



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

RELAC newsletter

Your Pension and Health Care Watchdog

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

President's Message

by Dave Muir

The year 2020 has been a year of successes as well as disappointments.

Addressing disappointments first, the coronavirus pandemic forced us to cancel several of our annual events, including general membership meetings, the picnic, golf tournaments, the Dodger's game outing, and our December holiday meeting. We have regrettably cancelled some 2021 events, including the Recognition Luncheon that is normally held in late January or early February.

Sadly, we lost our beloved colleague on the Board of Directors, Mary Rodriguez, who passed away in June 2020. Mary had a large fan club who always looked forward to seeing her at our general membership meetings. She is greatly missed by so many. In addition, long-time director Greg Walia resigned. We are now down two directors and are actively recruiting to fill these vacancies.

Notwithstanding disappointments, I am so proud of our dedicated and talented directors for our many successes.

I consider our greatest achievement during 2020 to be our successful campaign supporting our endorsed candidates, Les Robbins and Joe Kelly, in the LACERA election. Both Joe and Les were elected by huge majorities. J.P. Harris, our "alternate retired member" on the Board of Retirement, was not opposed and therefore automatically re-elected to another three-year term. SEIU mounted an aggressive campaign to elect candidates to fill both the active seats and the retired seats on the two LACERA Boards. If they had won the retired seats, they would have had an outsized representation on the boards. It's important to point out that the policy objectives of the active workforce do not always align with the objectives of retirees. It's also important to note that the Legislature mandated the composition of the boards be balanced, with both the active workforce and the retired population having representatives to protect their respective interests. Historically, the three retiree positions on the LACERA boards have been held by RELAC directors. This ensures that the interests of retirees are fully protected and enhances our ability to assist our members with any LACERA issues that might arise.

We appointed to our Board of Directors Joe Kelly, who retired in 2019 after serving as the County treasurer and tax collector since 2014, and Epifanio (Epi) Peinado, who retired from the position of chief deputy in the County Human Resources Department. Joe and Epi have great leadership skills that will enhance RELAC's programs and operations.

We awarded five \$1,000 scholarships under our new scholarship program. We look forward to continuing this very important program.

Our annual Recognition Luncheon was attended by approximately 300 members and guests. Our keynote speaker was Ricardo D. Garcia, Los Angeles County public defender, with entertainment provided by the always popular T.S.A. Chorus.

Our March for Babies fund drive was another huge success. This annual March of Dimes event raises funds for research and support services to help mothers at risk for premature births. We were the second largest donor, raising \$12,500 and beating third place donor UCLA Bruins. The L.A. City Police was the leading donor. A big shout-out to our director Joe Kelly for raising the lion's share of our donation. Currently, we are participating in the L.A. Regional Food Bank "Emergency COVID Response" fund drive. We had raised \$3,000 as of Oct. 1 toward our goal of \$5,000. With high unemployment and children home from school missing their school-



provided lunches, the Food Bank has experienced a 75% increase in the demand for healthy food. I hope many of you will choose to support this worthy program. To do so, please go to RELAC's website, www.relac.org, and click on the link provided on the home page.

On the administrative side of our operations, we rapidly responded to the coronavirus crisis by closing our office and operating remotely. In addition, we hired Sheila Simpson as our new office manager. Her many years working closely with top County managers make her a perfect fit for the job.

In closing, I send to all our members my most sincere thank you for your support.

RELAC Directors Win LACERA Board Elections by Landslide



Robbins and Kelly

Retirees voted overwhelmingly for RELAC Board members Joseph Kelly and Les Robbins in the elections to select retiree representatives on LACERA's Board of Investments and Board of Retirement.

Despite an aggressive campaign by SEIU to get retirees to support their candidates, Kelly got 74 percent of the votes and Robbins garnered 78 percent.

Kelly received 8,230 votes in the Board of Investments race versus 2,881 for his competitor, Norman Johnson. Robbins received 8,708 votes, versus 2,519 for competitor Deborah Cotton Thomas.

Kelly will replace RELAC President Dave Muir, who did not seek re-election, on the Board of Investments. As the county treasurer-tax collector, Kelly previously served for five years as the ex-officio trustee on the Board of Investments before his 2019 retirement.

Robbins won his second three-year term as retirees' representative on the Board of Retirement. He represented active employees on the board while working for the Sheriff's Department, winning his first term in 1997, and has served 11 times as chairman.

RELAC wishes to thank the Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs (ALADS) and the Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers Association (PPOA) for their endorsements of our candidates.

We also thank our fellow retirees for their trust and vote to protect our pensions and health care benefits.

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News from LACERA

by JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

We are entering the seventh month of the new normal created by the COVID-19 pandemic. This phenomena continues to have a huge impact on our society and how we interact with each other. LACERA, like so many organizations, has had to adjust to these changes and, as I have shared in the past, it wasn't easy, but we have made huge strides in our mission to continue to provide the services you expect. Since the pandemic took shape we have moved our Call Center operations for both Member Services and Retiree Healthcare to the "cloud," enabling our staff to work remotely in a secure and safe environment. A few months ago now, we launched our Virtual Member Service Center (VMSC), allowing staff to meet with members one-on-one in a virtual meeting room. These are just the visible steps we've taken to keep connected to our members.



We view the VMSC as not just a stopgap measure to help us get through the pandemic, but as a service enhancement that will continue to be offered even after we open up our Pasadena office. The new-to-LACERA technology has allowed us to offer new conveniences to our members and those supporting our members. For example, many members have a power of attorney who assists them. Before launching the VMSC, these individuals would have had to send in a written request to LACERA or physically come in. Now we can assist them through Go-To-Meeting and validate them in real time. I'm also reminded of the stories we have shared with trustees about the success of this offering, including providing counseling to a member living in Egypt and even one traveling around the U.S. in an RV.

Of course, we will be reopening LACERA's offices when it is safe to do so. Our business continuity team has been working with staff throughout LACERA to modify our Member Service Center to make it safe to reopen when things improve. Modifications include installing physical barriers in each individual counseling office, air purifiers, directional flow instructions to minimize face-to-face contact in the hallways and the lobby, designated seating that is appropriately socially distanced in our lobby, and creating sanitizing protocols between each member visit. We are closely monitoring conditions and will reopen the offices when possible. When we do return to the office, there will be one important change – we will be moving towards an appointment-only system, and will not be assisting members who just walk in. Members and survivors who wish to visit LACERA when we reopen can make an appointment online through LACERA.com or by calling our Call Center. As soon as the environment becomes healthy, we'll reopen.

The security of your data is of primary importance to LACERA. We are excited to announce that we have added a new staff member to the LACERA team. Last month our CEO, Santos H. Kreimann, appointed Robert (Bob) Schlotfelt to serve as our new interim chief information security officer. Mr. Schlotfelt will be providing vital cybersecurity expertise needed to enhance our data protection capabilities and to secure all critical information systems relied on by staff to perform their essential job functions. Mr. Schlotfelt comes to LACERA with more than 20 years of experience in information security, risk management, and establishing privacy conventions and implementing audit findings. One of his first tasks will be to assess LACERA and develop a written plan for maintaining our cybersecurity readiness,

continued in next column

LACERA continued

and implementing comprehensive security strategies in disparate network and technology infrastructures unique to LACERA's computing environment. He will also be working closely with our division managers to assess their risks and recommend solutions and create an organization-wide security educational program. This is just one more way we are following through on our commitment to keeping you safe.

I will close out this month's article with a reminder to all members to keep your contact information up-to-date – including your e-mail address. Keeping your contact information current helps LACERA ensure we can keep you informed about what's going on and in case we need to reach you regarding your benefits. CEO Kreimann periodically sends out e-mail messages, and we use your e-mail address as a security protocol to confirm account changes or let you know if someone attempted to access your My LACERA account. And as you all know, the County uses e-mails to contact members during election processes now. In the near future we will be allowing members and survivors to sign up to go paperless – meaning LACERA will connect with you via e-mail and our new Secure Message Center in My LACERA rather than sending documents through the mail. So please keep your personal information up-to-date.

With that, I'll sign off for this month and we'll see you again next time. In the meantime, please stay safe, take care of yourselves and your families, and enjoy your retirement as much as possible – you earned it!



Retirement Board

by Les Robbins,
Member, RELAC AND LACERA
Board of Directors



I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the RELAC members out there who voted in the LACERA election last month. Joe Kelly and I won our respective elections to the Board of Investments and Board of Retirement at LACERA by landslide margins, and it could not have been accomplished without the help of all of you who are RELAC members.

In spite of the opposition that was generated by SEIU, our victories were resounding in every way and I know that for the next three years Joe and I will do our best to see to it that the promised benefits provided by LACERA continue to be realized each and every month. Pension checks and retiree health care benefits are vital to all of you and we are committed to seeing to it that the benefits continue.

Also, if you are NOT receiving my monthly blog article, which I DID NOT write in September, just shoot me an e-mail and I will make sure that I add you to the distribution list. My e-mail address is Leslasd@aol.com. Till the next article, be well and be safe.

LACERA Retiree Costs Increase By \$1.3 Billion

Retirement allowances paid by LACERA increased from \$2.13 billion per year in 2010 to \$3.41 billion per year in 2019.





RELAC's New Letter to Congressional Leaders: Repeal Social Security's Unfair WEP and GPO

Below (and on our website) is the letter RELAC sent to leaders of Congress urging the repeal of these immensely unfair and unjust Social Security penalties. Many of our members are harmed by these provisions.

The Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) causes hard-working public servants to lose a significant portion of the Social Security benefits they earned. The Government Pension Offset Provision (GPO) imposes a significant penalty on spousal benefits and, in some cases, eliminates that benefit completely.

Many thanks to the 21 RELAC members who provided us with testimony vividly demonstrating how these penalties are so harmful to retired public workers. Their testimony was included in our letter to the congressional leaders and is on our website.

If you would like to join in the efforts to repeal the WEP and GPO, please write your own letter and address it to Senators Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris, Speaker Nancy Pelosi, and your representative in the House of Representatives.

RELAC will continue with its efforts to get rid of these completely unfair provisions in the Social Security laws.

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 Texas: James E. Brazier of Beaumont; Melanie Wilds of Celina; Shirley B. Love of Grand Prairie; Phyllis A. Bolz of Mission.

From Arizona: Barbara Vonborstel of Bullhead City; Leland E. Mathis of Queen Creek; Albert E. German of Mesa; Pleaze Laster of England.

From Utah: Sharon E. Steadman of Cedar City; Fullmer Chapman of Fort Mohave; Heinz J. Cuvelier of Provo; Joyce L. Wickern of South Jordan; Russell Holmes of Summitt.

From California: Joanne R. Bailey of Stevenson Ranch; Belinda M. Drabek of Riverside; Charlotte F. Hammett of Paradise; Roger R. Steinbeck of Valley Village; Keiko Tanaka of Laguna Woods; Darcus Taylor of Compton; Douglas F. Therien of San Jacinto; Donna S. Thomas of Bishop; Beatrice Waterworth of Anza; Marcia Williams of Lancaster; Orrie Wilner of Oak Park;

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Retired Employees of Los Angeles County

(A non-profit organization – serving over 17,000 members)

August 7, 2020

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kamala Harris
United States Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
1236 Longworth H.O. B.
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: The Provisions of the Social Security Fairness Act (S. 521 & H.R. 141)
Should be Included in the Coronavirus Relief Package

Dear Senators Feinstein and Harris and Speaker Pelosi:

The Retired Employees of Los Angeles County (RELAC) represents approximately 17,000 former Los Angeles County workers who receive retirement benefits from the Los Angeles County retirement system.

We are writing to urge that the provisions of the Social Security Fairness Act (S. 521 and H.R. 141) be merged into future coronavirus relief packages. The Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) reduces the Social Security benefits of people who spent part of their working career in a job covered by Social Security and another part of their career in a job NOT covered by Social Security. The Government Pension Offset (GPO) reduces the Social Security spousal or survivor benefits of people not covered by Social Security themselves.

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Together, the WEP and GPO provisions unfairly deprive 2.5 million retired U.S. public servants of the Social Security benefits they have earned.¹

Most of the people harmed by the GPO and WEP are public servants: police officers, firefighters, and other employees of state and local governments. This includes many of our members, who are retirees of the County of Los Angeles.

Exhibit A, attached, includes statements from a number of RELAC members adversely impacted by a significant loss of the financial benefits they have earned. Their statements testify to the economic instability created by GPO and WEP penalties that have unfairly reduced their financial resources and placed their families at risk.

Now, more than ever, repealing the unfair WEP and GPO provisions is urgently needed, especially in the face of the dire economic straits facing so many as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. We urge you to include these critically needed repeals in the Coronavirus relief package.

Sincerely,

David L. Muir
President

Enclosure: Exhibit A

Copies via Email:

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman, Senate Committee on Finance

The Honorable Richard Neal
Chairman, House Committee on Ways and Means

Members of the Senate Committee on Finance

Members of the House Committee on Ways and Means

Members of the California Congressional Delegation

¹ National Association of Police Organizations, Inc. letter dated March 19, 2020, to Honorable Nancy Pelosi and other members of Congress

2021 Scholarship Program Approved

The RELAC Board of Directors and Scholarship Committee are pleased to announce that the Scholarship Awards Program has been funded for 2021. The program provides five \$1,000 scholarships to RELAC members and their families.

The 2021 Scholarship Award application form submittal dates are Jan. 1, 2021 through March 1, 2021. Forms may be obtained on RELAC's website at relac.org or by contacting the RELAC office.

During these challenging times and physical distancing requirements, we are proud to support and invest in students focused on their continued educational goals. During 2020 we were aware of the difficulties students were experiencing with online course studies and administrative procedures. We wish the very best to our five 2020 scholarship awardees and their families as they continue to focus on achieving their educational goals.

Our 2020 scholarship awardees -- Nyah Harrison, Zachary Kight, Mai Lani Moua, Hunter Shepard and Skylar Sherfey -- have now enrolled in various universities. We hope to remain in contact with each awardee and will share any updates we receive. The following is our first update.

Nyah Harrison, granddaughter of RELAC member Janie Harrison of Los Angeles, has been accepted at Colgate University, New York.

Zachary Kight, grandson of RELAC member Michael Crowley of Malibu, has been accepted at Salisbury University, Maryland.

Mai Lani Moua, daughter of RELAC member Tori Yer Moua of Garden Grove, will attend the University of Oregon.

Hunter Shepard, grandson of RELAC member Charlotte Smith of Adelanto, attends Southern University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Skylar Sherfey, granddaughter of RELAC member Olive Wong of Montebello, will attend Colorado Mesa University.



Mai Lani Moua and father, Tori Yer Moua.



Hunter Shepard and grandmother, Charlotte Smith.



Skylar Sherfey and grandmother, Olive Wong.



Nyah Harrison and grandmother, Janie Harrison.



Zachary Kight and grandfather, Michael Crowley.

Donations Needed for Holiday Toy Drive

by Evelyn Gutierrez, Chair
Community Support Committee

As we approach the holiday season and continue to experience physical distancing and COVID-19 restrictions, the need to continue our support for underserved and needy communities is greater than ever.

RELAC is again partnering with the County Fire Department in support of the "Spark of Love" toy drive. This year you can continue to drive up to your local fire station and drop off much needed unwrapped children's toys and sports equipment for teens. Your donations will help provide low-income families and recently unemployed parents with holiday gifts for their children.

Starting Tuesday, Dec. 1 through Dec. 24, toy donations can be dropped off at any County fire station. Thank you for your generosity and community support, especially during the holidays. Your donations will be greatly appreciated.

RELAC also sends a note of appreciation to our firefighters, who daily put their lives on the line to help protect our homes, our families and our pets during dangerous fire outbreaks, especially our recent Bobcat fires. A BIG thank you is sent to our County firefighters!



RELAC Receives First Donation to March for Babies 2021 Campaign

by Evelyn Gutierrez, Chair
Community Support Committee

As we prepare for our 2021 March for Babies fundraising campaign, we are pleased to report that we have already received our first donation. RELAC member Dolores Parrish has mailed in a \$50 check for our 2021 campaign. Thank you, Dolores.

Information on the upcoming campaign, availability of T-shirts and an actual walk in April or virtual event information will be provided in future newsletter issues.

The 2020 March for Babies campaign donor reports have not been completed by March of Dimes officials due to the COVID-19 pandemic and late reporting. Final data is not expected before mid-December.

When this information is available, it will be reported in a newsletter article. However, we are proud of our campaign efforts -- together we raised over \$12,500 to help provide medical support and healthy outcomes for premature births and at-risk moms. Thank you for your continued support of RELAC's Community Support Program activities.

Thank you for continuing to support our diverse communities and families in need of our support. Take care and stay safe.

What's Happening Virtually?

by Evelyn Gutierrez, Chair
Special Events Committee

VIRTUAL 2020 ANNUAL PICNIC

RELAC's Virtual Picnic was held on Saturday, Sept. 26 at various locations, backyards, outdoor dining areas and maybe in dining rooms and dens. Due to the physical restrictions required during the COVID-19 pandemic, we invited everyone to celebrate our Annual Picnic in their own special way.

However, keeping with our picnic tradition, we awarded gift cards to the winners of a special drawing. We used our attendance list for last year's picnic at the Santa Fe Dam Recreational Area 15 to determine the winners. Last year's 212 attendees were listed on our attendance list with a confirmation number. Our Special Events Committee members selected the winning numbers and the RELAC office staff mailed the cards to the lucky winners.

The winners of Lucille BBQ Restaurant and See's Candy gift cards were:

RELAC members: John Davis, Doretha Dillion, Raymond Dortch, Harry Hirakawa, Martin McNulty, Inetta Naualls, Phillip Ow, Alice Parker, Richard Quinones, Yolanda Roybal, Jeffery Seita, Donna Shoemaker, Norma Tomlinson, Allen Welbourn, Charles Yakushiji. RELAC guests: Jean Paul Hopkins, Catherine Mak, Rachel Strohecker and Robert Zarate.

Congratulations to our Virtual 2020 Annual Picnic gift card winners!! Hope to see everyone next year. Check our newsletter for the status of our 2021 picnic.

As we continue to experience COVID-19 pandemic physical distancing, if possible, stay socially connected. Call or text a friend, read our newsletter, visit our website and send spiritual hugs to your loved ones.



Veterans Day

Saluting Veterans and Military Families

by Evelyn Gutierrez
Newsletter Committee

RELAC's Board of Directors is proud to join Brigadier General (Retired) Ruth Wong, director of the L.A. County Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (MVA), in saluting and honoring our dedicated veterans and military families. We thank the over 280,000 U.S. military veterans who live in Los Angeles County for their honorable service to our country.

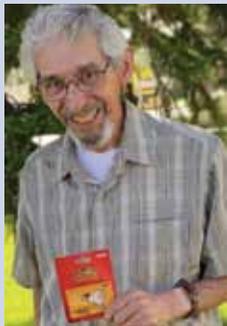
During these challenging times, the MVA remains committed to providing necessary support and services essential to our veterans and their families. The MVA provides needed resources, programs, services and assistance with state and federal benefits including compensation and pension claims, burial benefits, medical and mental health referral, education and vocational rehabilitation, home loans, employment, job placement assistance, DMV veteran designation, legal service referrals and appeal processes.

These services will continue to be provided via telephone and electronic mail. Claims can be filed electronically, including compensation, pension, college fee waivers or burial benefits. Veterans can contact an MVA veteran service officer directly by calling (877) 4LA-VETS or (213) 765-9680 or via e-mail at outreach@mva.lacounty.gov.

Historical Legacy

In 1926 Congress passed a resolution for an annual observance dedicated to the cause of world peace, declaring Armistice Day on Nov. 11. In 1938 this special day became a legal holiday. Then in 1954, Congress replaced the word "Armistice" with "Veteran" and it became a day to honor American veterans of all wars. President Eisenhower issued the first Veterans Day proclamation and elevated the Veterans Administration to a cabinet level department, Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

RELAC is proud to support our nation's annual celebration. As our membership is aware, RELAC traditionally recognizes member veterans at our meetings and events. We proudly join America in saluting our amazing and patriotic veterans. God bless America and our veterans.



Richard Quinones



Inetta Naualls



Rachel Strohecker



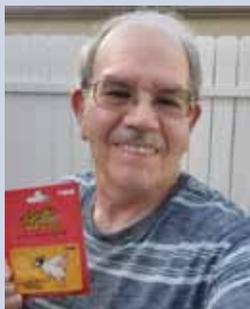
Charles Yakushiji



Phil Ow



Catherine Mak



Allen Welbourn



Martin McNulty



Brigadier General (Retired) Ruth Wong, director of the L.A. County Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (MVA), honors veterans at RELAC's Annual Luncheon.



Six Generations of Carl Blums

RELAC member Carl L. Blum, deputy director of public works when he retired in 2000, is the fourth of six generations of Carl Blums. All have different middle names.



The first of these photos was taken in the early 1950s when Carl L. was the youngest member and includes his father, grandfather and great-grandfather. The second photo was taken in 2019; Carl L. is the eldest member and includes his son and grandson.



Carl Edward, born in 1869 in Danzig, Germany, was a painter and lived in Iowa and Illinois, passing away in 1957.

Carl Peter, born in 1891 in Illinois, was a sheet metal worker in Illinois, passing away in 1983.

Carl Herbert, born in 1916 in Illinois, was a carpenter in Illinois, and passed away in 2006.

Carl Lyle, born in 1942 in Illinois, is a civil engineer and has lived in Illinois and California.

Carl Thomas, born in 1974 in California, is an industrial engineer and lives in California.

Carl Wyatt, was born in 2016 in California, where he now lives. His occupation: TBD



Welcome New Members

August – September 2020

Assessor - Antimo Gonzales, Cindy Yu-Kue Hsu
 Beaches & Harbors – Zemedkun Solomon
 Children & Family Services – Charlene Gonzales, Gladys Hydayat
 District Attorney – Karen Corwin
 Fire – Mary Gomez, Michael Meezan
 Health Services – Theresa Canizales Chavez, Jody Nakasuji, Kyoung Suh
 Internal Services – Cindy Garcia, Allen Henninger, Joseph J. Smilgis
 King-Drew Medical Center – George Jr. Huff
 LACERA – Ajime Alvarez
 Library – Susan Fowler
 Mental Health – Theresa Gonzalez, Patricia Moore, Aelyen Yoon
 Parks & Recreation – Cleophia Bell
 Public Health – Angelo Bellomo, Mary Demarkles, Sandra Kelly
 Public Social Services – Annette Shields
 Public Works – Arden Hughes, Arnulfo Martinez
 Sheriff – Jacqueline Chapman, James Doherty, James Dow, John Garcia, Michael Hanks, Debra Shelton-Love
 Superior Court – Leslye Kasoff
 New Associate Members – Carlos Chavez, Ronald Demarkles, Kimberly Doherty, Sandy Fetherolf, Beverly D. Garcia, Juan Enrique Garcia, Silvia P. Gonzales, Mario Gonzalez, Melody Li, Robert Lin, Kathryn M. Meezan, Kathryn Pritchard-Dow, Alice M. Smilgis, Jung Soo Suh

Thanks for New Member Referrals

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

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

J.D. Franklin, *Cleophia Bell*, Parks and Recreation
Nancy Gonzalez, *Cindy Garcia*, Internal Services
Barry Hunt, *Angelo Bellomo*, Public Health
Michelle Walker, *Sandra Kelly*, Public Health



RELAC NEWSLETTER

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Retired Employees of Los Angeles County
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 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Monday - Thursday
 Closed Friday,
 Saturday, Sunday &
 Public Holidays



Letters To The Editor

Write On!

[Regarding] the September/October issue of the RELAC newsletter, page 3 at the bottom, titled "Check This: No Felt Markers Please." It is my understanding that pens and pencils leave an almost invisible track in the paper but felt markers don't, making marker-written checks easier to forge. Best Regards.

Kenneth C. Sutherland, Woodway, Texas

I received my RELAC newsletter today and read with sadness about the passing of Ms. Mary K. Rodriguez. I was sorry to hear she suffered a stroke in December and did not survive. Ms. Rodriguez was a wonderful woman who represented RELAC to the fullest and gave the members many hours of great customer service. She will be truly missed! I have enclosed a letter to the family of Ms. Rodriguez which I hope you will mail to the family, if that is permissible. I was driven to write the letter as I truly adored Ms. Rodriguez and her undying devotion to the members. She was truly a blessing to all of us. Thank you for your assistance if you are able to mail the letter to the family. If not, please advise and I totally understand. Again, thank you for all that RELAC provides to its members. I know you folks truly miss Ms. Rodriguez. She was the best!

Toni V. Coleman, Inglewood, California

We were sorry to hear of Mary Rodriguez passing away. Mary was always there to help with our RELAC camp-out papers. Her smile will be missed at our Christmas party. Mary will be missed. Rest in peace.

Don and Shirley Egbert, Agua Dulce, California

Totally awesome September/October newsletter. So great to hear about and see articles of folks I knew very well. I'm really sorry about Mary Rodriguez. I did not know she passed away until I read it in the newsletter. I remember her from back in the "good ole days" when she worked for Treasurer-Tax. Leigh Neilson is a very good friend of mine from our Mechanical Department days in the early '70s and our photos were right next to each other. Another "wow" that I discovered in this issue is that Sheila Simpson and I (although many years apart) went to the same high school, J. C. Fremont, and was hired by L. A. County to a low-level clerical position right at Fremont. AGAIN, truly enjoyed the latest newsletter.

Pat Guin, Phoenix, Arizona

I wish to congratulate Mrs. Sheila Simpson on her new position as office manager. I can also relate to the size of her family. I have 20 grands and 14 great grands. We are blessed. Enjoy.

Cecilia Tapscott, Los Angeles, California

In reading over my RELAC letters, I realized I missed the deadline to contribute to "March of Babies." I appreciate all you do, so please put the enclosed check towards your next goal. Your kindness means so much. Thank you!

Dolores Parrish, Clarkson, Michigan

I love, love, love your update on what is happening at the County. I worked for the County 40 years and seven months. I retired 15 years ago, but am still interested in what goes on.

Ginger Barnard, Playa del Rey, California

Glad that I finally got around to joining RELAC. I finally had the time to actually send in the application when I received the latest application and newsletter. In part, the sheltering in and slowdown of activities has actually helped me get to things I've been meaning. So, I will say that the periodic RELAC (recruitment) mailings are a good idea, even though they're likely expensive to do! I enjoyed reading Joe Kelly's profile in the recent edition. I enjoyed working with Joe before I retired. I think the newsletter, with its updates about County employees I once worked with, is a great incentive to join. Good work! And thank you for the invitation to write my profile. It was a fun coincidence that (my former boss) Marv Southard's profile was in the same edition!

Sheila Shima Eaton, Glendale, California

First of all, thanks for all your great work on the RELAC newsletter. I always look forward to reading it -- you still got it, girl! Ha, but I'm gonna pass on (your invitation to submit) an article (for the Keeping Up With Retirees section). I'm not doing anything exciting enough to write about. But, if that changes, I'll let you know.

Bryce Yokomizo, Granada Hills, California

I was so happy to receive your note and the See's Candy certificate. I hope I can attend a RELAC virtual picnic on September 26 and can send you a photo of the celebration. Thank you very much. I keep telling my friends and people I know how great you all are in RELAC. God bless you and family.
Yolanda Roybal, Glendora, California

Well, finally some good news. I did receive the \$25 gift card to Lucille's Smokehouse in the mail. I will be glad to mail you a photo. Thanks again.

Allen Welbourn, Los Angeles, California

Where Are You? continued from p. 3

Anna Wooster Wilson of Van Nuys; Elizabeth Wilson of Encino; Lorna M. Wilson of Oceanside.

From Nevada: Carle W Stewart, Joan A. Olson, Richard L. Callen, Joan Garrott, all of Las Vegas; John DiMatteo of Henderson; Cleo Robinson of North Las Vegas; Patricia Rottler of Carson City; Dennis R. Boyd of Pahrump.

From Oregon: Alice Richardson of Central Point; Charles L. Johnson of Florence; Fern Marie Rody of Medford; Michael E. Galvin of Sheridan.

From Washington: Stuart L. Hansell of Gig Harbor; Robert A. Bauder of Ocean Shores; Sue Ann Nikolenko of Spokane.

And from various states: Don A. Hansen of Boise, Idaho; Anna Sparks of Plains, Montana; Charles M. Schwarz of Whitefish, Montana; Nancy M. Pexa of Chanhassen, Minnesota; Cheryl Meyers of Fayetteville, North Carolina; Ulysses Smith of Ashburn, Virginia; Carlton M. Branch of Newport News, Virginia.



Happy Birthday, RELAC Centenarians

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

November

Naomi Brown, 103, Nursing,
Nov. 16, 1917

Martha J. Choi, 100, Coroner,
Nov. 17, 1920

December

John S. Bozin, 101, Building & Safety-Facilities,
Dec. 5, 1919

Ivo Lazzeroni, 103, Communications,
Dec. 5, 1917

Virginia J. Weaver, 103, Public Social Services,
Dec. 5, 1917

Hadassah M. Snider, 102, Community Development,
Dec. 15, 1918

Myrtle G. Throne, 100, Road,
Dec. 15, 1920

Ted Lumpkin, 101, Community Development,
Dec. 30, 1919

Irene B. Baker, 102, John Wesley Hospital,
Dec. 31, 1918



Keeping Up With Retirees

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

With husband, Ben



MARION FIGUEROA

It seems that the more we plan, the more life takes us down a different road. For instance, did you think you would spend 2020 hunting for toilet paper and paper towels during a pandemic? Well, I did not expect to be retired at my age. Then again, I did not expect to spend my career working for the County.

In 1982 my college graduate advisor suggested an internship at the County Office of Alcohol Abuse. I started as a student professional worker, like many County employees, and held various positions at Health Services. While it was not something I expected to be doing, I was so thrilled as a new college graduate to be making money and having benefits!

My next job was in Public Health doing contracts and grant development. I had a great boss (Nell Wilson) and loved working there! Then, Nell left. It was suggested that I explore working for the Chief Administrative Office (CAO). An introduction to a CAO analyst (Benjamin) to get the inside scoop turned out to be an introduction to my husband of 30+ years and the wonderful father of our three children.

I was fortunate to work under Barbara McGowan, first in CAO and later in the Department of Human Resources, initially as the budget officer and later as administrative deputy. Eventually the accumulation of my experience resulted in serving as manager for the Human Resources Departmental Support Division overseeing countywide policy, personnel investigations, exam audits and compliance, and appeals.

In November 2011, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. Our son, Kevin, was away in his first year of college. Our twin daughters Emily and Samantha were in high school and saw me go through chemo, a double mastectomy, and sepsis. Ben and our dogs were my comfort zone. Yoga and water aerobics were my life savers.

I wasn't planning on becoming a retiree, but I was unable to return to work. We sold our family home in order to pay for the kids' college tuition. It was not always easy, but little by little we have been able to make a comeback. Each of our kids are now pursuing graduate degrees. Kevin got a MS in computer science from USC and is now continuing at University of Arizona in optical science. Samantha is pursuing a master's degree in medical device engineering from Keck Graduate Institute with the Claremont Colleges. And Emily is a bad-ass kindergarten teacher in Oakland and pursuing a master's in educational leadership and administration from George Washington University.

We also learned early that we can make our own future by buying fixer-upper homes and accumulating equity. I think we bought our last fixer-upper where we can grow old with plenty of space for our dogs and future grandchildren in Pasadena. This house was vacant for 15 years and needs lots of love, but we're having lots of fun refurbishing it! Ben added mason and rat exterminator to his resume; I added landscape architect and gopher deterrent to mine!

Lastly, I am happy to share that my dog Tamiko and I trained and became a certified pet assisted therapy team. We volunteer at Huntington Hospital in Pasadena and visit cancer patients and their families. Tamiko does all the talking, and I do the hand holding. It's the most rewarding job I've ever had, and I'm so blessed to experience it.

With wife, Sharon



RICK AUERBACH

I began my career with the Office of Assessor on July 20, 1970, in an appraiser training class of 25, a month after graduating from Cal State, Los Angeles. Early in my career I was very fortunate to have a number of supervisors and managers who gave me opportunities to learn about the varied functions of the office and as it seemed to me, help me promote to the next job classification.

In those early years I saw my future a little differently. I expected to get my MBA or MS while remaining at the County for two to four years, then either teach at the community college level or work in the financial services industry. I did continue at Cal State, finishing all but one class of course work and half of the comprehensive exams required for the MBA. Children, promotions, enjoyment of my job, and being happy for the security and benefits the County provided made me see my future differently. I expected to someday retire from the Office of Assessor.

In 1998 Assessor Kenny Hahn promoted me to assistant assessor. In 1999 Kenny told me he intended to retire in midterm in early 2000 and asked me if the Board of Supervisors would appoint me as interim assessor, would I consider running for assessor in a special election held in conjunction with the general election in November 2000. Chief Deputy Assessor Gary Townsend and I tried to convince Kenny to finish his term, which would end in December 2002, as we both were very happy in our positions and were sure if the Board didn't appoint me or I lost the election, we would be either demoted or out of a job completely. Luckily, with the help and support of my wife, Sharon, Gary Townsend, and, I believe, Supervisor Don Knabe, I was appointed by the Board and won the special election and future elections in 2002 and 2006. I retired in March 2010 after being assessor for 10 years and an Assessor employee for 39 + years.

County employment enabled me to engage in my main hobby (besides golf) for 22 years, marathon running. From 1978 until 2000 I completed 56 full marathons, breaking three hours three times with a personal best of 2:57:08 in Tempe, Arizona. I also completed the Boston, New York, Chicago and Honolulu marathons.

Sharon and I have been blessed with two daughters, six grandchildren (three girls, three boys, ages 9 to 17), plus two excellent sons-in-law.

Prior to the coronavirus, our days were filled with travel, friends, soccer games (five of the grandkids are playing on club teams) and golf, and running for me. However, I have been diagnosed with severe arthritis in one hip, so my golf and running are reduced, and I will hopefully have had a hip replacement by the time you read this.

Our travel since retirement has been extensive. Each summer we take a family vacation of 12 for about two weeks to resorts such as Atlantis in the Bahamas, Beaches Turks and Caicos, or not my favorite, the Orlando, Florida theme parks. Additionally, Sharon and I have been going on at least one cruise per year, either in Europe or the Caribbean. We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in March 2019 on a Caribbean cruise with friends. Plus, usually twice a year, we have been going to all-inclusive resorts in Mexico or Sandals in the Caribbean.

Although we have not been very active in any charity, we make sure to financially support many, our favorites being the Cedar-Sinai Heart Fund and the Wounded Warrior Project.

With husband, Robert



KATHY HOUSE

My County career began at the age of 21 as a typist clerk in the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) in 1972. In my 19 years with DPSS I held many positions, including eligibility worker, eligibility supervisor, staff assistant, and administrative assistant (I, II, III). My job function at DPSS as an administrative assistant was budget analyst. I had three mentors who were instrumental in helping me grow along the way (Pauline Robertson, Shirley Haverly and Lena Gutierrez). From there I had a brief stint at the Fire Department and then transferred to the Chief Administrative Office (CAO), where I worked as a budget analyst. Virginia Collins, Barbara McGowan, Susan Kerr and Jim Jones were my mentors at the CAO and we remain friends to this day. I then moved over to Department of Mental Health for four years, where I began as a budget analyst and became special assistant to Chief Deputy Kathleen Snook. I learned so much from Kathleen and I miss her to this day. After her retirement I reported to Dr. Areta Crowell and Dr. Marvin Southard, two leaders for whom I have the utmost respect. I then made my final move back to the CAO (which was now the Chief Executive Office), where I held the positions of management analyst, principal analyst, assistant division chief, senior manager and finally assistant CEO. I worked under Lari Sheehan at the Service Integration Branch and was over the homeless programs. Lari was wonderful to work for and when she retired, I was promoted to her position. I also owe a thank you to Miguel Santana for his encouragement and support along the way. In 2011 at the age of 60, with 40 years of service, I retired.

After retirement I was invited to sit on the Board of Directors for John Wesley Health Centers (JWCH), which is a federally qualified health center serving the homeless and indigent. It is my honor to serve on the Board and to work along with Director Sheila Shima, who I consider another mentor, both at the CEO and JWCH.

My husband, Robert, and I live in Long Beach, where I was born and raised, and have been married for 29 years. We love to cycle and hike. Last year I rode approximately 7,500 miles and climbed 730,000 feet (we like to climb). I completed a double century (which is a 200-mile ride) and won a Queen of the Mountain competition for my age group. I completed the Copper Triangle in Colorado. I rode 600 miles over a week from Klamath Falls, Oregon to San Francisco. I took a cycling/hiking trip to Zion and Bryce National Parks, hiking the narrows, and completed my favorite all-time hike to Angels Landing in Utah. The views were amazing. We enjoy cycling and hiking in Big Sur, California and in Nevada at Red Rock and the Valley of Fire.

We ride several centuries annually: Big Bear, Mammoth, Solvang, Breathless Agony, Mulholland Challenge, Tour de Foothills, Spooktacular, Circle of Doom, etc. We generally ride 150-200 miles a week. Two years in a row I cycled in Mallorca. Spain and climbed the hills that the pros train on. What a thrill.

When we aren't cycling, we are hiking. We like to climb when we hike as well. We vacationed in Guadalupe in the French West Indies many times. The rain forest waterfalls and trails are amazing. We enjoy many hikes in the Mammoth area. Locally, we have done some epic hikes to Mt. Baldy Peak several times, Cucamonga Peak, and San Jacinto Peak.

When not on the go, we love spending time with our family and our three rescue dogs.

With wife, Jeanette, and grandson, Carl Wyatt



CARL L. BLUM

In early 1964 during a snowstorm while a senior engineering student at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, I was recruited for a civil engineering position with the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD). Since I had never been west of the Mississippi River and Southern California was not snowstorm territory, I decided to give it a shot. Thus began a very exciting, challenging and fulfilling 36-year career with Los Angeles County. When I moved to California, the Los Angeles City Hall was the tallest building in downtown L.A. and the San Fernando Valley was still significantly agricultural.

Starting my career with the LACFCD, I was fortunate to be part of a great team of people who built and now run one of the best urban flood control systems in the world. Despite that, I saw firsthand mud flows into homes/communities during the rains following the wild fires in our local hills and mountains. I also saw the Los Angeles River flowing completely full, and then spent the next 20 years working with the Corps of Engineers and Congress to first upsize the capacity of the lower portion of the river and then start a paradigm shift towards more aggressive watershed management and storm water conservation.

After the 1985 merger of the three County engineering-related departments into the Department of Public Works (DPW), I was given the task of developing a combined Land Development Division and then oversaw much of the development of the Santa Clarita and Antelope Valleys. (Side note: it was then that I first met a very talented, newly hired engineer by the name of Mark Pestrella – now the director of DPW). I later oversaw our department's emergency management efforts and was involved with the response and recovery following the Northridge Earthquake.

I ended my career as a deputy director with DPW in 2000. I ended with a "career transition party," even though I didn't know to what I might be transitioning.

My wife, Jeanette, and I have lived in Temple City since 1984. We have been blessed with four children and six grandchildren. In 2018 we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary by taking our family, including the six grandchildren, on an Alaskan cruise. (What a blast.)

In the 20 years since my "transition party," I became active in leadership roles with the American Society of Civil Engineers, first as president of the Los Angeles Section, during which we sponsored and built a Rose Parade float, then on to chairing the California Region, and eventually serving three years on the National Board of Directors.

I was appointed to serve five years on our city's Planning Commission. That then morphed into five years as a City Council member, with the final year serving as mayor.

I have been blessed to be part of a weekly Men's Christian Fellowship group since I "retired," and following my wife's leadership, we have organized our city's annual observance of the National Day of Prayer each May for the past 20 years.

Because of my experience with watershed management, I was appointed by the Board of Supervisors in 2017 to be part of an advisory committee to formulate a ballot measure to fund conserving and cleaning up our limited storm waters. That became Proposition W (Safe, Clean Water Program) on the November 2018 ballot, which passed with over a two-thirds majority. I am now serving on the County's Regional Oversight Committee, overseeing the implementation of that program.

How fortunate and blessed I have been.

Keeping Up With Retirees

ED CORONADO

With wife, Mary, and grandchildren, Christian and Aaliyah



I began working for the County in August of 1964, shortly after high school. I started out in the Mechanical Department, which is now the Internal Services Department. I worked in shops and garages in a maintenance section for light vehicles. We did maintenance on cars and trucks, fuel, wash, dispatch, and kept records, among other things.

Soon after, I was drafted into the Army, spending one year with the 1st Infantry Division in Vietnam and the rest of my duty stateside. After my hitch with the Army, I resumed my career with the County, putting in 21 years in the Mechanical Department, moving up from garage attendant I to II and later to sub-foreman. Then I began working in the Third District for Supervisor Ed Edelman and was his driver for nine years. The supervisor was a wonderful person, as were all his staff. The office was very busy with many things going on.

When Supervisor Edelman retired, I found employment in the Chief Administrative Office's Public Affairs Office, where I worked for a wonderful supervisor and friend, Judy Hammond. I worked in this office for eight years. By that time I had nearly 40 years of service and retired. My wife, Mary, also worked in the Public Affairs Office and we retired the same day. That was back in 2004, 16 years ago. Time passes fast.

Retirement has been good. We have had time to travel. I loved Hawaii and we have been there seven times to different islands, and always looked forward to going. We have also traveled to nearby states and also did cruises, which were fun. About five years after I retired, my daughter, Marie, passed away and we begin taking care of her youngest daughter, Aaliyah, who was 3 years old at the time. She is now 14 and a blessing to have, but with that comes a lot of work.

Needless to say, that put the brakes on a lot of our travels because with her going to school, we could only go on vacations during summer breaks. We used to go all year long, but we still manage to go as much as possible. It's tough with homework, and at my age so much has changed, especially with computers and math. We got her a tutor and she is getting excellent grades. My grandson Christian, 27, Aaliyah's oldest brother, has also lived with us in our Pico Rivera home since my daughter's passing and he is still with us till this day

As Mary and I are getting older, sometimes that comes with medical issues. I've had a number of operations, the biggest being a triple bypass in 2014. I am now doing fine. Mary is doing better than me, but still had some issues with atrial fibrillation, a heart condition. She is now doing better, thank God.

Since the pandemic, we have pretty much stayed home. There is always much to do around the house with projects, which we are getting done.

I enjoyed my time with Los Angeles County. I always looked forward to the people I knew and worked with, but I also enjoy retirement. Hoping that everyone is well and enjoying life.



Zooming Through the Pandemic Life is Just a Zoom, Sh-Boom, Sha-Boom



Like most people these days, I've been spending a lot of time on Zoom, particularly as I've agreed to be the interim head of the Masters in Arts Management program for Claremont Graduate University (a program I led for six years) while they do a search this fall. This picture, though, is the virtual lobby of a wonderful theater piece, "The Present," produced by the Geffen Playhouse just before it started. "The Present" successfully brought everyone into the same mental and emotional space with great magic and storytelling. So true to form, I'm finding ways to experience the power of the arts even during these times.



Laura Zucker retired July 2017 after 25 years as executive director of the L.A. County Arts Commission.

The beat goes on with more teaching, learning and socializing ... all online, of course. I'm busy teaching classes and earning required certificates to teach with Zoom and other online methods. The students and faculty are adapting well so far. After a while, it is fun! The only benefit is that we do not have to commute to campus this semester. The photo was taken last year with some of my faculty members enjoying the return from summer. Sigh, we had no idea about the masking requirements that would prevent such gatherings this year.



Barry Hunt teaches healthcare management and accounting classes at Cal State L.A. He retired in 2010 as a public health area administrator after more than 40 years of County management service.



Inside LA County

by Judy Hammond
Newsletter Editor

The bad relationship between the Board of Supervisors and Sheriff Alex Villanueva just keeps getting worse and has even led to the call by two supervisors that the sheriff resign. And a \$1.5 million payout to the outgoing chief executive officer, who said she was harassed by the sheriff. Read on.

A Superior Court judge ruled that an agreement by Sheriff Villanueva to rehire a fired deputy and pay him \$200,000 in full back pay and benefits was invalid because it was not approved by the Board of Supervisors. The deputy, Caren Mandoyan, who lost his job before Villanueva's 2018 election, said he would appeal. The rehiring of Mandoyan has sparked controversy between the sheriff and the supervisors, who filed the lawsuit, since Villanueva took office.

Two of the supervisors, Mark Ridley-Thomas and Sheila Kuehl, in fact, have called on Villanueva to resign, saying he has dragged his feet on reforms, resisted oversight of the department and failed to hold deputies accountable. Robert Bonner, a member of the Civilian Oversight Commission who is a former federal prosecutor and U.S. district judge, also joined in the call for the sheriff to resign. "I'm just going to ignore it and move on," said the sheriff, who said he wasn't concerned by the Board or its "surrogates" on the commission. He said the Board just wants "a sheriff on the leash."

Retiring Chief Executive Officer Sachi Hamai received \$1.5 million and fulltime private security because of concerns about her safety due to what Skip Miller, litigation counsel to the Board of Supervisors, labeled months of "unrelenting and brutal" harassment from Sheriff Villanueva that led to threats by individuals upset by false information. Hamai, who agreed not to sue the County as part of the settlement, said it was disheartening that she was subjected to a "hostile and toxic work environment created by a fellow department head." Villanueva, who learned of the settlement when someone anonymously mailed him a copy marked privileged and confidential, called the agreement "outrageous" and "a golden handshake." The settlement with Hamai was not reported publicly. The Board of Supervisors had given County Counsel the authority to settle on its behalf.

The Board approved \$72 million in October to launch its Alternatives to Incarceration Initiative to shift the focus of the justice system toward community-based systems of care to prioritize rehabilitation over punishment. Supervisors also created another panel, the Jail Population Council, to oversee efforts "to safely reduce the rate of incarceration." Sheriff Villanueva said it his office's job to control the jails and that the number of inmates has fallen as low as possible without releasing dangerous felons. The Board calls its efforts "Care First, Jail Last," but Villanueva said sarcastically that "It could also be the offender-first, victim-last model."

Inspector General Max Huntsman issued a 32-page report that said a secretive group of tattooed deputies at the East Los Angeles station called the Banditos are "gang-like and their influence has resulted in favoritism, sexism, racism and violence." Eight deputies filed a lawsuit against the County, saying they were harassed by the clique, denied backup on dangerous calls, pressured to leave the station or quit, and overloaded with calls at the end of their shifts. Deputies at an off-duty party said they were attacked by Banditos members. A congressional subcommittee has asked the Department of Justice to investigate allegations of systematic abuses by "criminal gangs" in the Sheriff's Department that use aggressive policing tactics.

In other news...

About 2,100 residents in Woodland Hills received mail-in ballots that had no space to vote for president. But there were spaces to vote twice for several state propositions. The Registrar-Recorder, alerted to the problem, sent out new ballots while noting that the impact was minimal as 5.6 million ballots went out in L.A. County.

The County Museum of Art, hit hard economically by the coronavirus pandemic, put the Hancock home of director Michael Govan up for sale for \$6.675 million to save money, replacing it with a smaller home three blocks south in Mid-Wilshire that cost \$2.2 million. A \$6.7 million loan from the federal Paycheck Protection Program has allowed LACMA to keep from imposing layoffs or furloughs.

The Sheriff's Department started equipping deputies with body-worn cameras Oct. 1 after getting \$25.5 million from county supervisors, and hopes to have all deputies equipped over 18 months.

The 30-acre first phase of the \$80 million renovation of the Earvin "Magic" Johnson

Park in South Los Angeles opens in November, with the 16-acre second phase expected to be completed in 2021. It is the County's largest park project in recent history.

With events canceled due to the coronavirus, the Hollywood Bowl was transformed into a drive-through food giveaway site.

Ed Thom, director of operations, says coyotes sometimes roam the empty seats at the Hollywood Bowl, now that it has been closed due to the coronavirus.

The County Sanitation Districts developed a method to test sewage for the coronavirus to ensure the virus was not in the treated water that leaves its 10 plants.

The Board of Supervisors has approved the creation of a new county department to serve older adults and adults with disabilities, bringing fragmented services now provided by many departments under one roof for better coordination and service. Supervisors said there is not money to create the department now, but want the groundwork completed so it can be implemented quickly once the pandemic is over.

The Board of Supervisors has also directed relevant County departments to begin work on establishing a new County Department of Workforce and Economic Development and is looking at establishing an Office of Labor Equity to promote and enforce its labor laws, and lead labor policy research and development with a focus on racial, health and economic equity.

Another pandemic casualty: The Metropolitan Transportation Authority cut its 2021 budget by \$1.2 billion (to \$6 billion) due to a plunge in sales tax, its largest source of revenue, resulting in steep cuts in bus and rail service. Sales tax in the County has fallen by more than \$100 million a month.

Modifications are being planned for the L.A. River flood channel to make it a passage for steelhead trout to reach spawning grounds.

A statue of George Washington (whose history as a slave owner has been the subject of protests in various cities) was toppled and vandalized in the County's Grand Park in Los Angeles. The statue, a bronze copy of a sculpture placed in Richmond, Virginia in 1796, was obtained by the Women's Community Services and presented to the County in 1933. The original was created in Paris and about 30 copies made in the late 19th century.

The County's Project Roomkey, created to house homeless individuals at hotels and motels during the pandemic, is scheduled to close down early next year due to uncertain funding from FEMA, which is paying 75 percent of the cost.

The Board of Supervisors, saying it wants to fight institutional racism for blacks, has begun a national search for a racial equity executive director and created a website so the public can share their ideas for addressing anti-racism, diversity and inclusion. The Board is asking departments to examine and eliminate policies and processes that prevent African Americans from advancement, as well as promoting and supporting policies that would "achieve more equitable outcomes" for African Americans in education, housing, mental health, employment, and the criminal justice system.

The Nature Center at the Devil's Punchbowl Natural Area in the northern part of the San Gabriel Mountains, opened in December 1963, was burned by the Bobcat Fire.

PASSAGES

Compiled by Judy Hammond
Newsletter Editor



Porche



McClendon



Armstead



Wickham



Englund

DEATHS:

Ted Reed, 87, who retired in 1992 as director of Beaches and Harbors after 33 years with the County, died Sept. 26 after suffering a stroke in February. Former Regional Planning Director **Bruce McClendon**, who says he was fired in 2009 after complaining to then-Chief Executive Officer Bill Fujioka that county supervisors' aides were interfering in department affairs, died Jan. 7, 2019 at age 72, but was not on LACERA's death list until August 2020. **Gary Lockhart**, 69, chief deputy of the Fire Department when he retired in 2008 after 33 years of service, died Sept. 24 after sudden illness. **Leslie Bellamy**, 79, member of the Regional Planning Commission and Tax Assessment Appeals Board, appointee of Second District. **June Hibbard**, wife of Tom Hibbard, former chief deputy to Supervisor Pete Schabarum, died in August after having a serious setback 10 months earlier in chronic lung condition she had suffered since 1990. **Robert Sturges**, 80, who was married 56 years to former Board of Supervisors Executive Officer Joanne Sturges. **Robert Thome**, 66, world-renown mouth stick painting artist who was paralyzed from the neck down due to a football injury, a founding member of Rancho Los Amigos Foundation's "Art of Rancho" exhibition and active member of the Rancho community. **Dr. Barry Perrou**, retired Sheriff's Department sergeant who spearheaded the creation of teams of specially trained officers to effectively handle encounters with the mentally ill, and who served 22 years on the County Mental Health Commission. **Dr. Paul Brenner**, 84, who was vice chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at LAC+USC Medical Center when he retired in 2011 due to serious medical reasons after 38 years at the facility. **Charlotte Trainer**, 91, former member of the Music Center Blue Ribbon Committee. Philanthropist **Warner Henry**, 82, who served on the boards of the L.A. Opera, L.A. Chamber Orchestra and L.A. Master Chorale, and underwrote a number of productions. **Vincent Stefano, Jr.**, 81, a deputy district attorney who served as mayor of Burbank in 1974-75. **William Rylaarsdam**, 83, who served on the L.A. and Orange County Superior Courts and as associate justice and acting presiding justice of the California 4th District Court of Appeal, Division 3, from 1985 until his 2016 retirement. **Guillermo Najjar**, 53, facilities manager in crafts division of the Parks and Recreation Department, from complications of COVID-19. **Dr. Nancy Warner**, 97, the first woman chair at the USC School of Medicine when named to head the Pathology Department in 1972. **Peter Bregman**, 83, deputy district attorney for 31 years, retiring in 1996. **Michael Miller**, 62, of lung cancer, former public defender and one of the original 25 attorneys in the Alternate Public Defender's Office, elected a Superior Court commissioner in 2015. **Edward Landry**, 81, a director of the Music Center Opera. **Joan Hanley**, 87, chairman of the Harbor-UCLA Research and Education Foundation. **Betty Porche**, 91, who retired in 1990 from the Department of Health Services, where she was an administrator in public health clinics and hospitals for 31 years. **Lester Leibson**, 86, who had cerebral palsy and paved the way for hiring of disabled, serving 36 years in the Department of Public Social Services, the last 16 supervising the In-Home Supportive Services program. **Tom Hageman**, who served as assistant chief deputy to Supervisor Pete Schabarum.

HONORS:

The Board of Supervisors named the overlook terrace in Grand Park in honor of retiring Chief Executive Officer **Sachi A. Hamai**, noting she had hosted many events there to promote women leadership, and also named a dog run at the park in honor of her canine companion Oreo.

APPOINTMENTS:

Chief Operating Officer **Fesia Davenport** became the County's acting chief executive officer with the Aug. 31 retirement of Sachi Hamai, who had postponed her planned retirement earlier in the year due to the coronavirus pandemic. County Counsel **Mary C. Wickham** resigned effective Nov. 1 to become a Los Angeles Superior Court commissioner. She had headed the County Counsel's Office since 2015 and was the second woman to serve in that capacity. **Songhai Armstead** retired as a Superior Court judge to become the first executive director of the Alternatives to Incarceration Initiative, part of the Chief Executive Office, in late September to oversee implementation of recommendations to make "care first, jails last" a reality in the County. **Dr. Maria Solacito**, senior veterinarian for Department of Animal Care and Control, internationally recognized expert in veterinary medicine as it relates to medical care in animal shelters, named to the California Veterinary Medical Board by Gov. Gavin Newsom. **Nicole Englund**, planning and transportation deputy to Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, named chief of administrative operations for the Community and Government Relations section of the Department of Public Works. **Timothy Lippman**, Kuehl's associate planning deputy, promoted to replace Englund.

COURTS:

Christopher Agustin, 35, a former pharmacy technician at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, pleaded no contest to stealing anti-malaria tablets, which were touted to combat COVID-19, and sentenced to four days in jail, 240 hours of community service, and prohibited from working at a pharmacy. Sheriff's Deputy **Kevin Adams**, 47, will be arraigned on Jan. 21 on one count of workers' compensation insurance fraud for allegedly filing a false workplace injury claim, for which he was receiving disability benefits, while assigned to custody services at Twin Towers jail in 2015.

ELECTIONS:

The L.A. Times endorsed state Sen. **Holly Mitchell** over L.A. City Councilman Herb Wesson in race to replace Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, who is termed out this year; and **George Gascon** over incumbent District Attorney Jackie Lacey. A Times analysis of election financing found that as of Sept. 30, Lacey had raised \$5.8 million, with 75 percent coming from police unions, and Gascon \$6.6 million, with 77 percent from wealthy individuals.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The Los Angeles Opera a year ago found accusations credible that **Placido Domingo** engaged in inappropriate conduct with multiple women while managing the opera, but he now denies the charges and -- after recently recovering from the coronavirus -- is waging a campaign to clear his name.



Lippman



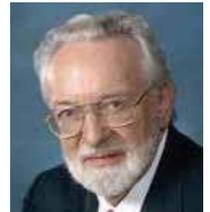
Davenport



Warner



Hamai



Rylaarsdam



Solacito



Stefano

Passing of Retired LACoFD Chief Deputy Gary M. Lockhart, 69

(Ed. Note: The following tribute to RELAC member Gary Lockhart, retired chief deputy of the Los Angeles County Fire Department, appeared on the department's Facebook page announcing his death. We have excerpted some of the many comments from colleagues' posts on the page. The Board of Supervisors retired in Lockhart's memory on Sept. 29.)

It is with a heavy heart we share the passing of retired Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACoFD) Emergency Operations Chief Deputy Gary M. Lockhart. Chief Lockhart passed away on Thursday, Sept. 24, 2020, after a sudden illness, at the age of 69.

Chief Lockhart retired in 2008 after 33 years of dedicated service to the LACoFD and residents of Los Angeles County. He began his career with the fire service on May 1, 1975, rising through the ranks from firefighter to chief deputy of emergency operations.

Chief Lockhart's passion for the fire service began as a young boy when he watched his father, Darryl Lockhart, promote and retire at the rank of battalion chief from the LACoFD.

Chief Lockhart's remarkable career in the fire service was impressive and all who knew him remember his exemplary leadership, commitment, and caring service to others before self. He is a mentor and friend to many.

Just as impressive as his career, Chief Lockhart lived an extraordinary personal life, filled with purpose, love, and family. Chief Lockhart is survived by his beautiful and caring wife, Anita, their daughters Andrea and Sarah, their son, Ryan, and their grandchildren. Please keep all of them in your thoughts and prayers.

Thank you, Chief Lockhart, for your dedicated and gracious service and for gifting all who knew you with your loyalty and kindness. You will never be forgotten.

POSTS:

Robert Navarro: Always a consummate professional. It was great to see him on incidents.

Bill Masten: One of the finest, most honorable, and dedicated men I ever worked with. He was the epitome of a firefighter and leader. I learned so much from his style, patience and character. (He was) a loved and respected Warrior of the highest caliber!

Kathy Johnson: He was always one of my favorite chiefs, a real blessing who will be deeply missed.

Belia Martinez: God bless a man who comes back from a stroke and to continue to serve the Fire Department. I am proud to have meet you.

David N Charissa Yonan: Chief Gary Lockhart was one of the best fire chiefs on the job. He treated those in his charge with honor, respect and caring! He did so much for my career from his years as my battalion chief all the way until his retirement as a chief deputy. And his personality never changed as he rose through the ranks. He always wanted to help you be the best you could be on our great job. Thank you so much, Chief. Rest in peace knowing so many loved you!

Pat Long: Such a huge loss. I'll never forget how well he treated everyone.

Michal Anne Ashley: Chief Lockhart was a great person in so many ways. One of the things I remember is he liked to play practical jokes in the office; he was super funny. Another thing he did I will never forget was in 1991. He brought Chief Freeman into my office to give me my 10 year pin because it bothered him that my prior department never noted that milestone. He was kind, helpful, inclusive and so much more. Gone too soon.

Joe Bartak: Gary was not only a strong leader, he was the ultimate nice guy. You would want to do anything for him if he asked.

Gregory White: I remember him spending time and teaching and getting to know a young boot fireman. And every time we met up he remembered my name and asked how things were going. A true gentleman.

Mark Ghilarducci: Such a great guy! Professional, knowledgeable and a gentleman! I really enjoyed working with him.

Eric Ekeberg: Worked with Gary for many years in a variety of assignments. Blessed to call him friend!

Ed Thacher You were loved by many because of the man you were. He will be missed.



Noted Medical Research Administrator Frank DeSantis Dies



Frank DeSantis, at right, is shown in 2011 photo with RELAC member Barry Hunt when DeSantis was honored as "professor for a day" at his alma mater Cal State University, Los Angeles, where Hunt teaches.

Frank J. DeSantis, the first CEO of LA BioMed (Research and Education Institute) and its president for 35 years, began his management career with the County of Los Angeles in 1957 as an administrative trainee in the Civil Service Commission. DeSantis, who died earlier this year, was the first personnel director at Harbor General Hospital, serving from 1959-1963. He was given the responsibility for "operation transition," the re-training and orientation of employees to their new work environment when the new hospital was completed in February 1963, an assignment which prepared him well for his new position when he was hired by Luigi Mastroianni Jr. to manage the research programs in October 1962. He simultaneously worked as hospital personnel director and as the part-time research administrator until after the relocation in February 1963, remaining behind in the old unit, where he said he felt like a captain on a ship that had been abandoned. He left to become the full time research administrator of the state's fastest growing and largest independent non-profit medical research facility, the Research and Education Institute at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Torrance. During his 35-year tenure as president he oversaw the growth of the research program from six employees to over 1,000 with a professional faculty, fellows and research associates.

Reflections:

Dealing With Grief:

Losing loved ones is a very dark and pervasive kind of grief. My mom always told my sisters and me that her third husband and the love of her life, Rob Lacy, took up residence on the North Star after he left his earthly life in 2006. So we told Mom in her last hours that Rob was ready for her to join him there. On clear nights each of us goes out to look up at the North Star and send them our love, tell them how we are doing, and feel their advice. Believe it or not, this has actually helped me with my profound grief of not having my mom physically with me. That and doing a nightly journal entry and talking to my sister Anne briefly almost every night has helped me get through this very, very difficult year.

--RELAC member Lari Sheehan, former deputy chief executive officer of the Chief Executive Office, in February lost her mother and best friend, Virginia, who had lived with her since 2006. Virginia was just shy of 100 years old.



Lester Leibson, Who Helped Pave Way for Hiring of Disabled in County, Dies at Age 86

by Judy Hammond, Newsletter Editor

(Ed. Note: This story about RELAC member Lester Leibson, who died in August, appeared in the November-December 2016 edition of the RELAC newsletter. Leibson, 86, who had cerebral palsy and paved the way for hiring of the disabled, served 36 years in the Department of Public Social Services, the last 16 supervising the In-Home Supportive Services program.)

With son, Jared



Lester Leibson was 22 and had just graduated from UCLA in 1956 when Otto Frey, a district office director in the Bureau of Public Assistance of the Los Angeles County Department of Charities, decided to take a chance on him. He hired him as a social worker – despite the fact that Leibson had cerebral palsy. That might not be so surprising today, but 60 years ago it was a totally different environment. There was no Americans with Disabilities Act, no protections for the disabled trying to get a job.

Leibson had already been interviewed by the private industry and told that though he was highly educated, he was not employable due to his disabilities. Leibson spent his entire 36-year career with the County. He was promoted to supervisor after only six years and spent the last 16 years supervising the In-Home Supportive Services program. The Board of Supervisors honored him with a scroll when he retired in 1992, with Supervisor Ed Edelman calling him an “inspiration.”

Not that it was an easy road. Leibson said there were “little stumbling blocks” put in his way over the years and he had to adapt to the situations, not have them adapt to him. He praised his co-workers for being supportive and helping him to overcome obstacles.

Most notably, perhaps, was when after taking a physical a year after being hired, the doctor said he was not suitable to drive. Leibson had scored 98 on his driving test, but the doctor didn't feel that was correct. Driving was a critical part of his job, so Leibson appealed. During the three-month-long appeal – which Leibson won – his supervisor had co-workers drive him to his client appointments. In those days the County ran the old age security program (which later became SSI when it was transferred to the federal government) and social workers had to go out to interview clients to see if they were eligible. Each social worker had 350 clients. The workers would interview the clients, write a report and then dictate the report to a transcribing typist. Leibson's cerebral palsy made these tasks more difficult. He had problems with hand coordination and, though his speech was good, could be difficult to understand. The department made him dictate a report to four transcribing typists to ensure they could understand him before assigning him clients.

He paved the way for others, proving persons with physical disabilities could be good employees. Ten years after he was hired, another person with cerebral palsy (Thomas Hogan) was hired at the Long Beach office. Leibson, a RELAC member since retirement, said working for the County was “a marvelous experience” and employees were like family.

If it weren't for his job, “I would not be alive today.” He said he would not have been able to marry, have children or be active in the community. He and his wife, Adele, have been married for 50 years and have two children, Jared and Denise.

He was active in the Jewish community, including being president of the Beverly Hills B'nai B'rith Lodge, the Masons and Shriners. He retired at age 58 after getting “a lovely golden handshake,” which was being offered at the time to reduce the workforce due to budget problems.

Following retirement, he decided it was time to relax, and spends his days now at age 82 mainly watching television and reading. He and his wife live in an apartment, assisted by their daughter and granddaughter. Leibson has seen many changes in the County, but finds the prospect of having four women members of the Board of Supervisors “the biggest change possible.” “I sure would like to see that happen,” he said.

DHS “Legend” Fotine Drulias O'Connor Dies

by Judy Hammond, Newsletter Editor

Fotine Drulias O'Connor, emeritus director of nursing services and education at LAC+USC Medical Center, described by a colleague as “a DHS legend,” has died at age 90.

O'Connor was in hospice care when she died Sept. 15. She was preceded in death by her husband of 28 years, Bill O'Connor, whom she met in 1967 while vacationing in Tahiti and married the following year.

As director of nursing services and education, O'Connor, who retired in 1993 after 34 years with the County, oversaw a staff of 3,000. At that time the Medical Center had four freestanding buildings besides General Hospital: Pediatric Pavilion, Women's Hospital, Psychiatric Hospital, and Outpatient Clinics. Each had a nursing director, all reporting to O'Connor. The General Hospital was divided into several departments, each with a nursing director, and they also reported to O'Connor, as well as the director of in-service education.

“She was such a role model to all of us directors: smart, communicative, sensitive and caring. She gave us our independence to administer our areas, but was always available to each of us when we needed her help to solve problems. She was my hero,” said Kathy Gavran Lohr, who served as nursing director of the Pediatric Pavilion in the '70s and retired as director of quality assurance in 1993. “We all formed such a close bond that some years after we all retired, we, among a few other nursing staff, along with Fotine, started to get together monthly for lunch at the Olive Garden in Arcadia until COVID happened.”

Ed Martinez, who retired as executive director of LAC+USC Medical Center in 1995, met O'Connor in 1979 when interviewing for the position of director of personnel for the Medical Center. He had been director of personnel for the Probation Department and it was his first experience in health care. “What really impressed me was Fotine's strong feelings about the importance of quality health care and her responsibility to build a skilled and caring nursing workforce. Through my years at the Med Center, I always felt we had a mutual respect for one another. For me, this is the most memorable and valuable aspect of knowing Fotine O'Connor.”

Richard Brock also served under O'Connor as a nursing director. “She remained a dear friend all these years,” he said. “I am deeply saddened by the news of her passing.”

RELAC member Harvey Kern, who served as director of public affairs at County+USC for nine years before retiring in 1996, called her “a DHS legend.”

In 1955 she began her nursing career at UCLA Medical Center as a psychiatric nurse and from 1956 to 1959 taught nursing at Good Samaritan Hospital. She began her career with the County in 1959 at the LAC+ USC Medical Center as the director of admitting room and clinics.

Shortly after she was recruited by John Wesley County Hospital as director of nursing and later became director of nursing at Rancho Los Amigos Hospital. She returned to LAC+USC Medical Center as the director of nursing services and education.

She was a strong supporter of the LAC+USC Medical Center Auxiliary, CARES, which provides necessities for patients and their families and many important services which support the nursing staff in improving their patients' experience during difficult illness.

After retiring, O'Connor volunteered as a docent at the Music Center and at Saint Sophia Cathedral in Los Angeles.



Photo by Harvey Kern

IN MEMORIAM

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

Agricultural Comm./Wts & Meas. - Melinda M. Al-Alami, Mbassam Alsabbagh, Harold D. Colter, Irene B. Solis

Animal Control - Gail Christensen, Kenneth M. Liljeberg, Rohmi J. Reid

Arboreta & Botanic Garden - Robert E. Smith

Assessor - Sharron M. Eshelman, Rosemarie E. Graffius, Janet M. Harrell, Brian Hernandez, Paul F. Lenichek, Kimiko I. McCown, Robert M. Mize, John P. Philbin, John Scopelitis

Auditor-Controller - Rita B. Francis, Clearther Taylor, Willie Woods Jr.

Beaches & Harbors - Larry Carstensen, Talmadge L. Reed

Board of Supervisors - Thomas J. Hageman, Darlene Hudson, Janeen Marrin

California Children's Services - Barbara Ann Johnson, Melanee J. Phillip, Margarita Gomez Suarez

Chief Executive Office - Joseph Gardner, Daniel J. Hurt

Chief Information Office - Gertrude Faulkner

Child Support Services - Mary L. Alvarado, Verna Hardiman, Dorothy Rish, Hylaine Strong

Children & Family Services - Charles R. Brett, Fay Ann Creighton, David Diamond, Andres Herrera, Tamara Hoadwonic, Irene Shirley Moos, Fe Ostrowski, Cynthia A. Peake, Gwendolyn E. Sheppard, Ester F. Smith, Mario P. Surla, Ellen Smith-Wexler

County Counsel - Christopher E. Kane, Wayne R. Parrish

District Attorney - Wilmer C. Abram Jr., Dale I. Davis, Mary Ann Harris, E. Raymond Hiles, Debra A. Lamb, Charles D. Sheldon

Engineer Facility - Floyd Baker, George E. Barr, Rubye H. Brookins, Charles Crowe

Fire - Raymond E. Brunstrom, Michael J. Fournier, Eliud T. Galindo, John A. Hoffman, Merle R. Horst, David K. Lesh, Gary M. Lockhart, Robert D. Meyer, Joseph L. Millard, Dewitt Morgan, Clifton Norton, John Robert Potacka, Kenneth R. Raske, Clifford B. Sewell, Obert H. Thompson, Mark A. Wegner

Flood Control District - Cheri Sadako Sumida

Forestry/Fire Warden - Eliud T. Galindo, Joseph L. Millard

Harbor/UCLA Medical Center - Paul W. Barfoot, Rose M. Brown, Helena Chang, Helen Draper, Maria McGinley Hartman, Paul E. Hyman, Joyce Jones, Mary Martinez, James C. McDowell, Rosa M. Miranda, Raymond Moore, Magdalena Sanchez, Benito So, Eleanor H. Thrane

Health - Eva M. Graham

Health Services Administration - Lewis H. Betts, Raymond Bryan, Cosietta Cain, Beatrice Equihua, Joyce Jennings, Frances Pearson Linden, U-Leong Liu, Selena McCall-Fisher, Kathryn Blockinger Newman, Carol I. Boubion Padi, Lily A. Rizk, Esther O. Semmere, Carol Smith, Suellen Underwood, Nancy E. Warner

Internal Services - Cedric R. Angeles, Faruk A. Aykol, Richard B. Graham, Robert J. Henry, Penny M. King, Leandre La Marche, Eugene Y. Liu, James Lee Phillips, Don K. Reilly, Geldelita U. Retuta, Tobe Ross, Thomas M. Tribble, Ralph H. Walker, Joyce L. Wickern, Judith L. Winchell

Juvenile Court Health Services - Joey O. Miles

King-Drew Medical Center - Jacqueline Gloria Abell, Marian E. Barnes, George E. Burbie, Larry Darden, Melba Jean Griffin, Patricia Y. Hooper, Millie Jefferson, Barbara W. Julian, Sandra C. King, Ashis K. Mandal, Laurencia V. Valadez, Carole Zearett

LAC+USC Medical Center - Raul Bermudez, Paul F. Brenner, Carlos Campos, Jerome Clayton, Maude M. Cooper, Arlaney D. Currie, Ted A. De Boer, Fernando M. Flores Jr., Dianne Fuqua, William Garner, Celso F. Gomez, Keiji Hayashida, Walter G. Holland, Cherrlene Jackson, Anito E. Jurado, Juan Jose Kobylecki, Esperanza Manzanal, Virginia Munoz, Godwin L. Osuji Obiakw, Luz M. Padilla, Pedro B. Padilla, Delfina Saillant, Bertha M. Sanchez, Juanita Santana, Edward F. Wachter

LACERA - Margaret O. Shuler

Los Cerritos Municipal Court - Gerald G. Haney

Malibu Municipal Court - Carla M. Trent

Medical Examiner-Coroner - Betty L. Hoffmann, Nils R. Linder

Mental Health - Stephen John Brown, Christopher M. Carlson, June A. Kennedy, Leroy Milton, Yukie Nii Okazaki, Clara Williams-Mollison

Olive View/UCLA Medical Center - Daphne M. Batin, Pradina Bazan, Thalia Garin,

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Public Library - Jean E. Alexander, Margaret O. Clark, Doris L. Roy

Public Health Program - Milagros Becker, Aundray M. Burks, David Darrell Davis, Donald R. Dunn, Felicidad R. Fernando, Mary Hassan, Durwood Hollis, Henrietta Schell, Yolanda Sanchez

Public Social Services - Josefina Abib, Consuelo C. Acosta, Kathrene L. Allen, Annie Armstrong, Jesus Q. Aviles, Carla L. Ballard, Florence Bridges, Calvin Bui, Stephen L. Champ, Arlinda Clark, Ben C. Clayton, Karen Cohen, Joann Colacchio, Myron Cox, Kenneth C. Davies, Bessie J. Douglass, Cassandra J. Ester, Beatrice L. Farmearl, Daniel Garcia, Cynthia Hilliard, David Lacabe, Lester B. Leibson, Denise S. Mcgookin, Ashot Merikyan, Deborah Meyers, Kimberly L. Mills-Foster, Carol Munoz, Hideo Murata, Bernice Newton, Mary E. Nichols, Elisa R. Onifer, Barbara A. Rill, Leola Ross, Jessie Shaw, Frances V. Shields, Harold E. Sibert, Annie M. Smith, Alice Steele, Geneva Thomas, Jacqueline A. Turner, Pamela Wheeler, Carole L. Williams, Brenda J. Wright, Karen Yu

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Rancho Los Amigos Hospital - Jose M. Barrios, Michael Finocchiaro, Jewel Ray Hamilton, Linda K. Hodges, Charles R. Mansfield, Robert L. Myers, Jill R. Padgett, Paul V. Perez, Elizabeth H. Wyckoff

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Women's Hospital - Gladys Strickland

Workforce Dev., Aging & Comm. Svc. - Joyce B. Mckinnon, Ofelia Parris

Unidentified County Agency - Cassie M. Barsock, Dorothy W. Cooke, Roy W. Griffin



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