



68 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

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## President's Message

by Linda C. Hopkins

Partnerships Matter!

RELAC thrives because of its partnership with various entities such as LACERA, County of Los Angeles departments, County employee organizations, and community-based agencies. As the one entity responsible for distributing pension and healthcare benefits to our members, RELAC's relationship with LACERA matters.



Luis Lugo, CEO

Luis Lugo is the newly appointed chief executive officer (CEO) of LACERA, although he has been acting CEO since Santos Kreimann, former CEO, took a leave of absence early last year. Lugo joined LACERA four years ago.

Kreimann, who has retired, was a strong proponent of collaborating with RELAC. He provided expert guidance to staff as they worked with RELAC's information technology staff to resolve membership issues. As a result, we have been able to clean up our database, add and update retiree names and information previously not entered into the system, and realize an increase in membership.

Last year, Kreimann invited RELAC to exhibit at LACERA workshops that were sponsored as part of its Retiree Wellness Program. More than 30 retirees signed up for RELAC at the "Staying Healthy Together" workshops held in Diamond Bar and Burbank.

On behalf of RELAC, I am pleased to extend best wishes to Kreimann for a happy retirement and time to spend creating new memories with the family.

We are fortunate that in his prior roles with LACERA, Lugo supported working with RELAC and now has committed to continuing the partnership on activities and issues of mutual benefit. In fact, Lugo has signed off on a joint RELAC/LACERA Volunteer Day at the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank in November. Stay tuned for more details on the website, [www.relac.org](http://www.relac.org). RELAC members exceeded last year's \$15,000 Food Bank goal, and we are aiming for a sequel this year.

RELAC's partnership with the Los Angeles County Department of Human Resources includes the annual March of Dimes March for Babies Walk. Our goal this year is \$5,000. The March of Dimes

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## RELAC Meeting Set for March 19

by Victoria Pipkin Lane, Editor

RELAC's winter general membership meeting will be held on Thursday, March 19, 10 a.m., at Pantera Park, 738 Pantera Ave., Diamond Bar, California.

"Our first meeting of the New Year will focus on a unique aspect of public safety, therapy for first responders," said Linda C. Hopkins, President. "Blue Line Dogs provides therapeutic dog training for first responders, strengthening their wellness and overall health," she said.

"We are pleased that attending the meeting will be Gil Escontrias, president and founder of Blue Line Dogs L.A., who is expected to bring with him a furry member of the Therapy Dog Program (TDP)" said Hopkins. Escontrias is a retired LAPD detective.

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## March 31 Deadline Nears for 2026 RELAC Scholarship Applications

RELAC's scholarship program was founded to provide financial assistance to eligible relatives of members pursuing an undergraduate or vocational education.

**Deadline to submit applications online (www.relac.org) is Tuesday, March 31.**

In prior years, scholarship recipients were nominated by grandparents who are RELAC members, and they are encouraged to continue the practice.

"Scholarship awards are made to assist recipients with the ever-increasing costs of continuing their education," said Bobbie Fesler, Vice President and Chair of the Outreach Committee, which oversees the program.

"We have made the process user-friendly and convenient with all required scholarship documents submitted online," she said. "Applications are available only to family of RELAC members attending an eligible educational institution," she said.

Up to five, \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded. Visit the website, [www.relac.org](http://www.relac.org), for more program details or call (800) 537-3522.



## News from LACERA

by JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer

There is one constant in life...Change!  
It is inevitable as time marches on, and that is true for LACERA.

Santos Kreimann, CEO for the past six years, has retired after more than 30 years of public service with Los Angeles County and LACERA.

This is a well-deserved retirement. Many of his accomplishments have been recorded in newsletters, e-mail blasts, press releases and on LACERA.gov, but I want to share a few words about the impact of his tenure here.

Santos joined LACERA during a time of incredible, transformative change. His leadership helped revitalize LACERA's culture, empowered staff to grow through positive, forward-thinking changes, focused our efforts on improving compliance, and was a tireless champion of enhancing our services to retirees.

Personally, he was like a mentor and partner as we worked on a shared vision for LACERA. The entire organization sincerely thanks Santos for his service.

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## Board of Retirement

by Les Robbins, RELAC Director

Trustee, LACERA Board of Retirement

Once again, I ask all of you to take just a few minutes, a little amount of money, and go to the RELAC website, [www.relac.org](http://www.relac.org), and join this great organization. The monthly dues are extremely nominal, \$5 per member, \$2.50 per spouse. RELAC continues to be a great advocate for retirees and offers a myriad of supplemental insurance programs.

Also, we have upped our game with the recent hiring of retiree Debbie Martin McMullen as executive director. She has brought a new energy to improving member benefits by scheduling informative webinars on subjects such as financial wellness and maximizing retirement income. So join RELAC now!

One subject I am not afraid to talk about is "health." I have shared some of my own health experiences with you because hopefully it encourages some of you to see a doctor, get a physical or other medical tests, especially if you think something may be going on that is not normal. I always say, we are all healthy...until we are not! I know from firsthand experience it is not always easy to differentiate between things going on that are just part of the normal aging process, and those which are not.

My new year's resolution was to try to go an entire year without some sort of surgery. Well, I didn't complete a month before hurting my back while working out. After enduring significant back pain, I saw an orthopedist, who diagnosed me with fractured vertebrae. Surgery was done in late January and recovery was swift, although I do have some residual soreness in the lower back area.

The most recent Retirement Board Meeting was quite productive. Acting CEO Luis Lugo was made permanent. He has filled in for CEO Santos Kreimann, who took a medical leave of absence early last year and has now retired. Lugo has been a member of the LACERA family for nearly four years, giving the Board many opportunities to see him perform in the position. We are very lucky to have someone of his quality as our new Chief Executive Officer. Lugo will be the fifth LACERA CEO during my nearly 28 years on the Board of Retirement and Board of Investments.

Approval was given for the 2026 cost of living adjustment (COLA). The Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 3%, which those in Plan A will receive. Retirees in other plans will get a maximum 2% raise and 1% credited to the COLA bank account. Check the LACERA website to see how much is in your COLA account. Remember, the annual COLA appears in the April payment.

There is a potential 9% overall average increase in all LACERA insurance plans, which equates to a total cost to plan sponsor, Los Angeles County, of \$930,814,000 for health insurance, and an additional \$60,396,000 for dental coverage.

### **Expected increases for Anthem Blue Cross Plans I, II, III, and Prudent Buyer are as follows:**

- ABC Plans I and II - 9.3%
- ABC Plan III - 9.3%
- ABC Prudent Buyer - 3%

### **Cigna Medical:**

- Cigna Network Model HMO Plan - 12.3%
- Cigna Dental and Vision - Only .1%

### **Kaiser California: Renewal rate overall - 9.5% with the following separate results:**

- Kaiser Senior Advantage - 4.4%
- Kaiser Basic/Pre 65 Plan 12.7%
- Kaiser Excess Plan - 20.3%
- Kaiser Out-of-State Plans
- Kaiser Colorado - No change
- Kaiser Georgia - 1.5%
- Kaiser Hawaii - 1.1%
- Kaiser Oregon - 7.6%
- Kaiser Washington - 8.5%

**SCAN:** • Overall .1% rate increase

### **UNITED HEALTHCARE: Overall 12.7% rate increase with the following individual increases:**

- UHC Pre-65 HMO Plan - 13.0%
- UHC Medicare Advantage Plan - 11.8%

In conclusion, as I perused the individual premiums that will go into effect July 1st, it was clear that County employees in Tier 2 Retiree Healthcare, hired after June 30, 2014, will not have any free coverage for dependents in their retirement package. By the way, RELAC's total fund return this past fiscal year (July through June) was 9.7%, a very nice return on assets under management. The total fund is now over \$94 billion.

Cindy and I recently returned from enjoying a two-week vacation on Maui (Hawaii) where I was able to recuperate and relax. If you need to get hold of me you do so via my email address, [leslasd@aol.com](mailto:leslasd@aol.com). Take care and be well.



*Bobbie Fesler, RELAC Vice President, and Rick Lewis, Assistant Fire Chief, Los Angeles County, welcome the County Fire Department Mascot, Sparky, to the holiday luncheon.*

“Through education, advocacy, and community engagement we raise awareness of the vital role Therapy Dogs play in resilience, recovery and morale,” according to Blue Line Dogs’ Mission Statement. It ensures that Therapy Dog Programs are deployed responsibly and effectively.

The organization, a 501(c)(3) California corporation, is a volunteer canine consultant to the Veterans Administration Puppies Assisting Service Members (PAWS) program.

For more information about its work and partnership with first responders, visit <https://bluelinedogsla.com>.

Also making a presentation at RELAC’s membership meeting will be Tim Brown, NACo consultant and partner, Public Promise Insurance. He will provide an update on RELAC’s supplemental insurance program, and answer questions from the audience.

A continental breakfast will be served from 9:30 to 10 a.m.,



*Pastor Herrera, retired director of L.A. County’s Department of Consumer Affairs, now Consumer and Business Affairs, and retiree Armando Nogal, who has joined the RELAC staff, at the holiday luncheon which was preceded by a general membership meeting.*

## Munch & A Movie

### RELAC, Southland Credit Union Co-Sponsor Showing of “City Slickers”

RELAC will co-host a showing of comedian Billy Crystal’s iconic movie, “City Slickers,” as part of a new, recreational activity dubbed “Munch & A Movie.” The showing will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2026 at Starlight Cinema, 5200 Faculty Ave., Lakewood Center Mall in Lakewood, California.

The showing begins at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are \$15 each and may be purchased by calling the RELAC office at (626) 308-0532. RELAC will give each member and guest a \$15 snack bar voucher.

Southland Credit Union, a longtime supporter of RELAC, is co-sponsoring the movie event. The financial institution has created a web page specifically for RELAC members, which includes membership information and a \$50 match offer for new accounts. More information is available at <https://www.southlandcu.org/RELAC>.

“Our members are active and welcome opportunities to get together in a casual, social setting,” said Linda C. Hopkins, RELAC President. “With Munch & A Movie we want our members to enjoy a good movie and perhaps meet up with colleagues they may not have seen in a while,” she said.

“City Slickers” is the classic comedy in which Crystal and two New York City friends learn how to be cowboys from Oscar-winning actor Jack Palance. The movie follows their journey under the tutelage of Palance’s gruff character.



*Photo: Arthur Schatz/Time Life Pictures/Getty Images*

### Did You Know?

**Cesar Estrada Chavez  
(Cesar Chavez)**

**March 31, 1927 – April 23, 1993**

Cesar Chavez was a dedicated labor leader, who led boycotts, marches and several hunger strikes to improve the quality of life of farmworkers. He was born in Yuma, Arizona and worked tirelessly to increase the salaries and working conditions of farmworkers. In 1962, he co-founded the National Farm Workers Association, which later became United Farm Workers (UFW).

Chavez was a proponent of non-violence and led a national boycott of California table grape growers that lasted for several years. In the end, the UFW obtained signed contracts with many growers that improved compensation and labor conditions. Chavez also raised awareness of the dangers of pesticides to workers’ health.

In 2014, President Barack Obama announced that Chavez’ birthday, March 31, would be recognized as a federal commemorative holiday.

## President's Message *Continued from pg. 1*

Walk will be held Saturday, April 25, at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum in Exposition Park.

Our close alliance with Los Angeles County Employee Associations - African-American, Chicano, Filipino, Vietnamese and others - broadens and informs RELAC's outreach activities.

As we enter the Spring season, RELAC is coordinating with Southland Credit Union on "Financial Wellness" webinars for members. The online sessions will share basic investment information. More details to come on the website and via e-mail blasts. As always, send me your feedback at [AskLinda@relac.org](mailto:AskLinda@relac.org).

## State Enacts in January "A Do Not Call Registry" for Digital Footprints

by Joseph Kelly, RELAC Member  
Treasurer-Tax Collector and Public Administrator (Ret.)

In 2019 the California Legislature passed Assembly Bill 1202, which enhanced consumer privacy rights by requiring data brokers to register with the California Attorney General. A data broker was defined as a business that knowingly collects and sells personal information of consumers without a direct relationship with them.

The law mandated data brokers to disclose their data collection practices and to provide consumers with the right to opt out of the sale of their personal information. The law also established a public registry of data brokers and imposed civil penalties for non-compliance.

Although the Attorney General published the list of registered data brokers, the onus was on the consumer to contact each broker individually to request data deletion. Several years ago, I chose five data brokers from this list and attempted to complete the data deletion process myself. It was a fragmented, exhausting process that required the completion of a lot of paperwork, some of which I had to have notarized. Several firms also required copies of government-issued IDs.

As a result, for-profit firms arose with a business objective of deleting consumer data from the data brokers on behalf of the consumer. I enrolled with such a firm, at a cost of \$100. After a year, they were successful in deleting my data from a dozen firms. There were more than 500 data brokers registered with the Attorney General at that time.

In 2023 the Legislature passed the Delete Act. Under the act, oversight of data brokers moved from the Attorney General to a newly created California Privacy Protection Agency (CPPA). The act required the agency to develop a centralized system where California residents could make a single request that would apply to all registered data brokers. Data brokers are required to check this system every 45 days and delete the records of all those who requested deletion. This centralized system is known as DROP, the Delete Request and Opt-out Platform, and went live in early January 2026. I attempted to enroll

twice, but each time identified a bug that prevented me from completing my enrollment. I reported the bugs to the CPPA and the agency addressed them quickly, allowing me to complete my enrollment.

Enrollment requires three bits of information that you might want to assemble before you start the process. A Mobile Advertising ID (MAID) is a unique identifier assigned to a mobile device. If you have an iPhone, you will need to download a third-party app to obtain your MAID. A Connected TV ID is a unique identifier assigned to a smart TV and a Vehicle Identification Number

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## President Linda Hopkins Attends Celebration of Lunar New Year



*Royce Ngiam of First City Credit Union and Jackie Contreras, director, L.A. County Department of Public Social Services, meet at the VEA event.*

Los Angeles County's Vietnamese Employees Association (VEA) recently held a festive dinner to mark the Lunar New Year, which began on Tuesday, Feb. 17. It is the Year of the Fire Horse, which represents independence, energy, speed and ambition.

"It was my pleasure to join with the VEA to celebrate the Lunar New Year," said RELAC President Linda C. Hopkins. She was joined at the dinner by Debbie Martin McMullen, executive director of RELAC. "I congratulate VEA President Cathryn Lam and her team for bringing together a diverse group of employees, local leaders and supporters to commemorate the Lunar New Year," said Ms. Hopkins.

A capacity crowd attended the Tet Celebration held at the Capital Seafood Restaurant, 755 W. Garvey Ave., in Monterey Park, California. A traditional lion dance highlighted the event, where Asian American, Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders gathered to enjoy cherished traditions with family and friends.

First City Credit Union was a major sponsor of VEA's annual dinner. Also lending support were the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services and RELAC.



*RELAC President Linda C. Hopkins, right, attends the Lunar New Year celebration with VEA officials.*



*Lion dancers entertain at the celebration of the Lunar New Year of the Fire Horse.*

# RV News

## Retirees Gather in Long Beach, California

by Chickee Nelson, RELAC member

It was a beautiful and sunny day in January when the RELAC Recreation and Vehicle (RV) group met at the Original Roadhouse Grill, 7391 Carson Blvd., in Long Beach, California.

The quarterly meetings are casual gatherings for members to meet, catch up with former County colleagues, and enjoy a delicious lunch. There were 15 retirees who joined us at the Roadhouse luncheon.



RELAC members of the RV Group enjoy the quarterly luncheon at the Original Roadhouse Grill in Long Beach, California.

In attendance were Helen Quintana, whose husband Joseph transitioned recently. We miss him a lot. Others joining in the fun were Jonathan Joseph Quintana, Kenneth Quintana, Betsy Morgon, Norman Nelson, Dave and Jan Coleman, Janet Cerato, Janice Hayhurst, Bob and Linda Reyes, Leon and Dian Stegall, Fred Weinberg and Randy Forney.

New members welcomed. **Next meeting will be Thursday, March 12, at Lucille's Smokehouse Bar-B-Que, 7411 E. Carson St., Long Beach, California 90808.** For more information, contact Mike Reyes at (909) 556-8751.

## Happy Birthday RELAC Centenarians

### March

- Florence Beatty**, 101, Collections
- Frances E. Duffy**, 102, District Attorney
- Effi A. Martinez**, 100, Sheriff
- Patricia S. McGrath**, 100, Public Social Services
- Estella J. Tompkins**, 104, Sheriff

### April

- Esther T. Abe**, 101, Unknown
- Robert S. Hammond**, 100, Health Programs

## Welcome New Members

December 2025 & January 2026

- Richard Amador, Larry C. Anthony, Richard Diaz** - Fire
- Cynthia Apodaca** - Public Library
- Carmen Arroyo, Maricela Mendoza, Junius Perkins, Lina Ramirez** - Public Social Services
- Detris Bush, Sonya Noil** - Children & Family Services
- Kristy Cruz, Jose Mejia, Robert Ogden, Patricia A. Oliver, Dawn Retzlaff** - Sheriff
- Elva Espinoza** - Parks and Recreation
- Vicky L. Hadley** - District Attorney
- Joaquin Herrera** - Public Works
- Willie Leffall** - Probation
- Laura Rinard** - Auditor-Controller
- Debra Sims, Audry Ward** - Public Defender
- Mary Traylor, Nancy Williams** - Assessor
- Claudette Williams** - Health Services
- Janet Yarbrough** - Animal Care & Control
- Bonnie S. Zanardi** - Internal Services

### No Department Listed

- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Rachel Arreguin       | Arthur Marrujo   |
| Sharon M. Darensbourg | Harriet Minke    |
| Sherrie Y. Day        | Evelyn Pedersen  |
| Marilynne Garrison    | Patricia M. Pena |
| Lucia A. Gonzalez     | Lupe Prado       |
| Savitri Goud          | Leona Ramirez    |
| Rebecca Jimenez       | Raghdah Salahi   |
| Nam Kieu              | Major Sellers    |
| Jaekie Kwon           | Denise White     |

### Associate Members

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Donna Anthony    | Hyock Kwon           |
| Bertram L. Day   | Lorraine Marrujo     |
| Victor Galvan    | Alexandro N. Ramirez |
| Patricia H. Jose | Addie Sellers        |

### New Member Referrals

#### Thank You!

(Editor's Note: New member in bold followed by referring RELAC member.)

- Detris Bush** - Marilynne Garrison
- Nancy Williams** - Penny Trujillo





## Inside LA County

by Judy Hammond, RELAC Member,  
L.A. County Director of Public Affairs (Ret.)

Despite voters' approval in 2024 of a half-cent sales tax increase to fund homeless services - projected to raise approximately \$1.1 billion annually - the County's new Homeless Services and Housing Department is facing a \$200 million cut in fiscal year 2026-27. Department Director Sarah Mahin, in delivering the news to the Board of Supervisors, cited reduced state and federal funding, and higher housing costs for the 25 percent cut.

Additionally, when Measure A was drafted, it allocated a portion of the new revenue to groups other than the County - specifically cities and councils of government, the County Development Authority and the L.A. County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency - so there are a lot of fingers in the pie.

The County is delaying payout of settlement funds to persons who said they were sexually abused while in County facilities as children while the District Attorney's Office investigates questionable claims. The D.A.'s Office said it has found a significant number of cases that may be fraudulent.

As part of the County's corrective action plan to prevent future child sexual abuse, 2-1-1 operators are available around-the-clock to take reports of known or suspected abuse committed by County employees, contractors and volunteers. Information can also be provided online at [211la.org/report-childsexualabuse](http://211la.org/report-childsexualabuse). The reports are flagged for a senior County team charged with assessing claims and expediting investigations.

The County's George C. Page Museum and the eastern side of Hancock Park in Los Angeles will be closing this fall for almost two years for a \$234 million renovation. The plan is to have the project completed in time for the Olympics in July 2028. The Board of Supervisors in January gave the go-ahead for the project after approving minor changes to the Natural History Museum La Brea Tar Pits master plan initially approved in February 2025, including implementation of the project in phases. Supervisors have committed \$22 million to the project; the rest will be raised by the museum's foundation.

The Natural History Museum (NHM) has received its largest-ever donation to build a Center for Ice Age Research at the La Brea Tar Pits. The amount was not disclosed, but comes from the Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Oschin Family Foundation. NHM President and Director Lori Bettison-Varga described the center as the "intellectual backbone" of the site's Reimagine project to make the Tar Pits more accessible. The Page Museum and Tar Pits comprise 13 acres of the 23-acre Hancock Park.

The County Commission on Human Relations said there were 1,355 hate crimes in the County in 2024, the second highest in the 44 years that the agency has compiled the hate crime report.



The Board of Supervisors certified the environmental impact report for the San Gabriel Valley Greenway Network strategic implementation plan and program - an effort to transform about 130 miles of Flood Control District right-of-way into a connected, regional greenway system. Supervisor Hilda Solis said the project will create safer, greener and more accessible corridors for walking, biking and recreation.

Supervisor Janice Hahn and Fire Chef Anthony Marrone are opposing an effort by the Catalina Island Conservancy to eradicate the island's mule deer population. Marrone says eliminating the entire deer population would increase the wildfire risk because the deer keep the vegetation in check.

Eric Neff, who was placed on administrative leave by the District Attorney's Office in 2022 after being accused of misconduct in the prosecution of the chief executive officer of software company Konnech, is now acting chief of the voting section of the federal Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, following the departure of Maureen Riordan. Neff filed the case against Eugene Yu after working with the election denial group True the Vote, saying Yu was guilty of fraud and embezzlement because his company stored pollworker information on a server in China, in violation of its County contract. The case was dropped six weeks later and the County ultimately paid Yu \$5 million and joined a motion to find him factually innocent as part of a legal settlement.

More than \$363 million in medical debt has been forgiven to 171,000 residents since the County began its medical debt relief program, and notices have been going out to another 39,000 to eliminate an additional \$180 million. To qualify, residents must have a household income at or below 400 percent of the federal poverty level or medical debt equaling 5 percent of more of their annual income.

**New offices:** The Veterans and Military Family Services has opened a new location at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Behavioral Health Center on Wilmington Avenue in South Los Angeles. Assessor Jeff Prang has opened an office inside the Beverly Hills Courthouse, the seventh in-person location for residents to conduct business with his office.

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By unanimous vote, the L.A. Metro Board approved an underground rail project through the Sepulveda Pass, setting the stage for the first transit connection between the Westside and the San Fernando Valley. Currently the only way residents can travel to and from these areas is by the 405 Freeway through the Sepulveda Pass, with trips taking 60-90 minutes each way. The underground rail is estimated to take 20 minutes or less.

L.A. Metro's new in-house police department will have a special division called Care-Based Services with crisis response teams, which will handle certain situations instead of sworn officers. The incidents to be addressed by the teams include homeless persons riding without paying and taking up several seats, and mentally ill persons screaming at passengers.

Graduation ceremonies were held for the first all-female group of cadets to complete the intensive residential firefighter training program at a renovated facility in Calabasas. Launched in 2024, the program prioritizes individuals impacted by the justice care and foster care systems and veterans. There were 14 individuals in the all-female class.

Supervisor Kathryn Barger calls the new High Desert Mental Health Center "a gamechanger for the Antelope Valley." Residents having a mental health crisis will no longer have to leave their community to find help. The campus, Barger said, provides meaningful alternatives to unnecessary emergency room visits and hospitalizations and will help to stabilize and support individuals struggling with mental illness.

**Correction:** In the January-February 2026 edition, it was mentioned that the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art in Exposition Park in Los Angeles was open. In fact, while nearing completion, the Lucas Museum will not open to the public until Sept. 22. Thanks to RELAC member John Krueger for bringing this error to our attention. We apologize for any inconvenience caused by the error.

## **DHS Retired Managers Update: Online Learning Increases**

*by Barry Hunt, RELAC Member*

The New Year has been a busy time as I have been active online via Zoom teaching classes, presenting at industry conferences, peer-reviewing scholarly articles for academic journals (Scholastica), and compiling my annual RTP (retention, tenure and promotion) file at Cal State Los Angeles.

There also has been a lot of time spent coaching promising young graduate students for upcoming ACHE College Bowl case study competitions with teams from other universities in the Western States.

Like colleagues, I am as positive about our profession now as when I started at LAC+USC Medical Center decades ago. The goal remains the same - motivating outstanding college students to



*Barry Hunt congratulates Joanie Harmon, colleague, who received an award from the Los Angeles Press Club at its annual gala last year. Hunt encouraged Harmon, a contributor to the Los Angeles Sentinel newspaper, to join the Press Club in 2006.*

pursue a career in the health-care field. In my opinion, it's still an exciting and rewarding career path and calling.

Healthcare management and hospital administration in all sectors (public, non-profit, university-based, religious-based and investor-owned) offer great opportunities to make a difference. Despite heavy workloads, it keeps us young, it's rewarding and delightful, most of the time.

I am also working with faculty in Spanish, French and German universities to better use new online tools for innovation, teaching and researching. These tools provide for multilingual vocabulary building and "thinking outside the box."

(Editor's Note: The above information was taken from the Retired DHS Managers Newsletter and is published by RELAC with permission.)

## **Letters to the Editor**

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Board for the 25-Year Award of Commendation and the generous gift card. This acknowledgment is deeply meaningful to me, and I am grateful for the support, dedication, and sense of community that the organization provides to retired employees of Los Angeles County. Thank you again for this thoughtful recognition and for your continued commitment to serving and supporting retired employees.

**Ruth Lozano**  
**Murrieta, California**

Thank you very much for your nice birthday card and wishes. I will continue to have a life full of happiness, success, and love, while I enjoy every moment making beautiful memories. Thank you all for your continued and dedicated service to us retirees!

**Vincent Kan**  
**Northridge, California**

I received a very beautifully written letter enclosed with a \$50.00 Visa gift card for referring one of my comrades to RELAC. Thank you so much! I really appreciate the gift card.

**Sara Gonzales Mason**  
**Sun Valley, California**

## News from LACERA *Continued from pg. 2*

Fortunately for us, the Boards of Retirement and Investments have appointed Luis Lugo as the new CEO of LACERA. He has served as Deputy CEO for several years and was named Acting CEO during Kreimann's leave of absence. It has been a pleasure working for Lugo, who also has been a tireless champion helping to move LACERA forward, focusing on continuing to create a culture of service to our members, innovation, efficiency, compliance and staff development.

Luis has led LACERA's implementation of the Board of Retirement's 2023-2028 Strategic Plan, empowering staff to improve service by focusing on creating a digital strategy that improves service levels and creates opportunities for self-service across many channels.

So, while changes will occur LACERA will continue to be a strong steward of your retirement benefits.

Shifting gears, I want to share a few things we are working on. I am super excited about a partnership LACERA has established with RELAC on the annual campaign in support of the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank. Stay tuned for more details on this charitable food drive. LACERA staff has a long tradition of volunteering for various charitable activities, including an annual Adopt-A-Family effort and donating school supplies to County students.

Creating and developing a digital strategy is one of the objectives of our Superior Member Experience efforts. We continue to implement a new contact center system powered by Genesys. The team recently closed phase one of the process by finishing the call flow design, and our tech teams and business partners now are busy configuring the components for testing. We may be able to debut the new system by July of this year.

One feature of the system is designed to reduce the time to validate a retiree's identification before speaking with a retirement benefit specialist. The new system will attempt to identify a retiree and open the account for the specialist based on a telephone number, and provide an opportunity to go through LACERA's Universal Identification process before being transferred to a specialist. These two steps will save time on each call, resulting in staff taking more calls while reducing the wait time for members.

Other key projects in development include a LACERA app for use on phones and expanding the organization's social media presence with more content and engagement.

We will share tips, reminders, announcements and achievements on Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram. Follow us on these social media platforms.

Before I close, I want to encourage members who are receiving benefits by check to seriously consider changing to a Direct Deposit payment method or using LACERA's Way2Go Prepaid Mastercard. We are receiving messages from an increasing number of members who report they have not received their checks. Weather conditions beyond our control and untimely U.S. postal delivery may impact delivery of the checks. Direct Deposit and Way2Go Prepaid Mastercard also reduce potential fraud and theft of payments.

## State Enacts "A Do Not Call Registry"

*Continued from pg. 4*

(VIN) is a unique identifier assigned to a vehicle. All three of these identifiers allow advertisers to track a user's activity within apps and across different platforms.

Before you enroll in DROP, you should understand that you are only deleting your data with each registered broker. DROP does not delete data from companies with which you have a direct relationship (e.g., Amazon and Google). Government agencies and others use data they obtain from data brokers for legitimate purposes. For example, the County's Public Administrator (PA) settles estates of those persons who die in the county who do not have any heirs known at the time of death. PA staff regularly search data broker data sites for information on next of kin or former neighbors of the decedent.

Empower, the administrator for the County's deferred compensation program, also uses information from data brokers (e.g., dollar value of mortgage payment or the firm with which you have an auto lease) to confirm the identity of persons with whom it interacts over the telephone. If you delete your data via DROP, how does Empower intend to verify your identity? I spoke to county staff about the impact of DROP on these processes I mentioned. They are aware of DROP and will monitor its impact.

One way to address concerns about the impact to you of deleting your data from all registered data brokers is to request deletion from all but one or two. DROP does allow for this, but you would need to research the list of registered data brokers to identify those that you would not delete.

DROP is particularly noteworthy given the failed attempts to regulate data brokers at the federal level. The most notable attempt was the American Privacy Rights Act (APRA), which gained momentum in 2024 and 2025.

As of January 2026, there is still no comprehensive federal law that allows for a "one-stop" deletion request like California's DROP system.

## RELAC

### NEWSLETTER

Vol. 61 – Mar/Apr 2026  
Number 2

Retired Employees  
of Los Angeles County  
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## Board of Directors

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**Linda C. Hopkins**

Vice President

**Bobbie Fesler**

Secretary

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**Les Robbins**

**Diane Sandoval**

Executive Director

**Debbie Martin**

**McMullen**

Editor:

**Victoria Pipkin Lane.**

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Office Hours

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Monday - Thursday

Closed Friday,

Saturday, Sunday &

Public Holidays



Anderson Bates Beall McClellan Espinoza Gehry Huntsman Jacobs Kreimann Mathies Neal

**DEATHS:** **James (Jim, JJ, Jimmy) Jacobs**, 83, who retired as a trial attorney in the District Attorney's Office in 1998 after 26 years, continuing his dual career as a reserve deputy sheriff until December 2024 after 50 years of service. **Lewis (Weta) Austin Mathies**, 92, a founding member and subsequent president of CARES, the auxiliary of the County+USC Medical Center; her late husband, Allen, was dean of USC's School of Medicine from 1975-85, dying in 2023 at 93. **Gildon Noel Beall**, 97, former chief of medical clinics at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center who devoted his career to the study and care of AIDS patients; the HIV-AIDS Clinic at the facility is named in his honor. He continued to teach at the Immunology Clinic at the hospital until 2018, when he turned 90. World-renowned architect **Frank Gehry**, 96, designer of the County's iconic Walt Disney Concert Hall; after brief respiratory illness. Retired Fire Capt. **Richard "Dick" Neal**, as one of the first 12 paramedics in the department, played a crucial role in shaping the future of emergency medical services in the region. Following retirement, he volunteered his time and expertise to support and mentor paramedics and other first responders. Reserve Deputy Sheriff **Mark Nelson**, a 52-year member of the San Dimas Mountain Rescue Team. Retired Fire Capt. **Dyrck McClellan**, who became a county firefighter in 1971 when Huntington Park began contracting for fire services, volunteering as a docent at the L.A. County Fire Museum following retirement. Retired Sheriff's Lt. **Steve Maggiora**, serving from 1973 to 2010. Retired Lt. **Joe Jones**, who retired from the Office of Public Safety in 2004 after 37 years of service. **John O. Morrell**, 82, who began his County career as a typist clerk in the Department of Public Social Services, retiring 41 years later in 2003 as assistant director. **Dr. Stella Robinson**, 103, who was the first black instructor to teach in a registered nursing program in California when she was hired in 1952 by the L.A. County Hospital School of Nursing. **Teresa Terry Mitchell**, 66, a prosecutor in the District Attorney's Office for 36 years.

**RETIREMENTS:** LACERA Chief Executive Officer **Santos Kreimann**, who has been on medical leave since March 2025, with almost 30 years of County service, including as chief deputy assessor, deputy chief executive officer for operations and capital projects, director of the Beaches and Harbors Department, and senior positions within the Chief Administrative Office, Department of Health Services, and Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office. **Max Huntsman**, 60, named in 2015 as the County's first inspector general, charged with oversight of the Sheriff and Probation departments. He began working at the District Attorney's Office in 1991, handling political corruption and police misconduct cases, retiring with 34 years, three months service. **Richard Bendall**, chief of the internal audit division at LACERA, with 38 years, six months service. **Elva Espinoza**, executive secretary at the Parks and Recreation Department, with more than 34 years of service; currently working as an administrative assistant at RELAC. **Deborah Childs**, long-time attorney in the County Counsel's probate division, with more than 39 years of service. **Larita Edwards**, member of the County Counsel's support staff, with more than 26 years of service.

**ELECTIONS:** RELAC Director **James "JP" Harris**, serving his third term as the elected retiree trustee on the LACERA Board of Retirement, named chair, succeeding **Les Robbins**, who is the new secretary. Robbins, also a RELAC director, is the longest-serving LACERA trustee, first elected in 1997.

**APPOINTMENTS:** **Eric D. Bates**, who was serving as assistant inspector general for L.A. County, named the interim inspector general. Prior to joining the County, Bates was a special assistant inspector general with the state Office of the Inspector General and a deputy attorney general with the state Department of Justice.

**HONORS:** The Environmental Justice Center at the Puente Hills Landfill Park (now known as the Esperanza Hills Regional Park) in Hacienda Heights area renamed in honor of **Supervisor Hilda Solis**, who worked for more than 30 years to transform the landfill into a public park. The Castaic Sports Complex renamed in honor of **Ryan M. Clinkunbroomer**, a 30-year-old fourth-generation L.A. County sheriff's deputy ambushed and murdered in 2023. The portion of State Route 91 from the Glassell Street overpass to the N. Tustin Avenue overpass named in honor of Sheriff's Deputy **David Piquette**, who was killed in a July 2006 traffic collision on the highway while traveling to the department's training academy. "I've Been to Heaven," a book by former Daily News reporter **Troy Anderson**, who covered the County government beat from 1999 to 2010, rated number 23 in the Evangelical Christian Publishing Association Bestsellers list in January in the "Christian New Releases" category.

**COURTS:** **Alexander Soofer**, 42, chief executive officer of the nonprofit Abundant Blessings, charged by the D.A.'s Office of defrauding the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority of more than \$5 million, approximately \$2 million of which allegedly went toward his own properties or was accounted for through fraudulent invoices between 2022 and 2024. **Elliot Tramel Nowden**, 47, sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for robbing and stabbing to death a Metro train passenger who was on her way home after working an overnight shift in 2024. He was previously convicted of stabbing a USC student in the chest on the Expo Line in 2019 and was sentenced to four years in prison. Eleven County employees charged with felony grand theft for allegedly fraudulently claiming unemployment benefits while working full-time between 2020 and 2023. They are: **Alejandro Mendez Albarado**, 45, Sheriff's senior equipment maintenance worker;



# Golf News

by Gil Sandoval, RELAC Golf Director

## Chester Washington Golf Tournament 1/26/2026

It was a great day to play golf, and we were blessed with good weather.

Katy Stringer and Les Sexton lead the way by winning each of their flights with Net 65s. Norma Gutierrez took 2nd behind Katy with a Net 74. Dee Dee Carter took 3rd place with a Net 76.

Once again I want to remind RELAC members there is an open invitation for women to join the golf program and play in the RELAC tournaments! Visit the website at [www.relac.org/golf](http://www.relac.org/golf).

The "A" Flight was an easy win for Bobby Bradford with a Net 67. Bob Egusa edged out Dave Runke, Mike Ford, and Michael Hernandez by one stroke at Net 73 for 2nd place. Third place was secured by Dave over Mike and Michael in a card off, as both brought in Net 74s. It was just like a horse race with an exciting finish!

The "B" Flight was a win for Michael Oden with a Net 66, and Frank Davanzo following with a Net 69, taking 2nd place. Yours truly trailed Oden and Davanzo, taking 3rd place at Net 74.

Winning the "C" Flight with a nice Net 65 was Les Sexton. Ernest Jones III placed 2nd with a Net 76, and because both Richard Duran and Terry Black shot Net 78s, they ended up in a card off with Richard taking 3rd place.

RELAC is now accepting registrations and payments online! Please visit the RELAC website at [www.relac.org](http://www.relac.org). and follow the link to activities (Golf) for information on future golf tournaments and registration information. RELAC welcomes you and your friends who play golf, so encourage them to join us at a tournament. The golf schedule for 2026 is available on the website!



Golfers enjoy a recent round of golf at Lakewood Golf Course.

Moving forward, we are in the planning stages of a RELAC golf tournament fundraiser, scheduled for Monday, October 26, 2026 at Lakewood Golf Course. More details will be available on the website and in future newsletters. Remember to Save the Date, which is October 26, 2026. Proceeds from the golf tournament will benefit RELAC's scholarship program, which awards five, \$1,000 scholarships annually to eligible relatives of members.

**The next golf tournament will be on Monday, March 23, 2026 at Los Verdes Golf Course, 7000 W. Los Verdes Drive, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275.**

**Deadline to submit entries is Friday, March 6, 2026. Mail entry to:** RELAC – Attn: Golf Program, 1000 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra, California 91803.

### Chester Washington Golf Tournament Results

"A" Flight Winners (19 & under)		"C" Flight Winners (27 & above)		Closest to the Pin	
1st Bobby Bradford	(67)	1st Les Sexton	(65)	Men	#2 – Greg Mason
2nd Bob Egusa	(73)	2nd Ernest Jones III	(76)		#4 – Bobby Bradford
3rd Dave Runke	(74)	3rd Richard Duran	(78)		#19 – Eddie Otero
"B" Flight Winners (20-26)		Ladies Flight		Women	
1st Michael Oden	(67)	1st Katy Stringer	(65)		#2 – Dee Dee Carter
2nd Frank DaVanzo	(69)	2nd Norma Gutierrez	(74)		#5 – Katy Stringer
3rd Gil Sandoval	(74)	3rd Dee Dee Carter	(76)		#10 – Norma Gutierrez

# Winners Announced for Recruiting Members, Valentine's Day Drawings

Congratulations to the 10 RELAC members whose names were selected in a random drawing to win a \$50 gift card for recruiting new members.

## The winners of the 2026 drawing are:

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Linda Balderrama</b> | <b>Nasaria Mason</b>    |
| <b>Daphne Bates</b>     | <b>Linda J. Nichols</b> |
| <b>Brenda Doyle</b>     | <b>Susan Rahn</b>       |
| <b>Paula Gamboa</b>     | <b>Sheila Woods</b>     |
| <b>Beverly Jacobs</b>   | <b>Steve Zaragoza</b>   |

RELAC began the annual drawing in 2021 to build membership and show appreciation to members for their recruitment efforts. To qualify for the 2027 drawing, members need to recruit a new member (or two or three), and have them put your name on the membership application as making the referral.

Members whose names were not selected this year will be automatically re-entered in the 2027 drawing. There is no limit to how many times a member may win as each referral earns one chance in the drawing.

RELAC encourages members to actively help grow the organization by recruiting former colleagues and other L.A. County retirees.

"Winners of the Valentine's Day drawing were selected randomly from the database," said Debbie Martin McMullen, Executive Director of RELAC. "It's a popular event for retirees, and each winner receives a \$50 gift card," she said.

## RELAC members who will receive the Valentine's Day award are:

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Joan Powell</b>   | <b>Bueasondra Lucien</b> |
| <b>Diane Ricks</b>   | <b>Constance Martin</b>  |
| <b>Lily Lee Chen</b> |                          |

## PASSAGES Continued from pg. 9

**Brandon Joseph Batiste**, 34, Public Works warehouse employee; **Dina Liza Wolf**, 56, Health Services licensed vocational nurse; **Elizabeth Jacinto**, 68, Public Social Services eligibility worker; **Georgette McKinney**, 59, Child Support Services supervising child support specialist; **Jessica Alcorta**, 47, District Attorney legal office support assistant; **Khristine Louise Canero**, 35, Health Services relief nurse; **Manuel Martinez**, 65, Health Services electrician; **Racheal Nalutaaya**, 42, Health Services nursing attendant; **Soo Manai**, 70, Health Services licensed vocational nurse; **Terry Beasley II**, 44, Probation detention services officer.

# IN MEMORIAM

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

## NOVEMBER 2025

**Ambulatory Care Network** - Maria L. Vargas  
**Animal Control** - Henry John Guerrero  
**Assessor** - Frederick C. Chisholm, Freddie B. Gates, Glenda H. Jackson, J Bernard Johnson  
**Chief Executive Office** - Joe M. De Silva, Jr., Donna P. Seitz  
**Child Support Services** - Brenda J. Coleman, Diane Crosson  
**Children & Family Services** - Befekadu Mamo, Eddie Florence Jr., Heidi Ingalsbe, Lovia J. Pitts, Marie E. Lewis, Rhonda Y. Humphrey, Travis Kelly, Virginia Murrell, Wannisha Ebonie Efferson  
**Correctional Health** - Theresa M. Ajab  
**Human Resources** - Laura J. Odem  
**District Attorney** - Juanita Cortinas, Clarita G. Karlin  
**Engineer Facilities** - Elmer E. Wachter  
**Fire** - William F. Alleman, Scott C. Gardner, John T. Haggemiller, Robert J. Ricard  
**Flood Control District** - James P. Roy  
**Forestry & Fire Warden** - William F. Alleman  
**Harbor-UCLA Medical Center** - John R. Benfield, Patricia A. Brassard, Joeanne Kinard, Kinna Robin, Jane Jj Shin, Roger S. Tamura, Louise Thrift  
**Health Services Administration** - Benjamin Cortez, Maurice Gordon, Rochelle E. Jeter, Lavender Mehrali, Beverly K. Rogers, Vanessa D. Young  
**Internal Services** - Forrest R. Artry, Donald R. Dunagan, Mary A. Gilliam, Amanda M. Gutierrez, Lynn C. Peltcher Jr., Karen M. Pimentel  
**Juvenile Court Health Services** - Violet J. Hall  
**King-Drew Medical Center** - Hyacinth M. Grant, Brenda M. Van Travis  
**LAC+USC Medical Center** - Richard Bush, Lavatus S. Donerson, Rose N. Ekejiuba, Alicia Escobedo, Harry Ewell, Michael A. Laudano, Joe J. Lechuga, Asako Nakamura, Mary E. Newman, James W. Robinson, Zoila F. Vasquez, Beatriz Venegas, Eric Damon Wanza, Phyllis M. Williams, Kenneth C. Yu  
**LACERA** - James Rice

**Mechanical** - George Hernandez  
**Mental Health** - Maria Martinez, Elizabeth K. McGinley, Sandra Santini, Gale C. Sheflin  
**Office Of Public Safety** - William D. Varner Jr.  
**Olive View/UCLA Medical Center** - Roger Floyd Hughes, Helen Reynolds, Helen F. Russell, Margaret M. Schaffer  
**Probation** - Bernardo Rocko Del Giglio, Larry J. Dorsey, Joan C. Hostetter, Virginia C. Jones, Edward W. Lally, Gregory J. Mc Covey, Linton G. Morgan, Thomas E. Waljeski  
**Public Defender** - Alan J. Gelfand, Marc A. Hentell  
**Public Health Program** - Wayne Boylan, Walton Brown, Joseph G. Heinz, Anita T. Lorca, Marina Riebeling, Evangeline Sedillo  
**Public Library** - Gary K. Cummings, James P. McGee, Gregory T. Mullen, Kim L. Peters  
**Public Social Services** - Gladys F. Allen, Marilyn Anderson, Loc S. Bach, Stella Black, Sarah M. Brandon, Mattie B. Brown, William Glenn Bucknam, Ruth C. Cho, Ruben Edmondson, Patricia J. Gallagher, Elizabeth Guillen, Donnie R. Howard, Ann L. Jankowski, Magdalena Maciel, Alonzo G. Markham, Joanna Mercier, Ilona Miklosi, Martina R. Ramirez, Waldo A. Salmon, Mary Ann Seltzer, Catherine Troutman, Alfredo Ubanos, Marjorie Walton, Elsie Yang, Rita C. Ybarra  
**Public Works** - Lee R. Alton, Richard A. Brundage, Venita C. Ewing, Max Ralph Georgi, Gary Maschmeyer, Roberto M. Renteria  
**Reg-Recorder/County Clerk** - Morcos S. Said  
**Sheriff** - Richard C. Brooks, James A. Ciglan, Donald J. Fandry, Robert Gibson Ford, Gaylen Gastineau, Eileen R. Jackley, Lynn Lewis Mallonee, Alfonso D. Medina, Terry J. Moody, Darlene Carole Nichols, Cres R. Ramirez, M Jeanne Robertson, Christian S. Torricelli, Kenneth C. Waters, Patrick J. Weston  
**Superior Court/County Clerk** - Aliya F. Blue, Karen F. Dix, Cheryl A. McDaniel, Consuelo Montellano, Dwight K. Neumann, Yolanda G. Potter, Jean Mary Sadowsky, Kireteri Saleapaga, Brenda S. Skinner-Armstrong, Francine Tillage  
**Unidentified County Agency** - Dorothy Mack

## DECEMBER 2025

**Agricultural Comm./Wts & Meas.** - Philip C. Barnes  
**Aids Program** - Virginia M. Brown  
**Assessor** - Edward Ray  
**Auditor - Controller** - Boyd K. Biggs, Virginia J. Broker, Susana A. Robles, Ronald A. Ross  
**Board Of Supervisors** - Charlotte R. Brasfield, Susanna C. Erdos, Marian A. Platner  
**Chief Executive Office** - James L. Camp, Timothy C. Gust  
**Child Support Services** - Antoinette M. Holland  
**Children & Family Services** - Randy S. Adams, Sandra Buswell, Edward Chavez, Alfonso Garcia, Kimberly Fuentes, Patricia L. Hall, Sylvia Khan, Patricia Perez, Letisia Rodriguez, Maria R. Sanchez, Jettion Townsley  
**Correctional Health** - Alvin W. Napoleon  
**County Counsel** - Steven D. De Salvo, Paul H. Kim  
**District Attorney** - Michael J. Armstrong, James H. Bell, Everett L. Carroll, Beverly Meeks, Larry G. Oda  
**Engineer Facilities** - Burton Salinger  
**Fire** - Lawrence R. Booze, Kenneth D. Brown, Scott Grigsby, George W. Harms, David W. Hataway, Don E. Mc Clanahan, Dyrck C. Mc Clellan, Jack W. Mittelstadt, Richard L. Neal, Bill N. Ryland  
**Forestry & Fire Warden** - George W. Harms  
**Harbor-UCLA Medical Center** - Saturnina Abao, Gildon Beall, Ethelene Burns, Iris A. Fallin, Leonor Gonzalez, Ozella W. Henson, Mitzi V. Matherson, Edna Pugh, John Williams Puryear, Rondell A. Skelton  
**Health Services** - Gloria F. Manly  
**Health Services Administration** - Trinidad Ayala, Floyd L. Neal, Jr., Pabricia S. Stephenson, Diane Walker, Hiram Workman  
**Human Resources** - Matthew S. Kinney  
**Internal Services** - Godfrey O. Ellison, Charles M. Field, Edna L. Hall, Glenn J.

Hatzenbuhler, Frances L. Jenkins, Martha J. Johnson, Raymond E. Johnson, Annie Phillips, George D. Thomas, Jr.  
**Juvenile Court Health Services** - Jimmie H. McLeod  
**King-Drew Medical Center** - Zenaida A. De La Cruz, Zakarya M. Elgazzar, Delean Flowers, Carmen Hunt  
**LAC+USC Medical Center** - Shirley Brenner, Rebecca Burt, Delfina Candelaria, Julieta G. Cota, Emma R. Dixon-Davis, Charles Ellis, Estella F. Escobal, Luciel C. Gadson, Maxine L. Gordon, Rosie Lopez, Florida Majercik, John Malicci, Sevana Nazarian, Liem T. Nguyen, Princess M. Pryor, Maria Ramirez, Joseph Salcido, Howard Womble, Jr.  
**Medical Examiner** - Claude G. Boucher  
**Mental Health** - Neisha G. Casasola, Andrea Jones, Jules A. Weingart  
**Museum Of Natural History** - Shelley M. Cox  
**Olive View/UCLA Medical Center** - Ronald L. French, Marcella C. Gomez, Jose F. Gonzalez, Rickard L. Knapp  
**Parks & Recreation** - Jonelle R. Johnson, James Park, Gerwayne M. Tillman, Darrell R. Wanner  
**Probation** - Vincent Albert, Maurice E. Alston, Ruth E. Hall, Julie Ann Joyce, Roger K. Robinson, Kenneth J. Rogers, Charles Louis Stearns, Betty J. White  
**Public Defender** - Patricia J. Barnaby, Robert E. Hall, Bernice Hicks, Arnold T. Lester  
**Public Health Program** - Arnold Hartoonian, Albert B. Kapstrom, Donna Lashmett, Luther Wesley Shore, Ruth H. Wiggins, Gladstone Williams, Jr.  
**Public Library** - Sondra Gorodinsky  
**Public Social Services** - Suzette Andry, Ethel J. Craver, Purita D. Cruzada, Christine C. De La Torre, Shirley J. Dennis, Janet M. Earwood, Anna M. Garcia, Yeghia Harutunian, Bertha M. Jones, Pamela Jean Joslin, Delthine Mack, Margarita P. Marino, Delia Martinez, Myrna Medina, John O. Murrell, Mary J. Nicola, Judith A. Pendleton, Tenesha Mosley Voorhees, Yue Wang, Darlene N. Wyndon

*Continued on pg. 12*

## In Memoriam *Continued from pg. 11*

**Public Works** - Wayne Bell, Neal Goldman, Louis Munoz, Jr., Parimal M. Patel, Leticia Riedel, Maria Rynn, Charlie J. Sherman, Albert A. Wilson, Jr.

**Rancho Los Amigos Hospital** - Amos Emanuel Clarke, Jr., Alma J. Hill, Kikumi K. Okino, Lucy Ramirez, John Siemann, Louise Young

**Reg-Recorder/County Clerk** - Gilbert Medrano, Gerardo C. Palma, Thelma B. Palma  
**Sheriff** - Norberta Margarita Alvarez, Virgil D. Bartlett, Dwayne R. Bednar, Terence B. Bradley, Leslie L. Brooks, Elvia Castaneda, Jason G. Desjardins, Jeret K. Doiron, Vicki C. Emanuel, Charles W. Engelbart, Russell T. Fielding, Timothy I. Griego, Willie R. Haskin, Francisco E. Juarez, John M. Knight, Patrick A. Leake, Jorge D. Martinez, Susan L. Maxwell, Raymond H. Osterhues, Nicholas Paleologos, Melvin C. Parker, Joe A. Quintana, Michael E. Schliebe, Thomas D. Schmidt, Richard Stapp, William J. Stone, Jr., Gail J. Surgent, Ethel Todd, Jacqueline M. Yates

**Superior Court/County Clerk** - Mitchell G. Green, Theresa Jauregui-Gutierrez, Jane Jin, Marie T. Mc Glennen, Sun-Ying Shang, Pamela I. Stines, Diane Strollo, Jeannie Wong

**Treasurer-Tax Collector** - Mauro C. Mendoza, Duyen Nguyen, Jerene L. Reid

**Unidentified County Agency** - Isabel Cabrera Capote

**Women's Hospital** - Alice Mary Paul

**Workforce Dev Aging & Comm Svc** - Rosemary Rubal

## What's Happening

**Free LA Opera Rehearsals** – The LA Opera offers free tickets to rehearsals for its productions at the Music Center, 135 N. Grand Ave., Los Angeles, California 90012. Tickets are available only at Los Angeles County Senior Centers. Call 1 (800) 689-8514 or visit <https://ad.lacounty.gov> for details.

**La Brea Tar Pits and Museum** – 5801 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90036. Tickets for County residents are available from 3 to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday at any museum ticketing desk or kiosk. Daily senior admission is \$14 per ticket, while active or retired U.S. military members receive free daily admission with ID.

**Los Angeles County Museum of Art** – 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, California 90036. Free general admission for all visitors on the second Tuesday of each month, and free general admission to L.A. County residents Monday through Friday after 3 p.m. (closed on Wednesday). Tickets are \$16 for L.A. County senior residents, aged 65 and above, with ID. Free admission for active-duty military and their families from Memorial Day in May through Labor Day in September, is offered through the Blue Star Museums Program.

**The Huntington Library** – 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, California 91108. The first Thursday of every month is Free Day and all admissions are free of charge with advance reservation. Tickets for the following week are available beginning at 9 a.m. until sold out. There is a limit of five (5) tickets per household per calendar year.

**L.A. County Arboretum & Botanic Garden** – 301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, California 91007. On the third Tuesday of the month, admission is free. Reservations are required to receive free tickets. Daily admission for seniors aged 62 and above is \$11 per ticket.

**Natural History Museum** – 900 Exposition Park, Los Angeles, California 90007. Los Angeles County residents get free Museum admission from 3 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Seniors aged 62 and older are charged \$14 per ticket for admission. Active or retired United States military members receive free daily admission with ID. Tickets are available onsite only for Museum Free Hours and Admission. Contact [info@nhm.org](mailto:info@nhm.org), for more information.

**Japanese American National Museum** – 100 N. Central Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90012. Thursdays are free admission day from 5 to 8 p.m. Last entry is at 7:30 p.m. Every third Thursday of the month is free admission all day with the last entry at 7:30 p.m.

**Beaches & Harbors** – The calendar of events for 2026 includes a Kids Beach Cleanup on Sunday, April 12, yoga classes on Monday and Friday, Zumba classes on Tuesday and Thursday, and a weekly Marina del Rey Farmers Market on Saturdays. For detailed information, visit <https://marinadelrey.lacounty.gov>. or call (424) 526-7900.

### 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

**Email:** [admin@relac.org](mailto:admin@relac.org)  
**Website:** [www.relac.org](http://www.relac.org)

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you mail this in RELAC or  
contact RELAC by phone  
as we **DO NOT receive  
your address change  
from LACERA.***