware of the issues facing the growing immigrant population in my beloved town of Monterey Park as well as the rest of the world. Together with Cesar Chavez, Xavier Becerra, Coretta Scott King and other leaders, we joined together in our vision for a more just and peaceful world.

I began to realize that in order to implement change, I would need a political leadership role. My friends and various community leaders encouraged me to run for City Council in 1981. Though I lost by 28 votes, I rejected the recount and congratulated the winner to promote community harmony. In 1982, I ran again, and this time won (by the largest number of votes for any municipal office candidate in Monterey Park's history), becoming the first female Chinese American mayor in the nation.

I was able to convince Coca-Cola to host the field hockey competition in Monterey Park for the 1984 Olympics, which was also China's first time participating in the world games. I was invited to the White House State Dinner hosted by the President and Nancy Reagan. In 1985, Monterey Park was also bestowed with the National Civic League's "All-America City Award."

As a retiree, I continue to stay active. I have never taken a cruise or played golf, but instead choose to use my time contributing in small, impactful ways to the people around me. I am participating in aquatic therapy to gain more strength and energy. My greatest source of joy is my family -- my beloved daughter and son and their spouses, my three granddaughters, and their seven dogs. My daughter, Helen, is the medical director for the City of Hope Department of Radiation

*continued on p.9*





### Sandra Anderson cont. from p.8

trainee. Awarded the State Scholarship, I obtained a master of social work degree at University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) in 1971. I learned of an opening in the Chief Administrative Office (CAO). Unfortunately, my résumé apparently “got lost.” Persistence pays—Carol Matsui can attest to that! Finally, I was hired as a senior analyst, the first African American woman “staff” employed by the CAO. The CAO offered growth and development from senior analyst, chief analyst, to Health Services as deputy director, juvenile and emergency services.

While working in the CAO in 1976, I quietly enrolled in law school. Four years of night school and meeting the challenges of each budget season resulted in my graduation in 1980. I passed the bar in 1980 and became deputy director of Health Services in the same year. Many were surprised to hear of my law school attendance and even more surprised that I passed the bar on the first time. I remained with Health Services until Jan. 15, 1993, retiring when the County offered the early separation program. The bonus offered under that program was sufficient for me to open the Law Offices of Sandra Jones Anderson at 777 S. Figueroa, 38th Floor. When the building was sold, I continued my practice at the Biltmore Court until Jan. 31, 2022. My office is closed, but I maintain my connection to the County, serving as a member of the Assessment Appeals Board.

One cannot imagine the opportunities provided by County service. As a result of my County employment, I was elected to serve the Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association (LACERA) as a trustee on the Investments Board, 1988 to 1993 as a general member, 2000 to 2006 as a retiree representative, serving as vice chair 2001 to 2002, and as chair 2002 to 2006. Additionally, my travels included Russia, China, Japan, and as an invited conference speaker in Ukraine and Jackson Hole, Wyoming. I also participated in conferences as an advisor to the chair of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Health Committee in Washington, D.C. I am a life member of Women Lawyers, Black Women Lawyers, and Langston Bar Association. Further, I served as legal counsel for the former International Visitors Council of Los Angeles and was elected president of the YWCA of Greater Los Angeles.

I became a community volunteer with United Way, the Harriet Buhai Center for Family Law, and Jenesse Center (a domestic violence shelter for women). In addition to being a guest lecturer at the UCLA School of Social Welfare and the USC Law School, I had five years of instructional consulting in public administration and social work.

I continue to share my story of the wonderful opportunities available to anyone working for Los Angeles County, the support offered by participation in the Retired Employees of Los Angeles County (RELAC), and the benefits of being a member of LACERA.

### Lily Lee Chen cont. from p.8



Oncology in South Pasadena. My son, Arthur, is the purchasing manager for the space program at the Boeing company. I have an enormous amount of gratitude for all of the work they do to ensure my well-being. It is a joy to dog-sit and spread their loving energy around the house.

I have learned so much and have seen that anything is possible. I believe that staying positive is important -- in the darkest of times, there is still light somewhere. Work hard, be loyal, be kind, and care about others.

Last year, a short documentary moderated by Lisa Ling of CNN entitled “Rocking the Boat: The Story of Lily Lee Chen” was released, depicting my life’s journey. It can be viewed on YouTube for free. My life’s work collection will be displayed at the Huntington Library in Pasadena in the near future.



### Fire Department’s Inaugural Retirement Celebration

Family, friends, and colleagues gathered on March 28 for the L.A. County Fire Department’s Inaugural Retirement Celebration to acknowledge retirees. This ceremony was an opportunity to thank the retirees for their service and dedication to not only the department, but also the County and the residents and communities they served during their tenure.

## What Pride Means to Me

by Liz Cortez, RELAC Member

Pride Month began with the Stonewall riots, a series of riots for gay liberation that took place beginning on June 28, 1969. The riots began after a police raid at the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar located within lower Manhattan in New York City.

The year after the riots, the first Pride March was held to commemorate the Stonewall riots and further push for liberation and recognition (equal rights for all). As of 2020, most Pride celebrations around the world are held in June, although some cities hold them at different times of the year due to weather. For example, in Palm Springs, Pride Month is held in November.

Pride Month is a time to celebrate the progress made in the fight for equality and to continue the fight for the rights of all LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and others) people. It is a time to come together and proudly proclaim who we are and to also show support for those who are still fighting for equality.

My journey as a lesbian fully developed during my career at County Counsel. I became a permanent County employee in November 1989. The office was very different then as opposed to when I retired in October 2016. At the beginning of my legal career, the office was predominately white males with some female attorneys and a few female managers. Diversity improved as the years passed, which was wonderful to see.

In 1989, I was already living with my future spouse, Suzanne (we were married in 2015), however, I never mentioned her as "my partner" for several years. At the time, it did not seem "safe," given the environment, and I knew that I wanted to advance at County Counsel and did not want to jeopardize my career. From the very beginning, I felt extremely fortunate to have gotten the job and knew I wanted this to be my permanent career as a lawyer. In retrospect, I will never know whether my perception was correct; however, that was my reality at the time.

I had experiences at the County that now more than ever make me realize that we should never hide who we are. Two examples, though different, come to mind. As a young lawyer, I had to attend a meeting with an employee from another County department that I represented and the conversation turned to gays serving in the military. During this conversation, the employee turned to me and said, "I don't even know any gay people." I just looked at her and never responded. If only I could relive that conversation today. The second example happened several years later when Suzanne's father was terminally ill with only a few days left to live and we needed to fly to Michigan on very short notice. My division chief at the time said that I should take whatever time I needed and I responded that I would only be gone a week as I had a very important hearing that I needed to attend. He advised that he wished he could give me bereavement leave. I will never forget that conversation and was so touched by his thoughtfulness. He said so much without ever specifically acknowledging my partner, Suzanne.

As the years went by and the office demographics changed, I became more comfortable and willing to share my personal life with members of the office and the County departments with whom that I worked.

In 1995, I participated in the AIDS ride and wrote a letter letting friends and family know that I was riding in memory of two very special men in my life that lost their lives to AIDS. The office and my client departments were very supportive of my participation and I received very generous contributions for the ride. I was extremely proud and grateful for the positive response.

In 2005, I was promoted to assistant county counsel and by then I was no longer hesitant to share my life and Suzanne with the office, especially my division. That year I had a holiday party at our home and invited the entire division. The response was positive and the party was well attended by both attorney and support staff.

Since 1989, many things have changed in our world, country and at the County, however, the struggle for equality for all continues. There have been lots of positive changes (I never thought I would be allowed to marry Suzanne), but the challenges also continue. We experience and/or witness this on many



## Pride continued

levels, such as the "don't say gay" legislation in Florida. Now more than ever, Pride Month is so important. We must always be proud of who we are and not afraid to share our personal stories with others. As a 71-year-old lesbian, I truly admire the younger generation because they, for the most part, stand loud and proud. We are alike, just that some of us share our lives with the same sex versus the opposite sex. We all have many of the same challenges of everyday living and June is that month when we celebrate who we are with pride and honor. Despite the obstacles that may be presented, we cannot give up and should not hide who we are. We must stand proud and firm so that we are recognized. Pride Month is that recognized time of celebration and we continue to show the world who we are and work towards ensuring that we are all entitled to the same rights and privileges. Staying positive and never giving up must continue to be our mission. Join us in celebrating this Pride Month, June 2023.



Helen Lee, at left, receives award from Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva

## Lee Named Woman of Distinction

RELAC member Helen Lee was one of 35 women receiving Women of Distinction awards from Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva, D-67, during a March 25 presentation at Cypress College in celebration of Women's History Month.

Lee worked for L.A. County from 2005 to 2014, serving as a principal personnel analyst in the Department of Human Resources for most of that time. She also worked for Kaiser Permanente Southern California and the City of Los Angeles, and was a professor at Chapman University and Glendale Community College.

For more than 40 years she has been a community activist and worked with many organizations throughout Southern California and the nation. In Cerritos she served for 12 years on the governing board of the Southeast Regional Occupational Program as business and industry representative and three terms as president.

She is currently a state commissioner on the Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs Commission, appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown and reappointed by Gov. Gavin Newsom. The commission addresses political, economic and social issues of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders by interfacing with legislative bodies and state agencies.

Quirk-Silva's district includes Artesia, Cerritos, Hawaiian Gardens, Anaheim, Buena Park, Cypress, Fullerton, La Palma and parts of Orange.

# PASSAGES

Compiled by Judy Hammond,  
Newsletter Editor



Schulhof



Valdez



Clady



Barrera

## APPOINTMENTS:

Five interim department heads have been appointed to the permanent position. They are: **Anthony C. Marrone**, fire chief, at \$441,792 salary. Dr. **Lisa Wong**, director of mental health, \$505,219. **Jackie Contreras**, director of public social services, \$383,655. **Dawyn R. Harrison**, county counsel, \$440,000. Dr. **Odey C. Ukpo**, chief medical examiner-coroner, \$439,460. **Oscar Valdez**, chief deputy auditor-controller since July 2020, elevated to interim auditor-controller following retirement of Arlene Barrera. **Katie Butler**, health deputy to Supervisor Janice Hahn, named deputy director of the hazardous waste management program at the California Department of Toxic Substances Control. Former L.A. Mayor **Eric Garcetti**, son of former District Attorney **Gil Garcetti**, sworn in as U.S. ambassador to India.

## DEATHS:

**Ginger Irvine Barnard**, deputy chief of protocol from 1983-2005, from pulmonary fibrosis. Firefighter **Jeffrey Windle**, who died March 26 while on active duty, after 22 years of service, last assigned to Fire Station 56 in Rolling Hills. Retired Asst. Fire Chief **Hershel Clady**, 82, who broke the color barrier at Fire Department, the first to be promoted to engineer and then captain. Sheriff's Chief **Kenneth Cable**, who retired in 1988 after almost 35 years of service. Retired Sheriff Lt. **Patrick T. Bearse**, who retired in 2020 after more than 33 years of service. Sheriff's Lt. **Brian J. Moran**, who retired from the Emergency Operations Bureau in 2012 after serving more than 34 years with the department. UCLA-Olive View Hospital Dr. **Anthony Shaw**, 93, pioneering pediatric surgeon, eminent medical ethicist and leading clinical diagnostician of child abuse, who worked until age 86, following an accidental head injury. Dr. **Allen W. Mathies, Jr.**, 92, widely respected expert in communicable diseases, who began his professional life as an intern at the LAC+USC Medical Center, moving from clinical care to teaching to associate dean and ultimately to dean of the USC School of Medicine for 10 years; later serving as president and CEO of Huntington Memorial Hospital in Pasadena. **Will McQueen Stewart**, 86, a 40-year County employee who was assistant director of the Department of Public Social Services Bureau of Public Assistance. **Jackie Hawthorne**, 86, a 28-year County employee, retiring as chief of the health care systems development division, where she directed project managers in designing, implementing and maintaining online systems for the Health Services, Mental Health and Public Health Departments. **Carol Koelle**, bureau chief of adult services in the Probation Department at time of her 1993 retirement. **Dave Collins**, former assistant treasurer and tax collector, who began his County career at age 27 in 1973, retiring in 2001. Deputy Probation Officer **Patrick Shackelford**, 44, who served the County more than 17 years, stationed at Campus Kilpatrick at the time of his death. **Peggy Parker Grauman**, 91, longtime L.A. arts philanthropist, including Music Center and the Philharmonic. **Doris Schneider Soghor**, 91, longtime medical director and administrator for Mental Health Department, retiring in 2011, from a stroke.

## RETIREMENTS

The March 30 retirement of firefighter **Ray Nutt** marked the end of an era at LACERA; he was the last active Plan A safety member. Nutt served 28 years, one month. Auditor-Controller **Arlene Barrera**, auditor-controller since 2019, with 41 years, 8½ months service. **Maria Beltran**, an executive secretary at Internal Services Department who had previously worked for Supervisors Yvonne Brathwaite Burke and Mark Ridley-Thomas, and the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors, with 41½ years of service. **Rossana D'Antonio**, deputy director of municipal services in the Public Works Department, with more than 38 years of service. **Catherine Mak**, Public Health Department, former executive secretary to Supervisor Mike Antonovich, with more than 38 years of service. Deputy Fire Chief **William McCloud, Jr.**, with more than 37 years of service. **Richard Schulhof**, 65, the chief executive officer of the Arboretum and Botanic Gardens for the past 14 years, will retire in late spring.

## DEPARTURES:

The Board of Supervisors by unanimous vote on March 7 dismissed Chief Probation Officer **Adolfo Gonzales**. Chief Deputy **Karen Fletcher**, second in command, automatically moved into his position.

## COURTS:

Former County Supervisor **Mark Ridley-Thomas** will be sentenced Aug. 14 after being found guilty of seven of 19 counts of conspiracy, bribery, and mail and wire fraud in a federal corruption case that accused him of getting USC to provide special benefits for his son while voting in support of a contract for the university. The jury foreman said a \$100,000 donation from the supervisor's campaign committee funneled through USC to a nonprofit headed by Ridley-Thomas' son prompted the conviction. Sheriff's Deputy **Ricardo Castro**, 28, has been charged with murder and vehicular manslaughter after being involved in a high-speed crash while off-duty that killed a 12-year-old boy and injured two others in South Gate. Sheriff's Deputy **Brandon Garmon**, 45, has been charged with unlawfully possessing an assault rifle and tracer ammunition at his home. A jury awarded **Shawn Randolph**, former head of the juvenile division of D.A.'s Office, \$1.5 million in a retaliation lawsuit against District Attorney **George Gascon**.

## ELECTIONS:

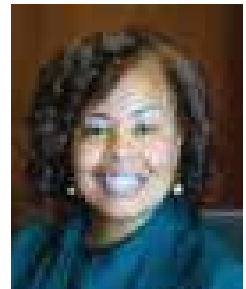
Assemblyman **Chris Holden** says he will run against Supervisor **Kathryn Barger** in the 2024 election.

## HONORS:

Grand Park in downtown Los Angeles and the East L.A. Civic Center light rail station have been renamed in honor of former Supervisor **Gloria Molina**, following her announcement that she has terminal cancer. **Fesia Davenport**, the County's first black chief executive officer, was honored by the L.A. County African American Employee Association. **Bea's Closet** –honoring **Bea Abrams Cohen**, described as a trailblazer, both as a woman who served in WWII and as a lifelong veteran advocate -- is the first room in Bob Hope Patriotic Hall named in honor of a woman veteran.



Mathies



Davenport



Soghor



McCloud



Windle



Joseph Kelly, left; Pastor Herrera, right.

## YellowJacket

by Joseph Kelly, RELAC Member

One hundred and sixty-five years ago, Eunice Newton Foote, an American scientist, conducted an experiment from which she concluded that certain gases warmed when exposed to sunlight and that rising carbon dioxide levels would change atmospheric temperatures, thereby affecting the Earth's climate. Today, atmospheric levels of carbon dioxide are at the highest levels ever recorded, primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels. This gas and others absorb solar

energy and keep heat close to Earth's surface, rather than letting it escape into space. That trapping of heat is known as the greenhouse effect, which results in global warming.

I live in a 100-year-old house in Los Angeles, and I do not have air conditioning. I have faced some hot months over the years, but I've gotten through them, except for last year. In September of last year, I noticed that a candle in a candlestick had warmed to such an extent that it started to melt slowly, and the top of the candle began to bend down towards the table on which it stood. To me, this was an in-my-face reminder of the impact of global warming. Before this, I had been conscious of global warming and I had undertaken reasonable steps to limit its impact. For example, I attended workshops on tree planting offered in the City of Los Angeles by City Plants ([cityplants.org](http://cityplants.org)) and I planted four new trees on my property. When mailing a parcel through the United Parcel Service (UPS), I always paid an additional charge for UPS to offset the impact of carbon emissions of trucks and planes used in the transport of my parcel. I joined the Clean Power Alliance ([cleanpoweralliance.org](http://cleanpoweralliance.org)), thereby requesting my electricity provider source the electricity provided to me through green and sustainable means. I utilized online travel data, such as [flights.google.com](http://flights.google.com), that listed emissions associated with various flight options, and when possible I chose the option with the lower emissions, even if it wasn't the lowest cost flight. I recommended a revision to the LACERA travel policy that encouraged trustees to consider sustainability in making travel choices. Collectively, I did what I could do to raise awareness of global warming and limit my own carbon footprint. But, I also drove a 2021 Ford Bronco Big Ben edition, and that was in direct conflict to these other efforts. A friend of mine suggested that I keep track of my use of the Bronco for at least three months, which I agreed to do. What I found is that this 3,500-pound vehicle sat idle, on average, 90% on any given day. When I did drive it, 90% of my trips were 12 miles or less. When a gallon of gas was \$7, it cost me \$112 to fill up the 16-gallon tank. The data didn't lie and it also aligned with usage statistics of a great majority of Americans. I decided to sell it and go electric, but I didn't want an electric car, I wanted an electric motorcycle. After much research and many test drives, I purchased a three-wheel (aka a trike, short for tricycle) electric motorcycle, made in the United States of America by Arcimoto in Oregon. It gets 100 miles on a full charge and can get to a top speed of 75 mph. That top speed comes in handy when negotiating insurance coverage. It is made with a rollover bar and is covered, making it one of the safer trikes available. I ordered mine in yellow because the color is bright and I wanted other drivers to notice me. Because of this color scheme, a friend has named it YellowJacket. I liked the name's connection to a species that plays an important role in the planet's ecosystem. In short, YellowJacket is the most recent effort of mine to help stop Earth from burning.

My neighbor, Pastor Herrera, retired head of the County Department of Consumer Affairs, stopped by recently for a ride. I put him in the back seat and took him for a spin. Because the trike has three wheels, California does not require the driver to obtain a motorcycle license, nor does it require passengers to wear a helmet. After going for a spin, Pastor had become so smitten that he wanted to drive it himself. I told him no, but that I would let him sit in the front seat for a few minutes. (See photo.)

I write this article from the Amazon, a vast tropical space centered on a 4,000-mile-long river that spans eight countries in South America, contains one in 10 species, and half of the planet's tropical forests. Alex Trebek once said that if you are not in awe of Mother Nature, there's something wrong with you. I would propose to you that in the Amazon, Mother Nature is perfect, and she presents her magic in a way that boggles the mind and moves the heart. We are stewards of the planet we occupy, and we must improve the ways in which we watch over and care for it. Let us all commit to do more than we have done, as soon as we can do it.

## Martin and Brekk cont. from p.1

Martin said she wanted to be a RELAC director so she could stay connected to the County family, be involved in protecting current and future retiree benefits, and remain active and involved with community service activities.

Her 36-year County career began in 1986 as an accountant auditor in the Auditor-Controller's Office, where she rose to the rank of principal accountant-auditor before transferring to the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's Office (RR/CC) as a division manager in 2002. Subsequently, she served as assistant registrar-recorder/county clerk, chief of operations in the Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office, assistant director of the Parks and Recreation Department, chief deputy of the RR/CC, and chief deputy director of DPSS.

Brek, who served as LACERA's interim deputy chief executive officer in 2017-18, said he feels privileged to serve on the RELAC Board because he shares the organization's "very noble" mission of defending pension and health care benefits while promoting the vitality of retirees. "My entire LACERA career was about serving and protecting the members, and the unwavering mission to pay the promised benefits," he said.

Brek joined LACERA in 1994 and served as chief information officer from 2010 until his retirement and chief information security officer from 2008 to retirement. He designed and implemented many of the organization's retiree systems and information security standards.



## Peinado cont. from p.1

the glue that brought me to RELAC, and I'm grateful for the experience."

A 34-year County employee, Peinado served in the Fire Department, Office of Affirmative Action Compliance, Health Services, and Children and Family Services in addition to Human Resources.

Following his retirement, he returned to the County to help the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's Office prepare for the November 2020 presidential election. In 2021, he was then tapped to lead the effort to create two County departments (Aging and Disabilities Department, and the Department of Economic Development) out of one (Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services). These projects were challenging, but rewarding.

"I now see other challenges ahead, and I continue to explore other areas in which my HR and leadership skills – which do have a shelf-life! – can be of help to organizations," he said. "I've always subscribed to giving back and paying it forward. As someone that benefited tremendously from my County experience, I want to see how I can help other organizations to improve levels of employee engagement and the services they provide to our communities in need."

## Former Supervisor Molina Announces She Has Terminal Cancer

On March 14, former County Supervisor Gloria Molina announced on her Facebook page that she has terminal cancer. The announcement brought an outpouring of accolades and tributes, including by the current Board of Supervisors, which immediately renamed Grand Park in her honor, giving her credit for its development. Molina, 75, the first Latina on the Board, was elected in 1991 and served for 23 years.



The following is her post:

Dearest friends and beloved community, I've lived a long, fulfilling and beautiful life.

For the last three years I have battled terminal cancer. While I've been getting treatment, at this point, it is very aggressive.

You should know that I'm not sad. I enter this transition in life feeling so fortunate. I have an amazing and caring family, wonderful friends, and worked with committed colleagues and a loyal team.

Throughout my life I've had the support of many people. I have a great daughter, son-in-law, a precious grandchild and another one on the way. I'm so excited!

I'm really grateful for everyone in my life and proud of my family, career, mi gente, and the work we did on behalf of our community. I am very appreciative of the doctors, nurses and health care professionals at City of Hope, especially Dr. Christina Yeon and Dr. Manisha Trivedi. They have taken good care of me. Most of all, I am fortunate to have this time to spend with family, friends and those who are special to me.

Thank you all for your love and support.  
Gloria

## Charles Norris Was L.A. County Administrator for Nearly 30 Years

RELAC member Charles A. Norris, whose County career spanned nearly 30 years as an administrator in four departments, has died, one month before his 95th birthday.

Norris began working in Flood Control in 1952, where he served for eight years, advancing to head administrative assistant before transferring to Mental Health as an executive assistant. He then transferred to the Health Department as it was preparing to merge with Public Health and as the administrative deputy, he and the 2,000 staff he supervised were responsible for the move to a new building. The Chief Administrative Office was his next stop, heading the newly formed Management Services Division, which eventually grew to a staff of 40-45 analysts, doing major audits of departments.

After retiring in 1983, Norris worked as a consultant and an adjunct professor at Cal State Long Beach. A year later he became president and chief executive officer of the Public Health Foundation Enterprises (PHFE), an organization he co-founded while at the County that allowed for non-county funded health programs to flourish. When it began, PHFE was handling programs, such as Women and Infant Children, totaling approximately \$10 million. When he retired again 17 years later, the total was \$100 million.

Norris was active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, including serving as a high councilor and a bishop. He was president and board member of the Hacienda Heights Improvement Association, and president of the American Society of Public Administration, which named a service award after him.

Norris is survived by his wife of 68 years, Carol; three children, Cheri (Willis), Craig, and Curt; seven grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandson.



## Probation's Koelle Praised For Integrity and Expertise

Carol Koelle, who rose through the ranks of the Probation Department to become a regional director – one of only several women in high-ranking positions at that time -- has died at age 85.

Koelle, a RELAC member, was bureau chief of Adult Field Services when she retired in 1993. She worked for the Probation Department for 35 years.

RELAC members Barbara Foster, Sandy Russell and Jane Martin worked with Koelle at the Probation



Department throughout that time and remained friends after retirement.

"She was a woman of integrity and a respected leader throughout her career," said Martin, who also was a bureau chief. "Her expertise in adult programs and the inner workings of the court-probation-community

process remains, to this day, an integral part of her legacy."

Koelle devoted much of her service to the then-emerging area of domestic violence, working extensively with the County and private sector in the development of programs for women and children. She also helped create programs for adult probationers, including specialized caseloads for those offenders.

"The domestic violence community of providers honor her memory and remembers Carol with admiration and gratitude," said Foster, who served as a supervising deputy probation officer.

"Carol was also adamantly supportive of all staff -- officers, clerical and supervisory. She fought for issues that made a difference in the lives of those in the Probation family as well as probationers struggling to change their lives for the better," said Russell, who also was a supervising deputy probation officer.

"Carol's legacy continues to influence the department, adult services, continuing domestic violence programs and legislation, probationers and the community," said Martin.

RELAC member Ed Anhalt, a senior probation director when he retired in 2009 after almost 34 years with the department, also knew Koelle. She was, he said, "A great lady."



## Ginger Irvine Barnard Headed Protocol Office

by Judy Hammond, Newsletter Editor

Ginger Irvine Barnard, 80, who served as the County's deputy chief of protocol for 22 years before retiring in 2005, died April 4 from pulmonary fibrosis.

Barnard began her 41-year County career in 1964 as a social worker in the Department of Public Social Services, where she worked for 10 years before transferring to the legislative section of the Chief Administrative Office (CAO). As one of the early women in the CAO, her skills and work effort demonstrated that women could do the job and she rose to become the chief legislative analyst for the County.



It was there that she got an assignment in 1983 to establish a protocol office. "I had no clue what a protocol office was," she said in a 2018 profile in RELAC's newsletter. "When I protested to my division chief, she said figure it out, you can't say no. With the 1984 Summer Olympics fast approaching, I had to learn what a protocol office did and why in record time because VIPs from around the world would be descending on Los Angeles with the expectation that the courtesies of a protocol office would be provided." Her efforts were successful, and she was named to head the new protocol office. The chief of protocol at that time was a volunteer.

"We had some great times!" said former County Supervisor Don Knabe upon learning of Barnard's death. "Will never forget the '84 Olympics!"

Los Angeles became the first county in the United States to establish a protocol office, which handles visits by heads of governments, chiefs of state, members of royal families, ambassadors and other foreign government officials, and liaises with the Los Angeles Consular Corps. The protocol office is there to promote business, tourism, and intergovernmental relations within the county.

Barnard was a founding board member and past president of the Protocol & Diplomacy International Protocol Officers Association (PDI-POA), the first professional association for protocol officers from around the world, remaining active until her death. Stemming from her not having any place to turn to learn what protocol offices do, she focused on creating educational forums. As a result, PDI-POA has launched the Ginger Barnard Education Series in honor of her many years of dedication to the organization and the profession. She was a mentor to many.

Unwilling to be put on the retirement shelf, she became a member and eventually president of the Ebell Club of Los Angeles -- maybe best known for the Wilshire Ebell Theater -- which provides four-year scholarships for students, contributes funds for homeless women, and other causes. The Ebell is the oldest and largest women's club in Los Angeles. She was a board member of the International Visitors Council of Los Angeles for 29 years.

Barnard began experiencing respiratory issues early in 2022. She knew death was imminent, though she did not mention it, when she penned a 2023 Valentine's feature in the RELAC newsletter. Married to her husband, John, for 52 years, she wrote: "Love perseveres and John remains my best friend."

John, her son Scott, and three grandchildren survive her.

## John McClurg, 87, Described as Mentor, Calm Change Agent

John McClurg, 87, a top administrator at the LAC+USC Medical Center when he retired in 1996, died March 7 from complications of Alzheimer's disease.

McClurg began his County career in the 1960s, working in the Chief Administrative Office and the Auditor's Office before moving into the newly created Department of Hospitals and the LAC+USC Medical Center as the medical center services administrator.

"John entered Los Angeles County as a dedicated civil servant during an awesome transition of health care with the beginnings of Medicare and Medicaid funding. His management and financial talents were quickly recognized," said former County health executive Richard Marciniak, a close friend and business associate.

"In such a stressful and ever-changing environment, John was known as a calm change agent with a gentle but firm hand always open to identifying and creating better solutions. I remember John well. He was a wonderful gentleman, with a great sense of humor, and a wonderful mentor for young administrators who gained from his guidance and advice," Marciniak said.

McClurg also served as an associate administrator of San Gabriel Community Hospital. He and Marciniak and their wives were partners in real estate in the early 1980s. McClurg became president of the Danrox Corporation, jointly formed by the four, remaining active in the field until Alzheimer's precluded his work.

He was active in his San Marino community with Scouts, Rotary, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society and the Holy Family Giving Bank.

McClurg is survived by his wife of 51 years, Maria; children John, Julie (Tyler), Christina (Richl), and Michael; 10 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.



Among those attending the funeral mass and celebration of life for John McClurg on March 24 were former County colleagues Andres (Andy) Martinez, Ramona Hernandez, Barry Hunt and Pat Swancutt. Martinez, Hunt and Swancutt are RELAC members. "John was a good friend and inspirational leader to many of us who worked with him at the LAC+USC Medical Center, the Auditor- Controller and the Chief Administrative Office over the decades," said Hunt, who spoke at the service.

## Inside LA County

Judy Hammond's "Inside LA County" article will not appear in this edition due to space limitations. It will resume in the July-August newsletter.



# IN MEMORIAM

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

**Agricultural Comm./Wts. & Meas.** - Consuelo C. Arellano

**Animal Control** - George T. Warfield Jr.

**Antelope Valley Rehab. Center** - Priscilla C. Bernard

**Assessor** - Rosie L. Amos, Helen A. Atherton, Sandra A. Lamb, Gloria Reyes, Polly Smith

**California Children's Services** - Edna C. Mondaca, Marietta Pahner

**Chief Executive Office** - Helen H. Chan, Yusef Khorasaneh, Richard H. Midgley, Charles A. Norris

**Child Support Services** - Rebecca L. Hiles, Jessie Juarez

**Children & Family Services** - Mary Abe, Darla Alexander, Thelma L. Alexander, Peggy Belcher-Dixon, Brenda E. Berryhill, Thea D. Cox, Ashot A. Dashtolian, Francisco Fernandez, Elizabeth Ann Frawley, Linda M. Galvan, Norman C. Gotwetter, Marwan A. Jadeed, Suzanne Menzel, Mary F. Robinson, Marilyn E. Short, Mariana B. Vasquez, Dorothy D. Williams, Steven L. Young

**Citrus Municipal Court** - Lucy D. Alba

**Correctional Health** - Benjamin A. Uzowuru

**County Counsel** - Ron J. Apperson, Guillermo C. Barragan, Sheila Luckenbach, Liza M. Samuelson

**District Attorney** - Richard A. Alesso, Lawrence Casarez, Oreal Cotton, James M. Day, Diane Eagan, Dennis C. Greene, Frank E. Johnson, Irmagene R. Jones, Wayne E. Newton, Ralph Peretz, Betty E. Seawell

**Engineer Facilities** - John Gerardi, Suat Kepenek, William Moodyman, Lillian Nishio, Carroll D. Smith

**Fire** - William P. Colgrove, Antonio R. Corral, Daniel W. Crompt, Dale Edmondson, Roy O. Hinger, Frank John Meier, Gregory H. Omartian, Bennie F. Petty Jr., Edward C. Spruill Jr., Andrew Vander Weyden, Donald J. Wharton, Jeffrey A. Windle, Robert L. Wineman, Michael D. Ybarra III

**Flood Control District** - Charles L. Richardson

**Harbor/UCLA Medical Center** - James Birkin, Jorge Del Valle, Dorothy L. Evans, Marcia Holmes, Philip A. Kalpakian, Doris C. Miller, Marilyn T. Monsanto, Christine Mori, Vaiola Aliifua Ryan, Maria G. Segura, Mary J. Shiromoto, Norris Smith, Robert Whitfield, Jack F. Williams

**Health Services Administration** - Addie M. Fuller, Georgiana M. Gerlis, Robbie L. Gregory-Hancox, Maureen J. Hasbrouck, Donald Kane, Frank M. Kline, Susie Langford, Enriqueta R. Luna, Allen W. Mathies, Trina C. Newman, Rodney B. Owens, Leonor Cristobal Santos, Lenora D. Seals, Mablene Smith, Suphani Vuthichaipan

**Human Resources** - Naidu Permaul, Vinh T. Tran

**Internal Services** - Whileta J. Brunelle, Thomas Riley Bunner, Teresa M. Disarufino, George Fallesgon, Ruth Kavanaugh, David William Kirkbright, Matthew Love, Betty Luckey, Frederick T. Marrero, John J. Meichtry, William S. Mrazek, George H. Naito, Lewis Edward Smith, Huan Song, Roy Lee Turner, Ronald Wong

**Juvenile Court Health Services** - Muriel M. Brown

**King-Drew Medical Center** - Gussie M. Baker Waters, Loretto S. Del Mundo, Paul Lawrence Humes, Sanoh Kansopon, Angeline Miller, Doris J. O'Leary, Marc C. Padre, Ophelia C. Pernia, Aaron V. Ruiz, Willie Beatrice Young-Willia

**LAC+USC Medical Center** - Joyce Anderson, Tara Behary, Lilly Bragg, Waltraud M. Cardona, Martha Carrillo, C. J. Cormier, Bradley R. Cottrill, Florence Curiel, Carol J. Dawson, Glenn Eberhardt, Amelita Estrada, Patricia A. Garcia, Miguel A. Godinez, Peggy S. Gott, Swami Hariharanand, Dorothy J. Hogan, Faye E. Hughes, Cecilia P. Jareol, Rita Johnson, Douglas A. Jones, Jon R. Jorgensen, Martha M. Kawabe, Marguarett Lange, Sam F. Leow-Ong, Gloria E. Lucero, Gayle Ann Taylor-Marshall, John A. McClurg, John H. Momjian, Rosa E. Moreno, Soledad R. Nadres, Dora E. Nixon, Anita Nolasco, Anayo Benjamin Onwunyi, Eva Rigby, Margarita Rodriguez, Michael J. Rosato, Guadalupe Salinas, Akira D. Sansui, Bijan Siassi, Joyce A. Smith, Miljenko Spralja, Albert L. Villamar, Elsie Wilson, Adina Zeidler

**LACERA** - Ann F. Fisher

**Los Cerritos Municipal Court** - Elva L. Campbell

**Medical Examiner-Coroner** - George R. Borth, Chiyoko Hayashi, Adrienne Lewis, Margaret J. White, Norman Eugene Wright

**Mental Health** - Elizabeth R. Cruz, Eliana Fluxa, Janice Gaither, Winifred Grady, Toni M. Harper, Gerda Maxey, Francisco Morales, Vaishie L. Ratzinger, Doris Soghor, Luis A. Velazquez

**Museum of Art** - Jeanne C. D'Andrea, Charles J. Lowry

**Olive View/UCLA Medical Center** - Flor D. Anderson-Hernandez, Remedios Andrada, Vivian J. Crocker, Lydia Espinoza, Mary P. Garcia, Phillip Garcia, Kenneth R. Griffin, Vivienne Kaplan, Gerald M. Lief, Robert J. Myatt, Lucy Paicius, Anthony Shaw, Elissa L. Siefert, Judith A. Winters

**Parks and Recreation** - Brent D. Osborn, Antonio Ostos, Susan Pearson, Olivia Ramos, Julio R. Sandoval, Arshell Stanley, Richard H. Valencia, Jefferson B. Wheeler, Alfred Williams

**Probation** - Ferdinand Agarpao, James R. Beene, Barbara J. Frank, June A. Galipeau, Lenon T. Gie, Earlene Grissom, Corazon P. Guiab, Karena A. Gutierrez, Steve I. Hernandez, Don Ray Hunnicutt, Carol R. Koelle, Joseph W. Malveaux, Raymond Hy Marin, Alfonso E. Montes, Mary E. Nazarian, Michael E. Rayfield, Ida Richburg, Noy R. Russell, Patrick N. Shackelford, Lee K. Springer, Johnnie M. St. Julian, Julia B. Szondy, Lisa P. Tyler, Richard A. Vye

**Public Defender** - Leona Anderza, Matthew R. Huey, Wendelin Starr James, Laurance S. Smith

**Public Health Program** - Catherine Eid, Fred Gadson, Ivan Harutyunyan, Irene J. Heaston, Grace Law, David A. Meyer, Mary E. Montes, Marcine Morris, Lottie M. Perkins, Ona Tate, James I. Townsley, Drew Walker

**Public Library** - Andrew Aros, Ruby M. Beatty, Andrew Jackson, Rita H. Lance, Susan S. Teng, Imma L. Yurist

**Public Social Services** - Patricia A. Abbatiello, Manuel R. Agramonte, Dekoler Allison, Hugo Arce, Susan L. Baughman, Miguel Becerra, Sharon E. Bell, Lori Bernard, Dhina Bingley, Rafiekki Monifa Boykin, Barbara L. Brown, Janet Lee Carmel, Linda E. Castillo, Shirley J. Chalkey, Peter D. Chen, Golda C. Copeland, Deloris F. Curry, Cesar Del Valle, Juanita Dellomes, Some O. Din, Trang Van Dinh, Gwendolyn R. Dixon, Stephney Drumgole, Sharon Dunfee, Wanda Flint, Pinkie D. Foley, Shirley Freschi, Gloria D. Gaona, Joyce L. Gibbs, Yolanda Gibbs, Ailene Gonzalez, Erendira L. Henriquez, Lillian E. Jacobs, Queen E. Jones, Maxine D. Jones, Lynn H. Kelly, Ann B. Lopez, Camila Lucero-Hassa, Lucille Marasco, Patricia Moore, Irene Ortega, Isidro Borja Parducho, Vicky L. Pion, Yolanda Ramirez, Isabel Richards, Margaret L. Richards, Dorothy J. Roberts, Raul E. Rodriguez, Sandra C. Romero, William A. Schmidt, Thomas Sellars, Richard A. Shapiro, Betty J. Smith-Starks, Cathy R. Tallman, Gloria J. Taylor, Brenda M. Thomas, Norman Tollefsen, Jeannette Trahan, Robert J. Wolfe, Martin E. Woods

**Public Works** - Raymundo Ancog, Arthur P. Brooks, Charles K. Chen, Richard Cleary, Lanell Culver, Stephen E. Kalagian, William G. Kays, Robert H. Lewis, Richard Lopez, Ralph F. Martin, Robert D. Pedigo, Stanley G. Roland, Ernest R. Shealy, Robert E. Smith, Lawrence E. Steinhauer, Ruby S. Tanikawa, David S. Tanizaki

**Rancho Los Amigos Hospital** - Barbara Ann Bradley, Benjamin L. Dang, Carolyn Dube, Kathleen S. Frink, Janis E. Hamming, Helen W. Lacy, Alver B. McKay, Rebecca Rodriguez, Ray Solis, Veaver Ward

**Regional Planning** - Natsue N. Sheppard

**Sheriff** - Fayek Kamel Abdelmalak, John L. Anderson, William E. Angione, Richard M. Anholt, Grace Arrighi, James G. Bailey, Patrick T. Bearse, Robert D. Bell, Johnnie S. Binegar, Reda Bishay, Eva R. Blackshire-Arline, Olga Boenisch, Boosaba Boonche, Derek M. Brake, Eldon G. Burkett, Billy J. Burnes, Kenneth Cable, Joe M. Carrion Jr., Jorge Chavez, Michael J. Costello, Michael R. Currin, Larry L. Curry, Douglas C. Daughenbaugh, Arthur J. Davis, Eddie M. Diaz, Ronald W. Dietrich, Lawrence C. Diggs, Robert A. Doeve, Kenneth D. Dool, Charles R. Floyd, Stefanie R. Fredericks, Ross J. Guidry, Boyd V. Hargrove, Thomas J. Harvey, Olivia Horrice, Rosetta Brenda Hughley, Jeanette F. Kidd, Louise M. Lewis, Teri M. McKibbin, Charles S. Mitchell, Brian J. Moran, Rita E. Navarette, Masae Okamoto, Charles W. Osborn, Charles E. Overlease, Josefina M. Padre, Aisha N. Penn, Lyle R. Plantin, Doris Jean Pryor, Matthew T. Pulley, James R. Purcell, Terrel D. Richmond, Theresa I. Robinson, Esther N. Rosas, Jerry D. Rupe, Ingrid R. Schwiermann, Jacques Sopkin, Clover L. Thomas, James L. Thomas, Arthur R. Towns Jr., Humberto U. Velez, Frederic B. White Jr., Harry C. Wiersema, Louie M. Woody

**So. Cal. Air Pollution Control** - Bruce H. Selik

**South Coast Air Quality Mgmt.** - Mark Villalobos

**Superior Court/County Clerk** - Rose Abulafia-Rohrig, Marchael A. Bayne, Martha L. Brown, Beverly L. Carroll, Matthew S. Edrich, Louis M. Hernandez, Tom F. Hislop, Thomas V. Irwin, Patrick E. Kennedy, Margaret Kizyma, Winda S. Mapili, Anita Marlin, Carl V. Moroney, Mona O'Neal, Frank D. Palafox, Diana Ruth Sherman, Lorraine H. Szramkowski, Marilyn K. Thayer

**Treasurer/Tax Collector** - Carol C. Alvarado, David J. Collins, Kathleen Dickinson, Norma L. Lazaro, Velma Lowe

**Women's Hospital** - Margaret Francis-Owens

**Workforce Dev., Aging & Comm. Svc.** - Ray F. Davis, Nadia E. Gabai, Bienvenido C. Rabano

**Unidentified County Agency** - Richard G. Grimm



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of LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
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## Save the Date!

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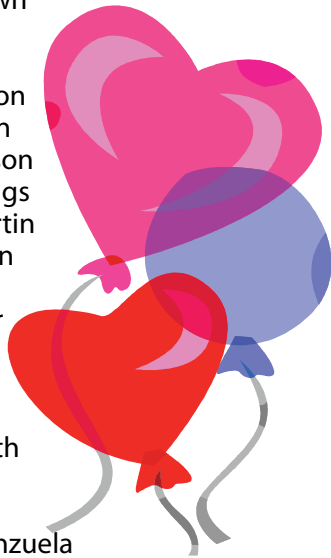
Thursday, Aug. 10,  
Almanson Court,  
200 Almanson St., Alhambra.

### RELAC Night at the Dodgers,

Dodgers vs. Giants, Friday, Sept. 22.

### VALENTINE'S DAY Drawing Winners

Kirbie J. Baldwin  
Cynthia C. Brown  
Boi Doi  
Joe Fellick  
Bonnie Ferguson  
Bessie M. Green  
Francine Johnson  
Debrah Kitchings  
Constance Martin  
Dorothy Norton  
Frank Pallares  
Mary L. Proctor  
Joseph Race  
Clare Sleeter  
John Sleeter  
Bonnie M. Smith  
Phuc M. Tran  
Marsha Trotter  
Blanquita Valenzuela  
Deborah Williams



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

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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

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to RELAC or contact  
RELAC by phone as we  
DO NOT receive your  
address change from  
LACERA.