



RELAC *newsletter*

Your Pension and Health Care Watchdog

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

President's Message

by Brian Berger

You all saw notes on the passing of former Supervisor Pete Schabarum. It was a sad moment for me. When I was head of the Animal Care and Control Department, I got along so well with Pete and his staff. I remember softball games between his office team and my department team, very close, competitive games, with Pete at third base and me in left field. I also remember one of my Tuesday morning visits to the Hall of Administration when I brought in a live ferret to Pete's office. It got loose and disappeared through a hole in the floor. Everybody laughed but me, as I was thinking, "There goes my career; I let a wild animal loose in the Hall." I got down and tapped on the floor and the ferret came up to look. Back in the box. Job saved.



RELAC will host the California Retired County Employees Association (CRCEA) conference Nov. 7-10 in Long Beach. It is a big event that brings together all the state's county retirement organizations for a busy set of important items that impact all of us. It almost didn't happen as COVID fears made everyone nervous and we weren't certain we would get enough signups to cover expenses. That changed and just on Sept. 25 the state directors and our key exhausted workers, Dave Muir and Evelyn Gutierrez from the RELAC Conference Committee, agreed to move forward.

Again, I encourage you to read each of the articles in the newsletter. As they show, we continue to be very busy, even in what has been a restricted time. Remember, you can also e-mail us at admin@relac.org or go to our website at www.relac.org. It has been encouraging to see the increase in the use of the website, which we update regularly.

The office is open, but staff rotates in on different days, and otherwise work from home with office-supplied computers. It has worked well for these many past challenging months. We honor the same mask/distance requirements as everyone, and all staff have had their vaccinations. We get almost no visitors, which helps, although the flow of mail hasn't slowed. We are getting closer to when we can meet face-to-face at a RELAC event. It frustrates all of us not to be able to gather... unless you're in Gil Sandoval's golf group, which has resumed tournaments since the activity is outside.

Please feel free to offer suggestions. We're always ready to discover what we have missed.



Update on H.R. 2337

More Legislators Sign on to Assist Public Employee Retirees Hit by Unfair Reductions

H.R. 2337, which would reform the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) of the Social Security Act, has gained additional support, with 177 members of Congress signed on as co-sponsors as of Oct. 1.

The legislation remains in the House Committee on Ways and Means, where it was referred after its introduction on April 1. The chairman of the committee, Richard Neal, D-Massachusetts, is the author of the bill.

RELAC has joined the national Alliance for Public Retirees to support passage of the legislation, which would implement the first change in the WEP law since it was created in 1983. It would bring partial relief to current public retirees, while eliminating the WEP reductions for future retirees. Nearly 2 million retirees have been affected by WEP, which reduces benefits of people who spent part of their career in a job covered by Social Security and another part in a job not covered by Social Security.

For updates on H.R. 2337, check out the Legislation menu on RELAC's website at relac.org and the Congress.gov online database at <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2337>.

Two Months Left to Recruit New Members for RELAC and Qualify for Cash Drawing

Dec. 31 is the deadline to qualify for a cash drawing for recruiting new RELAC members.

Members receive one entry in the drawing for each referral they make in 2021. Twenty \$25 prizes will be awarded, with multiple prizes to the same individual allowed.

The Board of Directors decided to sponsor the drawing to reward and encourage members to recruit other retirees. As of Oct. 1, there were 54 referrals by members. Staff and Board members made another 23 referrals, but they are not eligible for prizes.

Be sure to tell the new member to list your name on the application as making the referral. You win, they win, RELAC wins.

The easiest way to join RELAC is to go to relac.org and fill out an online application. If you would rather send in a printed application, you can download the application from the website or contact the office and an application form will be mailed. To be eligible for the drawing, the application must be e-mailed or postmarked by Dec. 31.

Good luck, and thank you for your support of RELAC.

Investment Board

by Joseph Kelly
RELAC Director, LACERA Board of Investments Trustee



Final return figures are in for the fiscal year end, June 30, 2021, and the return for the retirement trust was 25.2 percent, which exceeded the benchmark by 2.1 percent. LACERA manages a separate trust related to the County's pre-funding of its retiree health care liability -- we refer to that trust as the OPEB (other post-employment benefits) trust -- and that trust returned 28.4 percent. These returns were historic and reflect the excellent work and focus of the entire investment team and the oversight provided by the Board of Investments. There were several personnel developments in the recent past. Ted Wright, a principal investment officer and head of global equity, announced in August that he had accepted a position as the chief investment officer of the \$40 billion Connecticut Retirement Plans and Trust Funds. Ted oversaw a team that managed \$26 billion in assets. Ted's departure was a loss for the organization. However, his departure allows other staff to step up and assume additional responsibilities, and in this case, Esmeralda del Bosque, a very talented member of the team, has done just that. Chief Executive Officer Santos Kreimann has filled two important executive staff positions. He appointed a chief deputy, Luis Lugo, and an assistant administrative officer, Laura Guglielmo. I met with each of them this past month, and they are valued additions to the executive management team. You can read more about their backgrounds in the LACERA newsletters. Finally, the Board of Investments is holding its annual "off-site" strategy meeting this month. While we had hoped we would be able to gather in person, the Board took the more conservative route and we are holding this strategy session virtually. Have a safe, relaxing and joy-filled holiday season!

LACERA Pension Fund	June 2021	Total Assets \$71.6 Billion		
Returns:	FYTD	3 year:	5 year:	10 year:
	+25.2%	+10.7%	+10.8%	+8.6%



News From LACERA

by JJ Popowich
Assistant Executive Officer



I hope that everyone is doing well and staying healthy. I know a lot of us have family, kids, and some have grandkids that are heading back to school. As I write this, it's my hope that everyone stays safe and takes care of one another.

It's hard to believe, but we are quickly closing in on the end of the year and holidays. As we do, LACERA continues to reopen, step by step. As I mentioned in my last article, this is largely due to the hard work and incredible teamwork of our staff. In July we began accepting in-person appointments for our Member Service Center (MSC) for the first time in more than a year. We are now at about 50-60 percent of our normal level of appointments and are increasing that amount as staffing and protocols allow.

The switch to by-appointment-only services in the MSC is permanent because it is truly to everyone's benefit—most of all yours! Making an appointment allows you to meet with a specialist after a minimal check-in time and almost no waiting for service.

Speaking of appointments, kudos to all of you who have tried out virtual face-to-face appointments. Many members have expressed their appreciation for the convenience and safety of visiting us "in person" from home. Virtual visits have proved to be so popular that we are keeping them as another permanent change to our services. For your added convenience, we will continue to develop self-service transactions on My LACERA, like the self-generated pension verification letters, if you prefer the online route. And if you don't, rest assured: our Call Center and benefits specialists aren't going anywhere and will remain available to help you.

Also, don't forget that if you have to provide documents to LACERA, we have two very easy and quick ways to do this. You can visit MyLACERA and upload the documents. This is the easiest and fastest way to get your documents in and your requests processed as the documents are immediately routed to the right staff. You can also visit our offices and use the drop box located to the right of the main doors. These documents are retrieved from a secure, locked box and imported into our system in 24-48 hours. Both are simple, safe, secure, and convenient.

The County's dropping COVID case numbers and mandatory vaccinations have given a boost to our goal of bringing remote staff back onsite this fall. We had to briefly delay our planned mid-October return date to finalize a testing process for staff, but all other systems and protocols are in place. We are still finalizing the schedule to bring our remote staff members back to the office, utilizing a hybrid work schedule and alternating workweeks and workdays to limit the number of people in the office at any one time. Some may wonder why there is an effort to bring staff members back into the office – LACERA has learned that we can work remotely, but we also still value the face-to-face interactions we have in the office as it brings staff together as a cohesive unit focused on innovating and delivering great service. It's an important part of our culture – to be together.

Our executive team has a new member: Assistant Executive Officer (AEO) Laura Guglielmo. She will be handling the administrative and financial side of the house. Laura's career has been concentrated in municipal and pension administrative management, so she brings a lot of valuable skills to the table. I'm particularly glad to have her on board since I've been juggling added responsibilities in the absence of a second AEO for several years now. I'm looking forward to focusing my full energies back into member services and operations. With Luis Lugo, whom I introduced in the last issue, and now Laura, our leadership team is complete. We are in a great position to accomplish a lot in the next few years, starting with our strategic plan and goals. We also have several major projects underway to improve internal processes and systems and make service and operations improvements.

I'm happy to share that LACERA's trusts continue to perform very well despite the market ups and downs of the last two years and your benefits remain secure and well-funded. Our Chief Investment Officer Jon Grabel recently reported that LACERA's market value was \$71.6 billion as of June 30, 2021, up from \$60.7 billion at the same time in 2020. The net return for the fiscal year was 25.2 percent, outperforming the policy benchmark of 23.1 percent. LACERA's five-year and 10-year net returns were also ahead of the policy benchmarks for the same period at 10.8 percent (five-year) and 8.6 percent (10-year). We are fortunate: Our fund is in very good hands with Jon and his talented team, and the Board of Investments is providing excellent oversight.

Well, that's it for this month's edition. I hope everyone is enjoying their retirement (you've earned it!), and I'll see you next time.



Thanks for New Member Referrals

We would like to thank the 24 members who recruited colleagues to join RELAC during August and September 2021. Due to our aging membership, we must remain vigilant in signing up new members to remain a strong organization to protect our hard-earned pension and health benefits. We are the only organization that exclusively serves the interests of Los Angeles County retirees, so help us help you. For membership applications and brochures, call the RELAC office at (800) 537-3522, e-mail admin@relac.org or go online at relac.org. Be sure to tell the new member to put your name on the application as making the referral.

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

Josephine Aguirre, *Ralph Gibbons, Mental Health*
Patti Amesbury, *Charles Lu, Mental Health*
Gwen Andrizzi, *Eileen Fitzgerald, Chief Executive Office*

Suzanne Assis De Moraes, *Jane Clausen, Internal Services*

Kathleen & Rodney Cooper, *Oswaldo Matute, department not provided*

Dee A. Golles, *William Gallagher, Fire*

Daphne Grisby, *Joseph Langton, County Counsel*

J.P. Harris, *Russ Guiney, Parks and Recreation*

Patti Hennings, *Barbara Simpson, Assessor*

Linda Hopkins/Epi Peinado, *Marisa Lopez, Human Resources*

Fred Hungerford, *Kelly Crowell, Internal Services*

Zachary Jenkins, *Selena McCurdy, Children & Family Services*

Darlene Jensen, *Lisa Sevin, Superior Court*

Eunice Lisberg, *Barbara Bowie, Public Social Services*

Art Moronez, *Frank Martinez, Parks and Recreation*

Samangi Mudalige, *Surangani Mudalige, Sheriff*

Norma Nieto, *Rosie Fabian, Chief Executive Office*

Damon Riley, *Earnestine Hicks, Internal Services*

Les Robbins,

Robert Atkins, Agricultural Com./Wts. & Meas.

Paul Becker, Sheriff

Joseph Berger, Sheriff

Michael Colins, Sheriff

Eric Eshelman, Sheriff

Richard Estrada, Sheriff

Jack Goslin, Fire

Daniel Jordan, Sheriff

Joseph Kirk, Sheriff

David Logan, Sheriff

Nancy Miller, Health Services

Michael Rothans, Sheriff

Bradley Thompson, Sheriff

Willie Joe Witt, Sheriff

Walter Tubbs, *Marsanell Page, Probation*

David Yamashita, *James Jones, Chief Executive Office*

David Zamorano, *Andrew Shimoda, Health Services*

Welcome New Members

August – September 2021

Agricultural Com. / Wts. & Meas. – Robert Atkins

Alternate Public Defender– Kurt Wachter

Animal Care & Control - Elizabeth Webster

Assessor– Barbara Simpson

Auditor Controller–Antoinette Nakhla

Chief Executive Office – Rosie Fabian, Eileen Fitzgerald, Tina Marquez Herzog, James Jones

Children & Family Services – Selena Mc Curdy, Steven Mickaelian

Community & Senior Services – Steve Kemtes

County Counsel – Joseph Langton

District Attorney – Vicki Bunton, Marilyn Seymour

Fire – Christine Aleman, Diane Collins, Robert Cormack, William Gallagher, Jack Goslin, James Jenkins, James Reed, William Shakespeare, Ian Thompson

Harbor/UCLA Medical Center – Jeffrey Phillips

Health Services – Doris De Hart, Ariana Hopkins, Nancy Miller, Donna Peterson, Victor Pineda, Andrew Shimoda, Odali Simpson

Human Resources – Marisa Lopez

Internal Services – Jane Clausen, Kelly Crowell, Earnestine Hicks, Richard Hugues, Isagani Romana

King/Drew Medical Center – Peggy Thomas

LAC+USC Medical Center – David Andrade

LACERA – Valerie Hamilton, Arlene Rieux

Medical Examiner – Cynthia Guider, Ammal Sathanala

Mental Health – Herminio Sathanala, Richard A. Fierro, Ralph Gibbons, Charles Lu, Katherine A. Valencia

Olive View/UCLA Medical Center – Theresa Dale

Parks & Recreation – Mark Carlton, Russ Guiney, Frank Martinez

Probation – Claire Appiah, Willa Bryant, Marsanell Page, Francisco Rios Jr., Barbara Sanford, Gina Thomas

Public Defender – Marie D'onofrio

Public Health – Christine Gallagher Colon, Marthell Mc Elroy

Public Library – Leticia Tan

Public Social Services – Barbara Bowie, Anita Brown, Melvin Bryant, Mary Byrd, Alejandro R. Cabanillas, Cecilia Coson, Etheline Ealy, Sandra Nelson, Brenda Parris, Peter Tran, Daisy Wu

Public Works – Suk Chong, Deraold Dolittle, Edelman Quevedo, Daniel Shoeman, Kevin Smith, Debra Holmes

Registrar-Recorder – Barbara M. Silinsky

Sheriff – William Baber, Paul Becker, Andrew Berg, Joseph Berger, Robert Braman, Michael Burse, Michael Colins, Jay Deboom, Eric Eshelman, Richard Estrada, G. Russell Ferris, Barry Fisher, Christopher Germann, Mario Jimenez, James Johnston, Daniel Jordan, Joseph Kirk, Richard Lichten, David Logan, Surangani Mudalige.

Michael Rothans, David Rozas, Joann Sanfilippo, James Schallert, Michael L. Stine, Bradley Thompson, Robert Wachsmuth, Editha Wilkerson, Laura Willis, Willie Joe Witt

Superior Court – Narva Blue, Lisa Bonwit, Sonia Cruz, Mary Eckhardt, Brian Hamilton, Marilyn Holcomb, Patricia Roback, Lisa Sevin

Department not designated – Pedro Martinez, Oswaldo Matute, Callie Page

New Associate Members – Fred Barnard, Mary J. Berger, Kathleen A. Braman, Joseph W. Brown, Rosalind A. Bryant, Maria G. Cabanillas, Cunju Chong, Edward Collins, Michele Cormack, Rogelio Coson, Rolando Cruz, Cindy Deboom, Pertina W. Dolittle, Percy Ealy, Sharon Erickson, Peggy Eshelman, Linda S. Estrada, Dyana Lynn Ferris, Lucy Fierro, Era Mae Gibbons, Cecilia Hamilton, Robert Holmes, Debbie Hugues, Elena Jimenez, Joann Kirk, Susan Lichten, Diana Logan, Martha Martinez, Yvonne Matute, William Miller, Boushra Nakhla, Bachtuyet T. Nguyen, Michael Roback, Gail Schallert, Diana Shakespeare, Tammy Shoeman, Robert Simpson, Jacquelyne Thompson, Maria Q. Thompson, Steven Alan Wilkerson, Alejandrina Moya Witt

RELAC Members Get Discount on See's Candies

How sweet it is. RELAC has renewed its program with See's Candies to provide discounts to RELAC members.

Effective through October 2022, you may purchase See's Candies at a reduced price at any See's quantity discount shop.

Call (800) 877-7337, tell the See's representative you are a RELAC member, and ask for the location of the See's quantity discount store closest to your home. You can also find a list on RELAC's website at relac.org under the Member Discount tab, or you may call the RELAC office at (626) 308-0532 for assistance.

You must show your RELAC membership card at the time of purchase.



Letters To The Editor

Write On!

Enclosed is my last economic stimulus fund check (to be donated to L.A. Regional Food Bank). Although received a while ago, I am finally getting around to sending it as I had planned. Better late than never.
Helen Masuda, Claremont, California

Thanks for the RELAC newsletter. Another spectacular job.
Harvey Kern, Los Angeles, California

Thank you for all the good work you are doing for us.
Russ Guiney, Sierra Madre, California

RELAC, it is with a thankful heart I send this note. It made my day when I received the announcement that I was one of the Spring Drawing winners with a check for \$25. Then, along with the other winners, I was listed in the next issue of the RELAC newsletter. OMG! Firstly, I thank all the leaders and staff of RELAC for generously sharing their time, knowledge, and energy to protect our hard-earned benefits. Secondly, I thank the leaders and staff of RELAC for not only working and keeping us up-to-date with COLA and LACERA, but keeping us in contact and engaged with active and retired employees. Pray all is well with the officers and staff as well as members of their families. During this time of COVID-19 pandemic, global warming, and civil pandemonium, I find myself living in a world I never envisioned. I began employment with COLA in 1956, a couple of years before wise employees/retirees became aware we needed an organization to ensure our benefits were constantly protected; the name chosen for this new association was simply RELAC. When we look back in time, we must agree, it was an excellent thing to do! Now, I look forward to each issue of the newsy RELAC newsletter – reading articles of RELAC actions that give me peace by relieving me from the stress of losing benefits and searching for a familiar name, face, or department to recall fond memories. Of course, I read every name in the “RELAC Centenarians” and “In Memoriam” lists. You Are Appreciated!
Myrna-Joy Pugh, Los Angeles, California

Thank you so much for such a beautiful birthday card. So nice of the RELAC Board of Directors to remember me. God Bless All of You. Much Love.
Ida J. Wong, Grove, Oklahoma

Thank you, Linda Hopkins [for the birthday card]. You are so thoughtful. I am 104, can't remember [how] to spell anymore, but I do a lot. Thanks very much.
Rose Becerra, Los Angeles, California

Ms. Hopkins, thank you for sending me a nice greeting card for my birthday – “100.” That was so nice of you and was appreciated. All the best.
Mary W. Johnson, Cornelius, North Carolina

ON THE PASSING OF OUR COLLEAGUES:

Just wanted to say what a great job you did on the RELAC article for Mr. S. [former Supervisor Pete Schabarum].
Stephanie Hampton, Whittier, California

Thank you. This [article] is great and far better than the L.A. Times!
Tom Schabarum, Seattle, Washington (son of Pete Schabarum)

Thank you so much for sending the copies of the newsletter. I know a few [people] who would love to see this and don't do the computer very well! You did a really nice job on the article and I really appreciate it.
Laura Vandivort, Fallbrook, California (daughter of Pete Schabarum)

Rene [Topalian] was a marvelous friend, colleague and role model with a heart of gold. He was a wonderful man and his legacy keeps on extending into the future.
Barry Hunt, Inglewood, California

I don't think I ever thanked you for this, so belatedly thank you. I appreciate the story you wrote about Bob Bush. And I enjoyed reading the entire edition. All the best.
Andrea Carroll, Executive Director, LA County Library Foundation

The last time I spoke to Linda [Sirk], I could tell it would not be long before she passed. I can't believe how fast her condition deteriorated and my only comfort is that she did not suffer too long. Linda was diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis over a year ago. The last time we met for lunch was on June 17, 2019 at Trump International for High Tea and she was perfectly fine. I touched bases with her in January, 2020 and immediately noticed her cough. Due to COVID-19, we were never able to meet again for lunch, so I would call her. My last conversation with her was this past June and she could barely speak between gasping for air and talking. I was shocked how fast her condition deteriorated. I believe Susan Kerr had the same condition, but lived for years with it before she succumbed. Linda knew her time was limited, but as the consummate professional assistant, she was busy making all the arrangements for her passing/funeral because “I don't want Harry to bother with such things.” Even until the end of our last conversation, she was upbeat and at peace with her fate. Her only concern was that no one see her because her “hair was atrocious” since she could not have it done for some time. Oh, her hair iconic hair style... I will never forget it, or her kindness.
Elena Cervantes, Santa Fe Springs, California

Happy Holidays!

RELAC NEWSLETTER

Vol 56 - Nov/Dec 2021

Number 6

Retired Employees
of Los Angeles County
1000 S. Fremont Ave.
Unit 15, Alhambra, CA
91803-8802

(626) 308-0532
(800) 537-3522
Fax (626) 308-2901

E-mail: admin@relac.org
website:
www.relac.org

Board of Directors

President

Brian Berger

Vice President

Linda C. Hopkins

Secretary

Evelyn Gutierrez

Treasurer

Dyanne Nelson

Past President

Dave L. Muir

Directors

Donald Fandry

Judy Hammond

J. P. Harris

Joseph Kelly

Epifanio Peinado

Victoria Pipkin-Lane

Les Robbins

Diane Sandoval

Editor: Judy Hammond
Copyright © 2021 by
RELAC. This information
presented in your RELAC
Newsletter is believed to
be from reliable sources.
However, no responsibility
is assumed by RELAC
or the writers for
inaccuracies in the articles
as published.

Office Hours

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Monday - Thursday

Closed Friday,

Saturday, Sunday &

Public Holidays

What's Happening?

by Evelyn Gutierrez, Chair
Special Events Committee



Public health update: As our communities rebuild and recover from the pandemic that we have faced for almost two years, the County Board of Supervisors is committed to getting our residents back on their feet swiftly and equitably. Recovery.lacounty.gov is a new website that has been created to provide a one-stop-shop for available resources and current information. Get connected to the help you may need or that your neighbor may need.

As we begin to plan for the holidays, we hope you stay safe, wear masks as required and remain socially distant if necessary.

2021 Holiday Celebration at the Music Center 135 N. Grand Ave., Los Angeles – Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

Since 1964 a traditional holiday celebration is held on **Dec. 24** as a FREE cultural event at the County's Music Center. This annual event celebrates the rich cultures of Los Angeles County and showcases choral music, dance performances and instrumental music. This year's event is scheduled from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. as a live event and will also be broadcast on KCET. A one-hour version will also be broadcast on PBS. For additional information on scheduled performances, call (213) 972-7211.

Marina del Rey Holiday Boat Parade

Burton Chace Park, 13650 Mindanao Way, Marina del Rey.

The 2021 Holiday Boat Parade, themed "Joy on the Water," is celebrating its 59th year. A brief fireworks display at 5:55 p.m. will announce the start of the Boat Parade. This traditional event is scheduled for Saturday, **Dec. 11** from 5:55 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Burton Chace Park. Watch brightly lighted boats cruise through the main channel. Narration on a PSA system is broadcast from two popular viewing places, Burton Chace Park and Fisherman's Village. For additional information, call (424) 526-7900.

Arboretum and Botanic Gardens – Holiday Light Festival

301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia

A spectacular holiday experience, an enchanting, after-dark, illuminated trail at the Arboretum will open **Nov. 12 through Jan. 16, 2022**. This special Light Festival will span one mile and feature spectacular sights that come alive at night with color imagination and sound. For information on this unique event, call (626) 821-3222.

Free admission to the Arboretum is on the third Tuesday of each month.

Donations Needed to Provide Holidays Meals

by Evelyn Gutierrez, Community Support Committee

The holidays are a special time for many families. However, our continued support is needed to help provide a special Thanksgiving meal or holiday dinner for underserved families in many communities in need of hot meals.

Through donations to the L.A. Regional Food Bank, a lifeline for seniors has been created, providing much-needed food security assistance.

A great example of this support is the Eastmont Community Center in East Los Angeles, which provides food and canned goods that help feed unemployed and under-employed individuals and their families.

Just one community and one food distribution L.A. Regional Food Bank partner, Eastmont Community Center has made a huge difference in the lives of many family members, including children and seniors.

RELAC volunteer Brenda Mata is an employee at Eastmont Community Center and daily assists and comforts families in need of nutritious food. She remembers when her family was in their position.

"When I was 8 years old growing up in East Los Angeles, I remember a stranger delivering a box full of food, snacks and pizza to our family," Mata said. "Growing up, I didn't realize my family was food insecure. Years passed and I became a teacher, then a program coordinator at Eastmont Community Center. One day, we were packaging boxes for our food distribution services and I realized that the box looked familiar. I thought about my mother's shame at receiving food from strangers, and I didn't want our community to feel ashamed to ask for food, because I don't think anyone should go hungry."

To this day, Mata does not know who submitted her family's information to receive food when she was a child. However, she is grateful that over the holidays, a season of giving, someone in her community cared enough to help her family.

RELAC members interested in donating to the L.A. Regional Food Bank, especially during the holidays, can visit the RELAC website to make an online donation or can mail a check made payable to RELAC, noting L.A. Food Bank in the lower left of the check.

Your holiday donation and support will be sincerely appreciated.

Brenda Mata, with husband, Juan, and daughter, Sofia.



Spark of Love

Holiday Toys Needed for Underserved Families

by Evelyn Gutierrez, Community Support Committee

RELAC again this year is promoting support for the "Spark of Love" holiday toy drive sponsored by the L.A. County Fire Department and ABC. Unwrapped toys and sports equipment are needed for distribution to underserved children and teens in Los Angeles County.

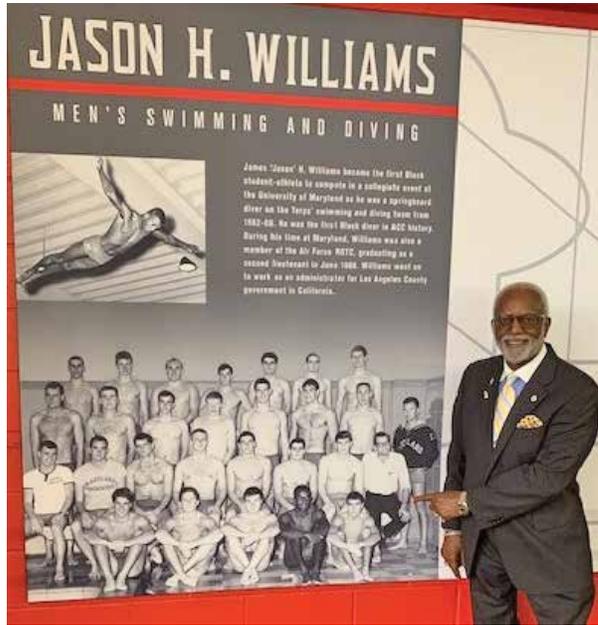
This year's toy drive has transitioned to a virtual platform and accepts donations through an online partnership with MyRegistry.com or by contacting your local fire station for personal drop-off options.

For additional information about the Spark of Love Toy Drive, please contact Fire Capt. Ron Haralson at (213) 200-2477 or e-mail your questions to sparkoflove@fire.lacounty.gov.

Your continued support and toy donations will help make the holidays a special time for many underserved families. Thank you for sharing and caring.



RELAC's Jason H. Williams Honored as a Trailblazer



RELAC member and former director Jason H. Williams is among the “trailblazers” featured on murals on ‘Gamechangers Row’ at the new state-of-the-art \$149.3 million football complex at the University of Maryland (UMD).

Gamechangers Row is a 100-yards-long wall of 10’x12’ murals on the second floor of the new facility showcasing the accomplishments of former athletes and athletics department staff whose exemplary performance and dedication have made a difference at UMD. The second floor houses the coaches’ offices, meeting areas and a recruiting room.

Williams, a 1966 UMD graduate, was selected for inclusion because in 1962 he was the first black student-athlete to compete in a collegiate event at UMD, as a springboard diver on the swimming and diving team. He was also the first black diver in the Atlantic Coast Conference, an association of colleges and universities along the mid-Atlantic coast.

Williams was among the several hundred attending the invitation-only Sept. 3 dedication of the new UMD sports complex, known as the Jones-Hill House – as were the two men after whom the new facility is named, Billy Jones and Darryl Hill. Jones was the first black basketball player at UMD (1965) and Hill the first black football player (1963).

The facility was built with the support of a leadership gift (reportedly \$40 million) from UMD alumnus Under Armour founder and Executive Chairman Kevin Plank, but he declined having his own name on the building, instead honoring Jones and Hill.

“The determination, courage and strength of these two individuals helped pave the way for thousands of black student-athletes today, but they also helped break the chains of segregation and discrimination for every one of us,” UMD President Darryll J. Pines said during his April 2021 inauguration speech, when he announced the new facility’s name. “Jones-Hill House will not only cement the legacy of these two trailblazers, but will serve as an inspiration to our entire university community.”

Cont. on p.9

Retired Department Heads Meet at Luncheon

Fifteen former County department heads – all fully vaccinated – met in August at Tamayo Restaurant in East Los Angeles for quarterly luncheon. At the lunch were, from left, Harry Stone, Public Works; Joanne Sturges, Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors; Pastor Herrera, Consumer Affairs; Steven Golightly, Child Support Services; Lynn Bayer, Public Social Services; John Wicker, Parks and Recreation; Cheryl Renae Davis, former secretary to Golightly; Sheryl Spiller, Public Social Services; Jason Williams, Building Services; Wendy Watanabe, Auditor-Controller; Jim Jones, Internal Services; Ron Brown, Public Defender; Marvin Southard, Mental Health; Conny McCormick, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk; and Mark Saladino, County Counsel and Treasurer-Tax Collector. All but three are RELAC members. The next luncheon is Dec. 16.



Happy Birthday, RELAC Centenarians

Happy birthday to our members who will be 100 or older in November and December.

November

Davidson V. Turner, 100, Sheriff
Nov. 1, 1921

Martha J. Choi, 101, Coroner
Nov. 17, 1920

December

Ivo Lazzeroni, 104, Communications
Dec. 5, 1917

Virginia J. Weaver, 104, Public Social Services
Dec. 5, 1917

Leroy Wilkey, 100, Building Services
Dec. 9, 1921

Myrtle G. Throne, 101, Roads
Dec. 15, 1920

John A. Puz, 100, Public Library
Dec. 20, 1921

Carle W. Stewart, 100, Probation
Dec. 22, 1921

Mary J. Gardner, 100, Public Works
Dec. 30, 1921

Irene B. Baker, 103, John Wesley Hospital
Dec. 31, 1918

RELAC RV Club Looking for New Campers

The next outing for the RELAC RV Club is Jan. 9-12, 2022 at Pechanga RV Resort in Temecula – and new campers are welcome. The cost is \$205 for four days or \$155 for three days. Deadline to register is Dec. 1. A reservation form is available on the RELAC website at relac.org under the calendar section. For additional information, call Janice Hayhurst at (626) 354-3227 or Bill Hayhurst at (626) 354-0124.



The club's most recent outing was at Newport Dunes Waterfront Resort & Marina in Newport Beach from Sept. 12-16. In attendance, from left to right, were: Elroy Morris; Bill and Janice Hayhurst; Terri Morris; Mike Reyes; Leon and Dian Stegall; Janet Cerato; Guadalupe Felix; Veronica Reyes; Taylor; Patrona Felix; Jennifer, Jan, and Dave Coleman; Mike and Katy Ponce de Leon; Norman and Aiden Nelson; Natalia Felix; Chickee Nelson; Norman Nelson, III; Ethan Nelson; and Bandito (in front).

Falls Pose Major Risk to Older Adults: CDC Provides Prevention Tips

Every second of every day an older adult – those 65 and older -- falls. In 2015 alone, more than one in four older adults reported falling and more than 28,000 older adults died as a result of falls. There are simple steps you can take to prevent falls and decrease falls risks. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) developed the STEADI (Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths & Injuries) initiative, which includes educational materials and tools to improve fall prevention. Go to <https://www.cdc.gov/falls/index.html> to learn more.

What Can Happen After a Fall

One out of every five falls causes a serious injury. These injuries can make it hard for a person to get around, do everyday activities, or live on their own. Falls can cause broken bones, like wrist, arm, ankle, and hip fractures.

Falls can cause head injuries. These can be very serious, especially if the person is taking certain medicines (like blood thinners). An older person who falls and hits their head should see their doctor right away to make sure they don't have a brain injury.

Many people who fall, even if they're not injured, become afraid of falling. This fear may cause a person to cut down on their everyday activities. When a person is less active, they become weaker and this increases their chances of falling.

What Conditions Make You More Likely to Fall

Many risk factors can be changed or modified to help prevent falls. They include: Lower body weakness. Vitamin D deficiency. Difficulties with walking and balance. Use of medicines, such as tranquilizers, sedatives, or antidepressants. (Even some over-the-counter medicines can affect balance and how steady you are on your feet.) Vision problems. Foot pain or poor footwear. Home hazards or dangers such as broken or uneven steps, and throw rugs or clutter that can be tripped over.

What You Can Do to Prevent Falls - Talk to Your Doctor

Ask your doctor or healthcare provider to evaluate your risk for falling and talk with them about specific things you can do. Ask your doctor or pharmacist to review your medicines to see if any might make you dizzy or sleepy. This should include prescription medicines and over-the-counter medicines. Ask your doctor or healthcare provider about taking vitamin D supplements.

Do Strength and Balance Exercises

Do exercises that make your legs stronger and improve your balance. Tai Chi is a good example of this kind of exercise.

Have Your Eyes Checked

Have your eyes checked by an eye doctor at least once a year, and be sure to update your eyeglasses if needed. If you have bifocal or progressive lenses, you may want to get a pair of glasses with only your distance prescription for outdoor activities, such as walking. Sometimes these types of lenses can make things seem closer or farther away than they really are.

Make Your Home Safer

Get rid of things you could trip over. Add grab bars inside and outside your tub or shower and next to the toilet. Put railings on both sides of stairs. Make sure your home has lots of light by adding more or brighter light bulbs.

Trip and Fall

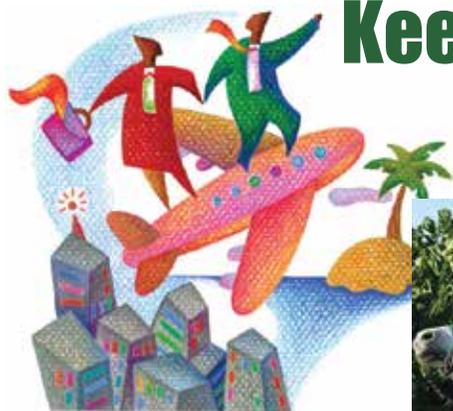
Recently, I managed to trip when stepping over the doggie gate in my daughter's hallway. Hit the tile floor hard. Had to go to ER to make sure I had no inner cranial bleeding. Got a good report on that, but I looked like Muhammad Ali punched me out. It mended well. I can go out in public now without people staring and wondering what happened to me, but I better recognize the need to be careful about falls.

---Tom Hibbard, 1993 Retiree, Natural History Museum (formerly with Board of Supervisors and Health Services Department)



Keeping Up With Retirees

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



BOB ATKINS

I finished my degree in entomology from California State University Long Beach (CSULB) in July 1973 and two weeks later began working for the Agricultural Commissioner's Office. One of my first assignments was working on the oriental fruit fly eradication in San Fernando Valley. I worked at the Wholesale Produce Market for about a year and then Pest Exclusion near Downtown. In September 1975 I trapped the first Mediterranean fruit fly (Medfly) in California and was assigned to the eradication project, where we used sterile Medflies to eradicate for the first time. I worked on more oriental fruit fly, Japanese beetle and gypsy moth eradications, then in 1978 went to Malibu with our weed abatement program. In 1988 I graduated from the California Agricultural Leadership Program.

In 1993 I became the first manager to move from the Agriculture side to the Weights and Measures side of the department. I was surprised by how much I enjoyed the work, which is rooted in assuring the free market works fairly for the consumers and business competitors by testing that the meters, scales and price scanners are correct. I returned to CSULB and received my master of public administration degree in 1994.

I became chief deputy in 1999 and left the department in 2006 to become the agricultural commissioner/ sealer of weights and measures in San Diego County. I retired in May 2011 after a combined total of 38 years.

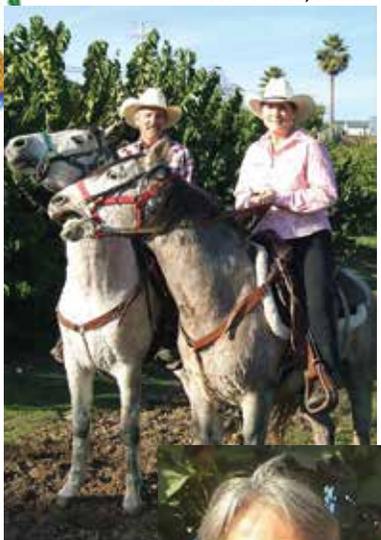
I have taken to retirement slowly. I have just finished contracting with the California Department of Agriculture citrus program, which I began in 2013. That program controls the Asian citrus psyllid and the disease Huanglongbing it carries that kills citrus. I served on the California Invasive Species Advisory Committee for four years. I am still a civil administrative hearing officer for all the Southern California counties on pesticide, farmers market and weights and measures cases. My wife, Anne, and I also volunteer at a church that delivers breakfast, showers and clean clothes to those in need.

Anne and I have a six-acre farm in Fallbrook, where we grow figs, kumquats, cherimoyas, gold nugget Mandarins, finger limes, cara cara oranges and lemons. We have two Arabian horses and three big dogs. We no longer ride our horses, so now they are "pasture puffs." We still enjoy them and use them to make fertilizer for our organic farm. Anne does most of the farming and selling to local distributors; we hope to break even one day. I'm the hired help.

I still bodyboard more than once a week year-round. We love to travel. We have been to Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Canada, Japan, Germany, Italy, Austria, Greece, Croatia, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Portugal, and Spain. After COVID, we hope to go to the United Kingdom and Scandinavia. We have travelled with and to family to Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Oregon, Washington, Montana, New England, Florida, Mississippi, and Washington, D.C.

Cont. on p.9

With wife, Anne



RUSS GUINEY

The mission of the County Parks Department is, among other things, to enhance the lives of the people of the County by providing outstanding recreational opportunities and outdoor experiences through parks, botanic gardens, other outdoor venues, trails and open space areas. I was honored to spend 13 years with the department.



I came to the County following 30 years with California State Parks as a ranger and park superintendent. My last assignment was overseeing all the state parks in L.A. County. The state contracted with the County to operate a number of parks, including Kenneth Hahn and Castaic Lake Recreation Areas. I worked with staff from County Parks and various Board offices, including Supervisors Yvonne Brathwaite Burke and Mike Antonovich. All were very invested in their parks and so when the chief deputy job for County Parks came open in 2002, I applied and was hired in October of that year.

I was told I could hire my personal secretary and was given a list of people to interview. Elva Espinoza stood out and we became partners for the next 13 years. The best part of my experience with the County was and is the people. Elva is a prime example of the dedicated County workers I met over the years. Today she is executive secretary to department head Norma Edith Garcia-Gonzalez.

In 2005 I was selected by the Board of Supervisors as director and spent the next 10 years heading one of the finest parks departments in the nation. With over 177 parks, four botanic gardens, 150 miles of riding and hiking trails, 19 golf courses, the largest lake in L.A. County, gyms, tennis courts, swimming pools, recreation centers and outdoor entertainment venues (including the world-famous Hollywood Bowl), I was kept busy hustling from the South Coast Botanic Garden in the Palos Verdes Peninsula to Apollo Park in Lancaster and from Ruben Salazar Park in East L.A. to El Cariso Park in Sylmar.

Concurrently, I was director of the County Regional Park and Open Space District. This is a granting agency funded by parcel tax assessments and has dispersed over \$1 billion to cities, the County, and other agencies to improve and develop new parks and acquire open space. One of the best parts of my job was signing grants, knowing the funds would go toward making people's lives better.

I was also instrumental in developing the Parks after Dark program, allowing us to keep parks in underserved areas open past their normal closing in an effort to reduce crime by giving teenagers a safe place to go with fun activities. Other departments were invited to participate by showcasing their services and providing an opportunity for residents to access the services while at the park.

When I became parks director, County Librarian Margaret Todd Donnellan invited me to join the Rotary Club of Los Angeles. At the first meeting I looked around the room and there was a friend who was president of the State Parks Foundation and a colleague from the City of L.A. Recreation and Parks Department, and one of the group's current service projects was building a new trail in

Cont. on p.9

ROBIN KAY

In 1978, as a graduate student in New York, I chose "Community Mental Health" as an elective and found myself conducting mental health assessments in the Mount Sinai Hospital Psychiatric Emergency Room. That experience was incredibly valuable – but I also wondered if there were more innovative ways to make the world better for people with mental illness and their families even before they experienced a crisis. My professors told me that California was the place to be, so a year later I moved to Los Angeles and discovered they were absolutely right. For the next 17 years, I worked at the Didi Hirsch Community Mental Health Center as a predoctoral intern, director of emergency services, and head of adult outpatient services and the community education and prevention division. While there I also served as the chair of the Westside Shelter and Hunger Coalition and as the mental health consultant to the Culver City Fire Department (where I occasionally had Saturday night dinner and went on ride-a-longs!).

After the Northridge earthquake, I began collaborating with teams from the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH), delivering crisis services to those who were displaced. I was frequently called by then-District Chief Larry Wicker because I was so grateful for the opportunity to be of help – including being one of very few clinicians happy to work on Super Bowl Sunday, 1995. Later that year, I applied for a position in DMH as the program manager at what was then Santa Monica-West Mental Health Center and is now the Edelman Westside Mental Health Center. It was an exciting time in DMH as we developed an affiliation agreement that supported the training of psychiatric residents in our mental health centers and developed a collaborative network of agencies that eventually designed and implemented programs such as the Westside Urgent Care Center – the first mental health urgent care center of what is now a network of programs throughout Los Angeles. It was also a wonderful time on a personal level as I moved downtown to work with Dr. Roderick Shaner, our medical director, and eventually married Larry Wicker.

Over time, I held a number of positions within DMH. In 2007 I took on the role of chief deputy director, serving under Dr. Marvin Southard. What an opportunity for a community mental health psychologist! My team included now-retired Deputy Directors Dennis Murata, Bryan Mershon, Carlotta Childs-Seagle, and Cathy Warner. With our community partners, we developed programs funded by the recently passed Mental Health Services Act, including the transition to field-based services and prevention and early intervention. With the passage of the Affordable Care Act we expanded services again, delivering integrated co-located programs in DHS medical centers and funding federally qualified health centers to provide mental health services. We expanded our workforce to extend our reach through promotoras and older adult service extenders.

Although my years as chief deputy were tremendously exciting and gratifying, they were also filled with personal loss. In 2010 my husband died. Several years later, while I was serving as the acting director of DMH, my youngest sister passed away. I was supported by many caring colleagues and participated in a grief support group. Most of all, the chance to do the work I love gave me a sense of purpose during very difficult times.

In 2018 I retired from the Department of Mental Health, but not from my desire to continue giving to our community. I obtained a certificate in bereavement counseling and was trained by Our House, the support agency I turned to after the death of my husband. For the past three years I have been leading grief support groups for young and mid-life widows and widowers. I also began teaching leadership courses in the doctoral program in social work at the University of Southern California, supporting social work students who are committed to changing the world. In addition, I've been doing some consulting, working with two retired DMH district chiefs, Mary Marx and Kathleen Kerrigan, to support community-based organizations. In fact, I am currently participating in the launch of Capstone Solutions Consulting Group – a new organization composed of many great Los Angeles County retirees, including Marvin Southard, Cynthia Banks, Philip Browning and John Hatakeyama. And on a personal level: I'm practicing tai chi in the park with Mary Marx and Anita Lee (retired from the County Counsel's Office) and in a book group that includes retiree Sheila Shima. In July my son and daughter-in-law got married on a Malibu hilltop and... there is a new man in my life.

I am incredibly grateful to have had a public service career with the County of Los Angeles. Being a member of the County family gave me an opportunity to do

With son, Ben, at his recent wedding



the work I love and now in retirement to continue to provide the services people need. Forty-two years later I can still say...my professors were right: Los Angeles is the place to be!

Bob Atkins cont. from p.8

We are thoroughly enjoying retirement after a fulfilling and rewarding career. I love L.A., but I think the motto from San Diego County says what we do in County service best: "The Noblest Motive is the Public Good."

Russ Guiney cont. from p.8

Ernest Debs Regional Park, so I decided this was a good organization to join. I quickly became a member of the Environmental Committee and there I met Pat Wright, who shared similar interests. Three years later we were married at the Arroyo Vista Inn, her beautiful bed and breakfast in South Pasadena. Rotary does international projects, as well as local ones like the trail. One of the best was raising money for medical supplies and school books requested by Rotary clubs in Costa Rica and then going to Costa Rica to help distribute these things to grateful people. Pat and I are now members of the Rotary Club of Pasadena and enjoy the fellowship with other members, including RELAC Director J.P. Harris, and doing projects such as helping assemble 200 bicycles during the holiday season for distribution by the Salvation Army to local children.

In 2015 I retired after 40 years in the park and recreation field. The following year Pat sold her bed and breakfast business and we both set out to do more hiking and traveling. Highlights have been hiking trips to Scotland, Croatia, and Acadia and Glacier National Parks.

One of my favorite means of travel is by train and we have done numerous Amtrak trips, but the very best was chartering a private rail car with friends. The private car is added to the back of an Amtrak train and is self-contained with its own chef and steward so you really feel like a rail baron. Our most memorable trip was a grand circle from L.A. to Seattle to Chicago and back to L.A. On the second day we woke up looking at Mt. Shasta and traversed its slopes for almost two hours. In Seattle the rail car was parked in the station and became our hotel for a couple of days. Then it was off to Chicago, passing through Glacier National Park and then across the southwest back to Los Angeles.

Other retirement activities have included reading all those books I previously had no time to read, and most recently being active in political campaigns by writing a lot of postcards urging people to get out and vote.

Thanks to all my friends and associates at the County of Los Angeles for helping me have a very memorable career. And the best to all of you, both retired and working.

Jason Williams cont. from p.6

Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas, was a landmark 1954 U.S. Supreme Court case in which the justices ruled unanimously that racial segregation of children in public schools was unconstitutional. This decision was one of the cornerstones of the civil rights movement in the 1960s and helped establish the precedent that "separate but equal" education and other services were not, in fact, equal. The Supreme Court decision not only opened the doors of public schools to black students but to black student-athletes as well.

Williams said he and other "trailblazers" are living examples of what can happen when individuals are given the opportunity to show what they can do in education and in athletics.

L. A. County Fire Museum Celebrates 50 Years of "Emergency!"

The Los Angeles County Fire Museum will host a public celebration at its Bellflower facility Jan. 14-16, 2022 to celebrate "Fifty Years of EMERGENCY! on Television." The groundbreaking 1970s television series – shot at County facilities and featuring what was then a new concept, paramedic squads -- was on the air during prime time from Jan. 15, 1972 to 1977, followed by a series of two-hour television movies that aired in 1978 and 1979.

The series broke new ground in both the entertainment industry and in fire service. Often referred to as the first reality-based television show, "Emergency!" introduced the public to the then-revolutionary concept of using specially trained firefighters in the field to provide advanced life-saving services. In the early 1970s very few people had ever heard the word "paramedic." At the time the show debuted, only 12 paramedic squads were in service in the entire country – eight of them in Los Angeles County. By the end of the show's seven-year run, more than half of U.S. residents were within four to seven minutes of advanced lifesaving care.

"Emergency!" aired on NBC at 8 p.m. on Saturdays. The TV firefighter/paramedics Johnny Gage and Roy DeSoto of the fictional "Station 51," the apparatus Squad 51 and Engine 51, and the doctors and nurses at "Rampart Hospital" quickly became America's babysitters. To this day, an entire generation of firefighters, paramedics, EMTs, doctors, nurses, police officers and dispatchers proudly say that "Emergency!" was their inspiration for answering the call to public service and emergency patient care that has saved countless lives in the last five decades.

In addition to the popular "Emergency!" vehicles, the County Fire Museum owns over 60 apparatus, hundreds of fire artifacts and thousands of photographs that tell the history of the U.S. fire service, with special emphasis on the Los Angeles County Fire Department. The collection is housed in five facilities, with the 16400 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower location as the main museum, normally open to the public four days a week.

Beginning in 1969, at Los Angeles County Harbor-UCLA Medical Center (known as "Rampart Hospital" in the series), paramedics began advanced life support (ALS) training for Fire Department personnel. In the latter part of that year, Squad 59 went into service, with a nurse "ride-along," giving birth to the first County paramedic squad. Not until July 1970, when California Gov. Ronald Regan signed the Wedworth-Townsend Paramedic Act into law, were paramedics allowed to handle ALS calls without the assistance of a nurse ride-along.

In 1971, the Fire Department operated three paramedic squads throughout the County. The first, Squad 59, was based at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in the South Bay city of Carson. This location was to become the backdrop for the hospital parking lot scene throughout the entire series. The other squads in service were Squad 18 in Lennox and Squad 36 in Carson, located near Station 127, the real-life station known as "Station 51" in the series. Arguably the most famous scene from the series is the "roll-out" of Squad and Engine 51, making a left hand turn onto the streets out of Fire Station 127, set against the backdrop of freeway traffic.

Toward the latter part of the summer of 1971, newly promoted L.A. County Battalion Chief James O. Page asked Hollywood producer Robert Cinader to ride along with him on medical emergencies to observe the new paramedics in action. Quickly, Cinader realized that a television show based on the Fire Department's paramedics was a goldmine idea. By November, filming had begun for the two-hour pilot.

In the pilot episode, once again filmed at West Hollywood Fire Station 8, the newly graduated paramedic Roy DeSoto (played by Kevin Tighe) recruits Firefighter Johnny Gage (Randolph Mantooth) to join the paramedic program for Fire Station 10. The timeline for the two-hour plot followed the birth of the paramedic program



Engine 51 with Kevin Tighe and Randy Mantooth, taken inside the Fire Museum in 2020.

in the late 1960s, to the nurse ride-alongs in 1970, and finally with the solo paramedic program that is now standardized around the world.

Battalion Chief Page continued to serve as the Fire Department's technical advisor on the series and even reviewed the "dailies" for the show to offer suggestions to ensure the accuracy of the show and to preserve the image of the department. County Engineer Mike Stoker and Fire Capt. Dick Hammer appeared regularly in the show alongside actor Tim Donnelly, who played the part of Chet Kelley.

The series ran until September 1977 and ended with 124 episodes under its belt. The series was produced with the full cooperation of the Fire Department, the Department of Hospitals, the Board of Supervisors and the Department of Health Services. The series can still be found on cable and satellite television channels throughout the world.

In August 1995, Universal Studios immortalized Station 51 with the dedication of an actual Los Angeles County Fire Station 51 on its backlot. This decision was made in response to the Universal Studios backlot fire in November 1990, which burned a major portion of the studio property and resulted in millions of dollars in losses.



FOR SALE:

TWO COMPANION MAUSOLEUM CRYPTS at the San Fernando Mission Cemetery. Each companion crypt holds two caskets or urns. Includes one crypt plate each, one insert each, one vase each. Located next to each other, at prime location height, approximately 5 feet from ground. Asking market price at \$20,000, each companion crypt. If interested, please contact Laura at (626) 222-3040.



Holiday Reflections:

Memories of Mom's Apple Cake

by Joseph Kelly, RELAC Director

When I was young, Sunday was baking day. My mother was a terrible cook, but she was a fantastic baker. All seven children would sit around the large kitchen table and participate to some extent or watch and try something for himself or herself. (There were no mobile phones to distract us. It was either baking or homework.) My mother assigned the menial tasks of cutting large raisins into quarters or crushing large nuts into smaller pieces to me and my twin sister, because we were the youngest. (Actually, I am the youngest, as my twin sister was born five minutes before me. I was born with a broken arm and my mother said it was because I had told my twin sister that I wanted to go first. She took my arm, said "Hell no," broke it and got on out. Because my mother said this, I knew it was true.) My mother could have purchased small raisins and nuts, but then my twin sister and I wouldn't have an assignment on baking day and everyone had an assignment. Above is a pic of my twin sister giving me a hug in front of the kitchen sink, likely trying to make up for the fact that she cut more large raisins and crushed more nuts that Sunday than I.

With twin sister, Bernadette



My mother reserved certain baked goods for certain seasons or special occasions. For example, my mother's Boston cream pie was my favorite, so she only made it on my birthday. When I was 8, I told my mother that I no longer wanted to share a birthday cake with my twin sister. I was a man, I told her, and deserved my own cake just like my three older brothers. She told me that made perfect sense, and she always made two different cakes for the twins' birthday after that. One of the cakes she made only for Christmas was apple cake. She made many apple pies throughout the year, but only made apple cake at Christmas. (My oldest brother, who lives in southern Mississippi, learned his baking skills around the same kitchen table as I. He is quite proud of his second place win a few years back in a local apple pie contest. Folks in southern Mississippi are serious about their pies.) I remember one year thinking that I would ask my mother to make the apple cake for my birthday, instead of the Boston cream pie, because the apple cake was that good. But then I decided against it because I was not certain I would ever taste her Boston cream pie again. (I still to this day wonder why that is even called a pie, as it is clearly a cake.)

You should appreciate that, including my parents, there were nine of us, so after each one of us had a small-sized slice of whatever cake or pie my mother made, it was gone. There were no seconds, so we ate the one small piece very slowly and savored every bite.



Fast forward all these years, and I am a pretty good baker myself, most times. Sometimes when the baking is done and I taste the final product, I wonder why I bothered. Sometimes I congratulate myself and take a very big piece aside before I share it with others. And sometimes I believe my mother herself is in the kitchen and she prepared it. I present to you, at left, the Joan Kelly apple cake. Just like my mother made.

Today, many of us are not with those with whom we had planned to spend the holidays. There is an old saying that a moment lasts only a second, but a memory lives on forever. I hope if you don't have those around you who you love, that the memories of your time together live on, today and tomorrow and the day after that. Happy Holidays!

Technology Corner:

Price Comparison Search Engines Can Save You Money on Purchases

by Joseph Kelly, RELAC Director

Do you use price comparison search engines to determine if you are getting the best deal on a planned purchase? I do, very often, and I highly recommend them. Price comparison search engines collect price information from participating sellers and then display that information in a user-friendly way that allows the user to evaluate which vendor has the best overall value.

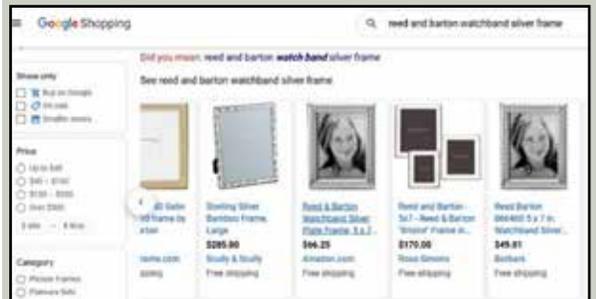
Google's price comparison search engine is at shopping.google.com. (Other price comparison search engines are PriceGrabber, Shopzilla, and Camelcamelcamel.)

Here's how it works. Say I want to buy a Reed and Barton Watchband silver frame for a friend for a birthday gift. Go to shopping.google.com, input that description and you will see the following results. Amazon lists the item at \$66.25, but another vendor, Borbars, lists it at \$49.01, a savings of \$17.24 (26%). Both vendors offer free shipping.

Recently my twin sister informed me that she saw an area rug on SaksOffFifth's website that was a "steal." She knew I was looking for a new rug for a bedroom and thought this rug would look great. I went to the website and found the rug, which was listed at \$799, reduced from over \$2,000. I then copied the information on the rugmaker and rug name and input that into shopping.google.com. I was expecting prices around \$2,000 from those vendors that didn't have the item on sale. Instead, what I found was the SaksOffFifth's "sale" price was the highest listed. The lowest price was offered by Walmart at \$499, a \$300 (38%) reduction. I purchased the rug through Walmart and my sister was right, it looks great!

[Shopping.google.com](http://shopping.google.com) also has a function that allows you to check for price comparisons within a zip code. That function came in handy in the early days of the pandemic when I was looking for a non-touch temperature device. It was nearly impossible to find one online, including on Amazon, but through this function I learned that my local AutoZone had three in stock, at prices that were \$1 less than Amazon's listed price.

Give these price comparison search engines a try if you have never used them. Why pay more than you need to?





Inside LA County

by Judy Hammond
Newsletter Editor

You no longer have to be a citizen to get a County job. The Board of Supervisors by unanimous vote waived the requirement, an action hailed as historic and progressive by supporters. Specifically, the Board eliminated the citizenship requirement for department heads and gave department heads the authority to waive the requirement when hiring employees. Public Defender Ricardo Garcia,

noting that immigrants make up one-third of the County's population, was among those advocating for the change. He said it will allow him to better represent indigent defendants since he will be able to hire the best and most diverse employees. The attorneys would still be required to have a license to practice law from the California State Bar.

Supervisor Sheila Kuehl also characterized the adoption of the supplemental County budget as historic, saying it included \$461 million of new funding in "Care First, Jails Last" initiatives to address systemic issues surrounding over-incarceration and racial disparities impacting communities. Among the programs getting funding were the Alternatives to Incarceration; the Anti-Racism, Diversity and Inclusion Initiative; the Poverty Alleviation Initiative; the Jail Closure Implementation Team to depopulate and close Men's Central Jail; and Youth Justice Reimagined initiatives to break the cycle of incarceration before adulthood and set youth up for success.

The County mandated that all its 100,000+ employees get vaccinated or begin weekly testing as of Oct. 1 and urged all employers to do the same. Exemptions are being allowed for medical or religious reasons. Five employees have sued, contending the mandate is unconstitutional.

County attorneys are investigating whether a special unit in the Sheriff's Department (the Civil Rights and Public Integrity Detail) broke the law by targeting critics of Sheriff Alex Villanueva. The Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission requested the state attorney general take over the unit's cases that involve elected or oversight officials.

The committee organizing a recall effort against District Attorney George Gascón, anticipating it could not get the 580,000 signatures it needed by the Oct. 26 deadline, abandoned the petition drive and began a new campaign.

County libraries are now fine-free, and all existing fines are being forgiven. Supervisors were told that major library systems across the U.S. have reported they have found benefits outweigh the costs, including: the return of more overdue and missing library books and materials, saving staffing costs to collect fees, and an increase in library user satisfaction. Historically, customers don't pay their fines; instead they stop using the library. Supervisors were told that fees can have a disproportionate impact on vulnerable individuals, especially youth, non-citizens, and people of color – individuals for whom the library can be a lifeline.

The Consumer and Business Affairs Department has a beautiful new office in the Hall of Records in downtown Los Angeles and has reopened to the public.

A Delete the Divide Campaign was initiated by the Internal Services Department to train 1,000 youths and young adults (age 12-24) to provide them with job-ready skills for in-demand, high-growth fields. The three-six month free program is open to households that lack Internet access.

The County has established an Office of Prevention Services to help residents of all ages keep from having negative interactions with county systems.

The Board of Supervisors approved a \$16 million settlement for injuries Leilani Ortez and her family sustained in an accident involving a Fire Department service truck. Another \$400,000 was paid to settle a lawsuit alleging that Sheriff's Deputy Michael Rathbun was subjected to retaliation by the Sheriff's Department.

In recognition of International Artist Day, the Animal Care and Control Department hosted "Pawcasso Day." Selected dogs created paintings, which were then showcased on social media; individuals who adopted the dog also got the artwork.

The County will reimburse \$400,000 spent by Grace Community Church to defend a lawsuit the County filed to force the church to stop holding indoor services during the COVID-19 pandemic. The settlement followed U.S. Supreme Court rulings that restricted public health measures against houses of worship. The County spent another \$900,000 on its legal expenses.

Sheriff Alex Villanueva demoted Eli Vera from chief to commissioner following Vera's decision to challenge Villanueva in the 2022 election. Villanueva said he demoted Vera because he didn't want him at meetings he holds with senior staff.

The County Library is partnering with the Department of Public Health to offer free flu immunization clinics at community libraries during October and November. No appointment or insurance is required.

In an effort to help some owners keep their pets, the Animal Care and Control Department is providing assistance with such things as vet bills, food, supplies, boarding or training for behavior problems.

Two women who were housed at the MacLaren Children's Center in El Monte more than 50 years ago filed a lawsuit against the County, alleging they were sexually abused at the foster care facility.

Assessor Jeffrey Prang says dubious property tax appeals have caused a backlog of more than 40,000 cases, crippling the entire appeals process. The backlog is creating significant delays for property owners with legitimate appeals, with some appeals taking years to be heard. Prang said the problem is caused by tax agents who file thousands of appeals annually – one agent filed 3,600 in just one month – in the hope that a small percentage will make them a profit. He said the appeals are withdrawn at the first sign of legitimate questioning. About 70 percent are withdrawn or result in a no-show at the hearing.

Supervisors approved a motion to prohibit all new oil and gas extraction wells in unincorporated areas and to designate all existing wells as nonconforming uses. There are approximately 1,600 active and idle oil wells in unincorporated area, half of which are within the Inglewood Oil Field, the largest urban field in the nation. Supervisors say urban oil drilling isn't safe and causes major health problems for residents. The Board also voted to develop an oil well clean-up program to deal with 637 idle wells, 128 of which are close to homes or at risk of leaking.

District Attorney George Gascón is asking automobile manufacturers to work with him to find creative ways to address the rise in catalytic converter thefts. Thieves can get up to \$1,200 for each converter. Gascón led an effort to reduce cell phone theft when he was the district attorney in San Francisco and sponsored legislation making California the first state requiring kill switches on cell phones that make the device inoperable if it is stolen.

The County is spending \$395,000 to restore the wrap-around veranda of the Queen Anne Cottage at the Arboretum in Arcadia, replacing an uneven surface, rotted wood and cracks in the marble flooring.

PASSAGES

Compiled by Judy Hammond,
Newsletter Editor



Whitehead



Andrews



Richards



Shah

Appointments:

Karen Fletcher, who was chief probation officer for the San Francisco Adult Probation Department, named L.A. County chief deputy probation officer, at annual salary of \$276,000. **Rodney Collins**, acting assistant director of the Human Resources Department, overseeing the Talent Management Branch, named to the permanent position, at annual \$201,707 salary. Acting Assistant Assessor **Scott Thornberry**, with more than 25 years of County service, appointed to permanent position at salary of \$220,521. Retiree **Helen Berberian** hired as 120-day employee to assist the Department of Children and Family Services implement the new federal Family First Prevention Services Act, at rate of \$108 per hour. Former County Counsel **Mary Wickham** hired as a 120-day retiree in the Board of Supervisors Executive Office to head the new Blue Ribbon Commission on Homelessness – which will provide recommendations on a new governance model for homeless programs -- at a rate of \$215 per hour. Former Assistant County Counsel **Roger H. Granbo, Jr.**, who retired in 2018 though immediately rehired as 120-day retiree to provide legal advice concerning the settlement of the Department of Justice investigation of the Sheriff's Department law enforcement practices in the Antelope Valley, appointed by Supervisor Janice Hahn to the Assessment Appeals Board. RELAC member **Robert H. Philibosian**, former County district attorney, reappointed by Supervisor Kathryn Barger to the Citizens' Economy and Efficiency Commission.

Deaths:

Carol Richards, 96, who worked with Dorothy Chandler in the early 1950s to raise the money to pull the Hollywood Bowl out of bankruptcy and later to fund what is now the Performing Arts Center of Los Angeles County. **Patricia Curtiss Hassakis**, 84, former director of public health programs and services. Former Superior Court Judge **Richard G. Harris**, 94, who retired in 1998 after 17 years on the bench. **Gail Andrews**, 80, a member and supporter of the Blue Ribbon Committee of the Music Center, LA Philharmonic and Center Theatre Group, from Alzheimer's. **Malcolm Bennett**, Assessment Appeals Board commissioner and prior member of the County Tax Appeals Board. **Luanne Wells**, 87, member of the Blue Ribbon Committee of the Music Center. Former County Fire Capt. **John Maleta**, 84, who was a founding member of the department's hazardous materials program and established the first hazmat training facility in Del Valle. Former Fire Capt. **Alfred Whitehead**, 91, president of the Firefighters Local 1014 Union for 12 years, who retired in 1981 after 27 years with the department to serve as secretary-treasurer of the International Association of Firefighters, becoming general president in 1988 until his retirement in 2000. **Carol Breshears**, 85, who worked with many County information officers during her 30 years in Los Angeles television, including as assignment manager and planning editor of KTTV- Fox 11 and executive producer at KFWB. **Cameron Blaine Fish**, 33, a 12-year veteran of the Sheriff's Department who worked as a court bailiff, killed in an off-duty traffic accident. **Father Jack Kearny**, 67, member of the County Commission on Alcoholism and the Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Commission for more than 14 years. **Gerry McDaniel**, 68, who received the volunteer of the year award from the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) for his work to benefit foster youth, including recruiting faith-based organizations to adopt group homes and families, and creating a visitation center in the Torrance DCFS Regional Office.

Health:

Former Supervisor **Don Knabe** and his wife, **Julie**, had to cancel their African safari trip with other RELAC retirees after testing positive for COVID-19 shortly before they were to leave.

Honors:

Deputy District Attorney **Melita Montgomery** named Project LEAD 2020-21 Facilitator of the Year by the D.A.'s Office. Montgomery has volunteered to teach students the office's 20-week law-related educational program – which focuses on the social and legal consequences of crime, and teaches students techniques for resolving and resisting peer pressure since 1995. Dr. **Naman Shah**, Department of Public Health, recognized as leader in public health by the de Beaumont Foundation, which named him one of 40 Under 40 national honorees for his work on the County's COVID-19 vaccination outreach program.

Retirements:

Rich Llewellyn, Jr., former aide to Supervisor Ed Edelman and District Attorney Gil Garcetti, granted deferred County retirement benefits (11 years, 11 months) after retiring as Los Angeles city administrator. **Richard (Rick) Velasquez**, assistant chief deputy to Supervisor Kathryn Barger and former chief deputy to Supervisor Don Knabe, with almost 32 years of service. **Debbie Martin**, chief deputy of the Department of Public Social Services and formerly chief deputy of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, with almost 36 years of service. Dr. **Jeffrey Guterman**, long-time administrator with the Department of Health Services, including serving as chief research and innovation officer in the Ambulatory Care Network and chief of ambulatory and community medicine at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, with more than 34 years of service. **Greg Dollinger**, section manager for Internal Services Department, 25 years of service.

Courts:

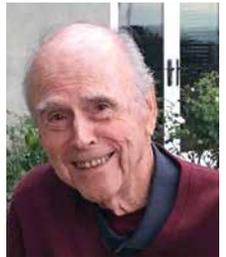
Sheriff's Deputies **Woodrow Kim**, 39, and **Jonathan Miramontes**, 30, charged with filing a false report that covered up Kim's alleged use of excessive force during an arrest in September 2018. L.A. Superior Court Judge **Michael J. O'Gara** publicly admonished by state Commission on Judicial Performance for showing bias in posts on Facebook and Twitter, including joining a Facebook effort to recall District Attorney George Gascon and liking tweets critical of Black Lives Matter, a women's march, people of Chinese descent, and gun control, while supporting the death penalty.

Elections:

Real estate agent **Mel Wilson**, former member of the board of the County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, announced candidacy to run for mayor of Los Angeles in 2022; former County Supervisor **Mark Ridley-Thomas** ruled out a bid for the seat. Sheriff's Capt. **Britta Steinbrenner**, a 34-year department veteran, became the third person to announce candidacy to try to unseat Sheriff **Alex Villanueva** in 2022.



Hassakis



Harris



Steinbrenner



Martin



Guterman



Velasquez

IN MEMORIAM

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

Agricultural Comm./Wts. & Meas. - Herlinda Mejia
Aids Program - Romanita L. Woods
Ambulatory Care Network - Wendy C. Rodriguez
Antelope Valley Rehab. Center - Kathleen M. Foster
Assessor - Nancy L. Bauer, Cristina T. Benitez, Peter Green, Ayako Hara, John E. Hasley, Belen C. Ruiz, Lee M. Sims
Auditor-Controller - Guadalupe Castillo, Ingrid Hildagaard Larsen
Board of Supervisors - Rosemarie Rosenlof, Anthony Serrato
California Children's Services - Martha Viera
Chief Executive Office - Marie T. Whelan
Child Support Services - Floyd D. Crow, John R. Davis, Jay Krueger, Rita Maldonado, Barbara A. Mayes, Ann Paul, Elizabeth T. Pekala
Children & Family Services - Arturo Alva, Mary L. Arias, Allan D. Bey, Jennell N. Burns, Rosalind Y. Cain, Gwendolyn M. Caraway, Phillip R. Chavez, Frances E. Creveling, Elizabeth C. Cruz, Robert J. De La Vega, Anne E. De Nard, Frances Kaplan, Henrietta L. Louis, David S. Morris, Mary L. Noroski, Elena R. Ontiveros, Ronald L. Poprosky, Gloria Yvonne Rufus, Charlene Kay Stratford, Brynda J. Thomas, Richard Turner
Communications - Joseph A. Tedros
District Attorney - George A. Cooper, Ronald M. Maus, Alisa C. Mc Cullough, Dennis W. Mc Reynolds, Patricia Vanhorn, Paulita C. Varquez
East L.A. Municipal Court - Harold M. Stanley
Engineer Facilities - Girard L. Heustis
Fire - Kenneth M. Abrams, William J. Beinbrech, Richard R. Cearley, Arthur J. Cusolito, Jess H. Hamilton, Claude A. Harrison, Todd A. Hood, Richard H. Kauffman, Gary B. Ketcheside, John A. Maleta, Edward J. Martin, Bruce Y. Mc Lain, Larry G. Rohrer, James D. Smally, Robert F. Spalty, Vance R. Tracy, John Joseph White, Alfred K. Whitehead, Steven D. Wyman
Flood Control District - Alexander G. Espalin, Valiant K. Lai, Harold E. Pickering
Harbor/UCLA Medical Center - Arturo E. Abella, Raymona D. Baker, Sol A. Beltran, Ethel B. Collins, Jacquelyn B. Conley, Deborah Louise Dawkins, Elenita F. Galang, Mary Harrell, Loretta Hill, Joyce L. Martinsen, John S. Mc Donald, Frankie C. Miller, Erin M. Ortega, Irving Shapiro, Alberto A. Sormillon, Joyce D. White
Health Plan Administration - Shirley A. Aparicio
Health Services Administration - Paulette M. Barber, David L. Burger, Peggy M. Collins, Lillian C. Dixon, Rosanna Domingo Clarito, Geraldine Gatlin, Charlotte F. Hammett, Earl A. Harper, Winfred C. Hill, Alan M. Keye, Karen A. Linden, Claudia D. Powers, Sylvia D. Santiago, M. A. Vujovich
Human Resources - Richard E. Boswell
Internal Services - Miyo Abe, William R. Anderson, Solomon Gooch, Robert Jackson, George A. Lewis, Raymond T. Naito, Tom T. Tamayoshi, Herbert E. Taylor, Connie Thompson, John C. Walker
Juvenile Court Health Services - Betty G. Secrease
King-Drew Medical Center - Jannie B. Gaines, Ben C. Glover, Amelita Salvador, Camerina M. Sheely
L.A. Municipal Court Reporters - Daniel R. Leddy
LAC+USC Medical Center - Sergio F. Barreno, Juanita Bibbs, Agatha R. Brown, Ruth Burdette, Eduardo F. Cartagena, Emma K. Davis, Louis Finister, Gilda Franklin, Robert B. Grayson, Helen V. Hamilton, James J. Hayden Jr., Geraldine Helm, Frankie L. Knox, Juan R. Mendoza, Will Parker III, Ronnie Reed, Martha Rios, Alice Sanchez, Ruth A. Sherman, Eileen Shiel, Kathleen G. Stewart, Joan D. Terry, Mark A. Wycislak, Erlinda Yanez
Mechanical - Ethylene Rucker, Natsuko Takaki, June E. Baird, Frances M. Bell, Beatrice T. Chun, Linda J. Galati, Martin I. Hernandez

Mental Health - Debra F. Levy, Violet Ogata, Steven Sacher, Christina T. Trinh
Museum of Natural History - Samuel S. Ramirez, Don Rupert Reynolds
Office of Public Safety - Claude D. Ammons, Ronald Mc Murray
Olive View/UCLA Medical Center - Franklin Contreras, Randolph Freeman, Patricia A. Hartman, Barbara F. Liebeskind, Shirley Reyes, Ortrud W. Todd, Rosalinda Ybarra
Parks and Recreation - Feliciano De Reza, Michael D. Hargett, Diane J. Holland, Joe R. Leon, Calvin Norwood, James M. Thompson, Gregory W. Wilson, Karl A. Zimmerman
Probation - Raymond Albridge, Joseph G. Cervantes, Ulyse V. Collins, Karl R. Corrington, Louis Fishstein, Raymond Dean Harvey, Barbara T. Helgeson, John G. Hill, George A. Jenkins, Lonnie Johnson, Richard L. Jones, Bob Levinsky, John W. Luymes, Quintin Mc Michael, James M. Metcalf III, Mary S. Moore, Sherman Grant Neusom, Katherine Porter-Johnson, John A. Sobraske, Joseph Tokeshi, Le Anda M. Tyrone-Briggs, Sherman E. Van Dyke, Kathryn E. Walker, Linda J. Wright-Moorer
Public Defender - Kenneth S. Barton, Ronald E. Buckley, Shirley J. Davis, Rosa M. Lopez, Mary Louis Mathews, Alvin Nierenberg, Richard V. Siggins
Public Health Program - Catherine Moreno Branson, Myrtle Cooper, Ana J. De Boef, Martin Elias, Hector J. Fernandez, Mildred L. Gonzales, Ina L. Hasley, Carol Henneman, David E. Johnson, Domitila Machado, Guadalupe Medina, Michael Rodriguez, Bobbie Searcy, Sally S. Shoji, Denise L. Thomas, John F. Williams, Clifford D. Williams
Public Library - Illeana C. Hogan, Phillip Lew, Andres H. Palacios
Public Social Services - Jacob Aguilar, Ara K. Aharonian, Jewel Amos, Akop A. Basmadjian, Sonya R. Bolen, Lucille Gloria Bray, Naomi Brooks, Arthur E. Bumagat, David Diaz, Victor V. Eliaz, Estelle S. Ellis, Cecilia A. Espinosa, Mary Esposito, Valerie R. Flood, James Ford, Annie J. Gabston-Howell, Elaine George, Jean Hernandez, Dell Johnson, Celeste Kennedy, Donald P. Lade, Melva J. Martindale, Aristene Y. Middlebrook, Felicisimo Monsod, Carla L. Morrison, Mariam Ohanesyan, Loretta G. Onsurez, Jeanette Ornelas, Rita J. Padget, Rosario Perez, Huan Pham, Edward Chua Po, Frances L. Potts, Trinidad G. Ramirez, Lois A. Robertson, Cathy Robinson, Doris Rojas, Bertha Rojas, Muriel Russak, Betty J. Sorensen, Chat N. Tran, Phuong X. Trieu, Carmelita R. Velasquez, Emma C. Warren, Elaine Whittiker, Glenda F. Williamson
Public Works - Manuel C. Aguilar, Arzrouni Allahverdian, Charles W. Almada, Merceana Chavarria, George E. Earls, Massoud N. Esfahani, Frank Espinosa, Don E. James, Lowell E. Johanknecht Jr., Isom V. Johnson, Raymond R. Lalonde, Francisco R. Nunga, Edward S. Pacheco, Ramon H. Powell, Robert Ramos, Norman J. Rasnik, Wayne L. Snively, Marlin E. Thomas, Barbara C. Wilson, Solomon Wolfus
Rancho Los Amigos Hospital - John Espinosa, Peggy J. Franklin, Edith Gillespie, Nolita C. Juat, Marilyn Pires, Jovencia Reyes, Angelina Wentz, Mildred L. Willis
Reg.-Recorder/County Clerk - Linda L. Jeffries, Lingsley Kabalican
Sheriff - Michael T. Adrid, Bonifacio R. Amargo, Anthony N. Bautista, Ronald M. Blaker, Lee Roy E. Bowen, Guwyne A. Brown, Virginia G. Burdick, Carmine R. Buzzelli, Carlos Andrew Casillas, Danny M. Castro, Leroy E. Chastain, Robert L. Cohen, Michael R. Crook Jr., Tommy J. Curtis, Elena F. Espinoza, Robert H. Fender, Cameron B. Fish, Burnett H. Gaston, Joseph B. Goree, Yasuko Gutierrez, Robert R. Hawkins, Joseph E. Hawkins, Douglas A. Hester, Michael D. Holmes, Harvey S. Hunter, Charles R. Ingram, Lisa M. Jacobs, Sidney Kanter, Richard M. Kelley, Daniel

A. Koledi, Charles L. Lander, Loreto M. Lopez, Richard E. Luskleet, Louis J. Madrid, Joseph L. Maxie, Fernando L. Mendoza, Vincent V. Montes, Antonio B. Moreno, Pamela J. Murphy, Marcus D. Myrman, Bart A. Natisin, Patricia O'Keefe-Gaston, Edgar Ray Price, Tim S. Rasch, Jessie A. Richardson, Bernice Riley, Primitivo Rincon, William M. Rosensteel, Roslin M. Ross, Guadalupe Rubio, Nealette E. Rucker, Anthony M. Scalzo, Walter Sharpnack, Ralph W. Simmons, Roger R. Steinbeck, Mary Euphemia Stone, Herbert J. Sullivan, Doreen M. Thigpen, Allan G. Tolman, Karen Ann Valentine, Annette B. Valle, Janet Weaver, Donald G. Wintermute, Wade E. Young, Robert Yvarra

Superior Court/County Clerk - Daniel Brown, Manly D. Calof, Patricia A. Carey, Araceli G. Ceballos, Wayne Denton, Florence M. Dobson, Mary L. Elliott, Mary D. Garcia, Arnetta C. Johnson, Jessica Le, Jerry Mitchell, Gilbert R. Reyes, Delia Rodriguez, Charlotte Ryan, Lucia Vallejo, Vincent A. Wackerman, Patricia Welch, Mary Pauline Yant

Treasurer/Tax Collector - John Deacon Emmens, Emmett O. Fletcher, Mary J. Winston

Women's Hospital - Helen M. Alexander, Jacqueline Louise Frank, Loretta Y. Simon

Workforce Dev., Aging & Comm. Svc. - Susan C. Widman

Unidentified County Agency - Virginia L. Metcalf



Former Supervisor Kenny Hahn

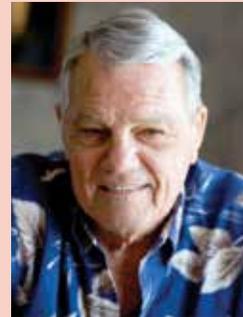
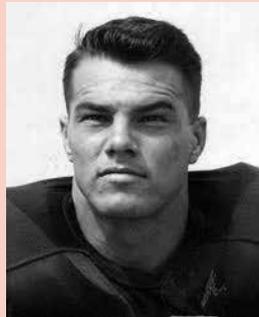
Aug. 19 would have been the 101st birthday of former Supervisor **Kenny Hahn**. His daughter, Supervisor **Janice Hahn**, says not a day goes by that she's not approached by someone with a story to tell about him or whose life he touched. At right is Kenny Hahn's son, **Jim**, who is a former mayor of Los Angeles.

Dr. John McDonald, chairman of the Department of Anesthesiology at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center when he retired in 2012, has died at age 83. McDonald pioneered the use of the epidural in labor and delivery, revolutionized newborn respiratory care, and developed new technology and treatments to safeguard patient airways and cure pain. McDonald began his County career in 1970 as chief of anesthesiology and respiratory therapy at the Women's Hospital of LAC+USC Medical Center.



Richard H. Houts, fifth chief of the County Fire Department, serving 1969-1977, retiring after 40 years of service, died at age 97 in Freeland, Washington; he had said he was particularly proud of his role in establishing the County's fire paramedic program.

Former Supervisor Pete Schabarum, 1929-2021
Burial: Oct 23. Celebration of Life: Oct. 24.



As a professional football player, as L.A. County supervisor, in retirement



Schabarum with RELAC members at celebration at Schabarum Regional Park: from left, Mike Lewis, Stephanie Hampton, Marilyn Lewis Green, Lynn Atkinson, Schabarum, Judy Hammond, Bill Crowe, John Hammargren, Tom Hageman (now deceased), and Tom Hibbard



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

Return Service Requested



2022 RELAC Scholarship Program

The RELAC Board of Directors is pleased to announce funding has been approved for the third year of the RELAC Scholarship Program.

The primary purpose of the program is to provide financial assistance to RELAC members; and their children, stepchildren, grandchildren and step-grandchildren who are outstanding high school seniors planning to attend college or another eligible educational institution.

Up to five \$1,000 scholarships are being made available to qualified candidates in 2022. The scholarship filing period is Jan. 1 through March 1, 2022. The awardees will be notified as soon as possible after the close of the filing period.

Additional information is available on the RELAC website at relac.org or by contacting Scholarship Committee Chair Linda C. Hopkins at lhopkins1054@gmail.com.

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #66
PASADENA, CA

WHERE ARE YOU?

We continue our efforts to locate RELAC members for whom we have no current address, phone number, or e-mail address. Thanks to those of you who contacted your friends or family members whose name you saw listed in our last edition – it is helping! Here are a few more of those we would love to hear from. Call us at (800) 537-3522 or e-mail us at admin@relac.org.

From California:

Elaine E. Archer, Granada Hills; Helen Chan, Alhambra; Everett A. Johnson, Sacramento; Vessa Jones, Los Angeles; Donald Pitt, Menefee; Delano C. Robinson, Pasadena; Harold M. Stanley, Blue Jay; Josephine Harris Tharpe, Los Angeles; David B. Walker, Palmdale; Marie T. Whelan, South Pasadena.

From Arizona:

Bernadine Blucher, Sedona; Lee D. Cady Jr., Phoenix; Chapman Fulmer, Fort Mojave; Albert E. German, Mesa; Leland Mathis, Queen Creek; Joyce A. Thompson, Gilbert; Doreen Wade, Scottsdale.

From Texas:

Manuel R. Agramonte, Houston; James E. Brazier, Beaumont; Arizona Lee, Mansfield; Joseph L. Love, Grand Prairie; Robert D. Pecharich, Hideaway.

From Utah:

Heinz Cuvelier, Provo; Calvin Rumbaugh, Provo; Sharon E. Steadman, Cedar City; Joyce Werkern, South Jordan.

And from various states:

Dorothy Beaudry, Bowie, Maryland; Carmella A. Crane, Key West, Florida; Burton Denmark, Fort Collins, Colorado; Patricia Goya, Kailua, Hawaii; Don A. Hansen, Boise, Idaho; Jeanette C. Kidneigh, Saint Paul, Minnesota; Cheryl Myers, Fayetteville, North Carolina; William L. Nelson, Ozark, Missouri; Marsha D. Richter, Reno, Nevada; Alice Whitfield, Ashdown, Arkansas; Howard I. Yarrow, Florence, Oregon.

Outside the U.S.:

Doris Byman, White Rock BC, Canada.



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

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

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

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