



*Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults
Los Angeles County Community and Senior Services
Present:*

Older Americans Recognition Day Awards Program

at

*Dorothy Chandler Pavilion Music Center Grand Hall
Wednesday, May 25, 2016*

Supervisorial Districts 1, 2, & 3

**OLDER
AMERICANS
MONTH**



BLAZE A TRAIL: MAY 2016

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH



BLAZE A TRAIL: MAY 2016

Proclamation (Resolution)



“OLDER AMERICANS RECOGNITION MONTH”

May 2016

WHEREAS, for the past fifty years, the month of May has been proclaimed Older Americans Month; and

WHEREAS, the national theme for this year’s program is “Blaze a Trail;” and

WHEREAS, our older residents reinvest their resources in their communities through sharing their wisdom, talents, and time with others; and

WHEREAS, these older volunteers work with our youth, assist with the homeless, support food pantries, visit shut-ins, advocate on behalf of nursing home patients, deliver and serve meals to the elderly, provide transportation to the frail, and work in community hospitals; and

WHEREAS, through these activities and others, our older population continues to demonstrate the commitment to enhancing the quality of life for us all;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles that the month of May is declared Older Americans Month. Thursday, May 5, 2016, Thursday, May 12, 2016, and Wednesday, May 25, 2016, are designated Older Americans Recognition Days and all residents are urged to participate in appropriate ceremonies honoring these men and women.

**ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



May 25, 2016

Dear Distinguished Honorees:

On behalf of the Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults, I would like to welcome you and your guests to this prestigious event. This is our opportunity to thank you and to give you the recognition you deserve for the countless contributions you have made to help our older adults and our communities.

As I think about this year's Older American Month's theme, "Blaze a Trail," I am reminded of the important work each of you has done to lead the way and clear the path for others. With the majority of baby boomers reaching the age of 70 in a few years, we will all need to continue to blaze new trails and lead by example to ensure that older adult needs are addressed.

On behalf of my fellow Commissioners, I congratulate you and wish you many more years of productivity, good health, and happiness. Today is your day, so let us honor you today for all of your contributions.

Warmest regards,

Linda Yamauchi

Linda Yamauchi
President
Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults





May 25, 2016

Dear Distinguished Honorees:

On behalf of Los Angeles County Community and Senior Services, I would like to thank you and pay special tribute to all of your contributions to our communities throughout Los Angeles County. It is truly a blessing to celebrate the 51st Annual **Older Americans Recognition Day Awards** with you.

May is a month of fresh beginnings. Perennials bloom once again, blazing a trail of bright colors, which brings us to this year's theme: **Blaze a Trail**. It is to focus on how older adults are advocating for themselves, their peers, and their communities. Did you know that 1 in 4 older Americans make a positive impact through volunteering? Volunteering can also lead to improved physical and mental health. Older volunteers report greater life satisfaction than non-volunteers. Lastly, research suggests that those who volunteer are more likely to live longer.

While Community and Senior Services provides services and programs that "Saves Lives" to older adults in Los Angeles County year-round, Older Americans Month offers an opportunity to emphasize how older adults are engaging with and making a difference in their own communities.

On behalf of Los Angeles County Community and Senior Services, I applaud and commend you for your dedication to your communities.

Gratefully yours,

Cynthia D. Banks

Director
Los Angeles County Community and Senior Services





*The 51st Annual
Older Americans Recognition Day
Awards Program*

Wednesday, May 25, 2016
11:30 a.m.

INTRODUCTION

Commissioner Olga Sarabia

WELCOME

President Linda Yamauchi

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

Los Angeles County Fire Department Honor Guard

GREETINGS

Cynthia D. Banks, Director
Community and Senior Services

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH PROCLAMATION

Hilda L. Solis, Chair
1st Supervisorial District

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

CLOSING REMARKS

Commissioner Olga Sarabia
Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults



OLDER AMERICANS MONTH



BLAZE A TRAIL: MAY 2016

FIRST SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT



Honorable Hilda L. Solis
Chair

Jo-Ann Yanagimoto-Pinedo
Board Deputy

District 1 Commissioners

Ruth Gonzales	Angelina Jauregui
Robert Jimenez	Denise Menchaca
Samuel Park	Helen Romero Shaw
Elvia Torres	Charles Treviño
Vicente Zapata	



Freeman Allen—from the City of Claremont—has continually promoted environmental sustainability, focusing on air quality, water, and energy conservation. He was on the task force that developed the Claremont Sustainable City Plan, adopted in 2008, and was a founding member and Co-Chair of the nonprofit Sustainable Claremont. He remains an active board member of Sustainable Claremont, and he is also Sustainability Director of the Claremont League of Women Voters. Mr. Allen was a cofounder of the Claremont Home Energy Retrofit Project (CHERP), which promotes home energy efficiency. Mr. Allen was a leading advocate for Measure W, which allowed the city to borrow bonds to acquire the local water system. He contributed to the success of Claremont in the 2014 and 2015 Cool California Challenge competitions. He is involved in the Claremont Energy Challenge, which aims to reduce community-wide energy usage. Mr. Allen developed a monthly Sustainability Dialog series in cooperation with Pomona College.



Betty Ping Cheng—from the City of Monterey Park—is an outstanding member of the community and volunteer with Langley Senior Center for over 20 years. As a longtime member of the Commission on Aging, she is an excellent liaison regarding issues and service needs of the Asian Community. Betty teaches classes in English as a Second Language, providing an excellent foundation of understanding the American culture and language to Mandarin Cantonese speaking seniors. She translates the monthly lunch menu into Chinese. She sings and organizes the weekly Evergreen Chorus and translates during emergencies for non-English speaking seniors. Helping others is a way of life for Betty. She is invaluable to the center as a translator, friend, and staff volunteer.



Elaine Y. Chiu—from the City of South El Monte—is well loved by her peers and staff as she is always cheerful and very welcoming to everyone in sight.

Elaine always tries to help our senior patrons as best as she can. She arrives early in the morning to prepare tickets, silverware, monthly nutrition roster, and the daily nutrition station. Elaine has been volunteering at the senior center since 2011. She has been an active volunteer in helping in our Nutrition Program. Elaine averages 360 volunteer hours a year. It is an honor to nominate Elaine Chiu for the 2016 Older Americans Recognition Award.



Velma Davis—from the City of South Gate—has been involved in the Commission for South Gate Youth for 17 years, where she served as Chair for five years. The Youth Commission assists in many fundraising events to be able to give funds to such causes as uniforms for South Gate High School teams, to recreation programs, and other various city groups. She has been very involved with the South Gate High School Key Club, where she has dedicated over 20 years to their activities. She has been instrumental in teaching the youth how to be better citizens by teaching them to get involved with their community and volunteerism. Even after South Gate's local chapter of Kiwanis disbanded, she continued to work tirelessly with the high school students. Velma is a tireless volunteer who is always ready to help. Velma was chosen as the 2015 Azalea Queen and received the Key to the City of South Gate. For all of her contributions, many hours of dedicated service, and in recognition for her volunteerism in the City of South Gate, it is with great pride that we nominate Velma for the 2016 Older Americans Recognition Award.



Atsuko Donley—from the Little Tokyo Service Center—has been helping Nikkei Hotline (NHL), which is the first crisis hotline for the Japanese and Japanese American community, for the past nine years. Over 40,000 people have called NHL since its inception in 1986, getting help with immigration, education, traffic accidents, illness, drug abuse, relationship crises, and other emergencies. Ms. Donley comes weekly, answers the phone calls, and provides much needed information and referrals to services. In addition to her NHL volunteer work, Ms. Donley has continued to

volunteer at the Hollywood Japanese Cultural Institute and at monthly free medical seminars for Japanese speaking participants. She helps any senior who does not have family members. Ms. Donley is very committed to helping others and brings positive energy to her fellow volunteers and everyone she has contact with in the community.



Angel Espinoza—from the San Gabriel Valley Service Center—has been volunteering at the San Gabriel Valley Service Center in South El Monte for over ten years. He helps with the food pantry program every week. Angel packages bags with canned goods to give to 100 individuals and families per week. Additionally, he helps package produce every week and provides assistance when the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank gives food to our seniors once a month. Angel has helped consistently at the center, and our community appreciates and values him.



Irma Flores—from the City of Commerce—has been involved with the local Catholic Church for the past ten years. Irma began her career in volunteerism at St. Marcellinus Church where she assisted with several fundraisers to raise money to improve the church. She is also a member of the Holy Name Society, which raises money for the homeless. Irma has spent many hours volunteering at homeless shelters feeding needy families. She became a City of Commerce Volunteer in 2007 and has been busy ever since. Irma volunteers at the senior center and works at all of the special events. She jumps in and does whatever is needed. Irma is often used to interpret Spanish to English. Irma is very energetic and sociable. She is truly a one woman greeting committee. In addition to her work at the senior center, Irma volunteers with the Community Services Department packing and distributing food to the needy. Commerce is lucky to have a dedicated and hardworking volunteer like Irma Flores.



Luther W. Fortinberry—from Angelus Plaza—has logged over 3,000 hours as a devoted volunteer at its Senior Activity Center. Mr. Fortinberry prepared and cleaned-up after major events and cultural festivities. He moved tables, chairs, supplies, stages, and sound equipment. Mr. Fortinberry served as a billiards monitor in the Activity Room, where he obtains supplies and oversees the area. He is courteous, has a pleasant demeanor, is highly motivated, and is always willing to help. His stellar volunteer service has enhanced the quality of life for the seniors we serve.



Julie Gentry—from the City of Rosemead—is a perfect candidate for this very prestigious award. Julie volunteers endless hours serving the community. She is the Secretary for the Friends of the Rosemead Library. She sorts through hundreds of books twice a year for the Library's Book Sale and gathers volunteers to help run it. Julie is a member of the Dinsmoor Heritage House and Cultural Museum Committee. Many days you will find her cleaning the inside of the museum, caring for the grounds, or meeting someone who might be interested in renting the facility. One of Julie's great qualities is her love for gardening. Her kind soul comes to the City Hall and Community Center every Monday without fail, come rain or shine, and brings flowers that she puts together, or a plant that she has been growing, putting a smile on everyone's face. Julie's dedication to this community and to everyone she touches makes her a worthy recipient for this distinguished award.



Daniel Onsurez Goff—from the City of El Monte—has dedicated countless hours to volunteering for senior and youth programs. Mr. Goff's volunteer history includes eight years of coaching and supporting youth organizations, such as El Monte's Little and Pony/Coly League. Currently, Mr. Goff averages 20 hours a week volunteering at the Jack Crippen Senior Center where he assists with the nutrition program and special events. Mr. Goff's selflessness and loyalty to his

community is complemented by his affable personality. For his tireless dedication to El Monte, Mr. Goff is our Senior of the Year.



Martha Hernandez—from Potrero Heights Park Community and Senior Center—is a caring and dedicated volunteer who is very involved in several programs and activities at Potrero. She volunteers during the YWCA lunch program by helping to check in seniors, assisting with intake forms, and with setting up before the lunch program starts. Martha is also a chaperone for the Metro Seniors on the Move Rider's Club, which is a program that encourages seniors to ride public transportation. She attends meetings and assists with writing reports for the program. Martha participates weekly in the crochet club and was a very active participant in this year's donation drive of scarves and beanies for the homeless. She is always eager to help at the center and is very attentive to the center's needs. Martha has a natural giving heart and is always donating prizes and snacks for various events held at the center. It is a pleasure to have such a loving and committed volunteer at Potrero.



Sally Hoyt—from the City of Bell Gardens—has been an active and dedicated member of our community for 50 years. She volunteered in political campaigns and city commission meetings. In addition, Mrs. Hoyt has been a mentor for programs, such as Friends of the Bell Gardens Library and English as a Second Language. She is an essential part in the Bell Gardens Neighborhood Watch program while working together with the Bell Gardens Police Department. For the last ten years, she has been an active member of the Young at Heart and Club Latino holding various member positions. For all of her attributes and collaborations, the City of Bell Gardens is honored to nominate Mrs. Hoyt for the prestigious Older American Award. The leadership and commitment displayed in her volunteerism is an example to be followed by all.



Helen Jacobs—from the City of Los Angeles—has been actively involved in the community for over three decades. The last nine years she served as Vice-President of the Glassell Park Senior Citizens Center and currently serves as Parliamentarian. Her involvement has included Glendale Memorial Hospital, where she received an award for 43 years of service in the gift shop and the Glassell Park Advisory Committee for Parks and Recreations. Helen was instrumental in the establishment of the current Glassell Park Senior Center. It is with great honor, we acknowledge Helen Jacobs for this award.



Ann Lee—from the City of West Covina—helps during the lunch service everyday and takes the initiative to prepare and print out the lunch program lists. She helps organize the magazines and keeps the book and magazine area very clean. Before lunch is served in the morning, Ann fills up the water pitchers and places them out for the seniors to drink. At the end of the day, Ann takes the left over water to water the plants around the facility. West Covina is proud to honor Ann Lee for this award.



Juana “Lily” Lopez—from the Eastmont Community Center—has been a volunteer at Eastmont for over ten years. Without her help, the food distribution program would not run as smoothly as it does. Lily is very dedicated to helping her community and those less fortunate. She contributes her time and goes above and beyond when preparing the bags of food that she distributes. We are proud to have Lily as part of the Eastmont family.



Lydia Marquez—from the City of Baldwin Park—has participated as a representative in our student leadership committee for the Older Adults Program for the past four years. Lydia is always available to volunteer in many events. She was instrumental in

supporting and attending meetings with local politicians and rallied support for keeping our Older Adult Program. Lydia is a caring and giving person who brings joy to everyone she encounters on a daily basis. Baldwin Park Adult and Community Education is honored to nominate Lydia Marquez for the 51st Annual Older Americans Recognition Day.



Patricia Pangan—from the City of Bell—became a member and volunteer of the City of Bell 55+ Senior Club. With over 50 members, Patricia has taken initiative in assisting staff with the club. She is a unique and ethnically diverse individual, with five different nationalities, who loves to travel and learn about different cultures. Patricia shares her knowledge with the club to the extent of teaching club members how to move and sway to Hawaiian dances. She is an active participant of Bell’s special events and recently participated in the Second Annual 5K/Run/Walk. Patricia’s cheerful spirit and eagerness to always volunteer makes her the perfect nominee for this award.



Emma Ramirez—from the Centro Maravilla Service Center—has provided volunteer services throughout the East Los Angeles community for over six years. Emma has demonstrated her leadership ability by empowering and inspiring other senior citizens in the community. She is committed to providing her time and professional attributes at the Centro Maravilla Service Center and other centers within the East Los Angeles community. Emma currently is the lead volunteer for the First District in Motion (FDIM) Program decorating committee for all of our senior and children events. She assists with the FDIM Program, in the front office, sign-ups to events and activities, conducts community outreach on behalf of the center, and organizes events. Emma is being nominated because of her dedication, compassion, high spirit, and eagerness to always assist those in need.



Elvia Ramos—from the City of Baldwin Park—is a very active senior and contributes her time to various agencies. At the senior center, she has volunteered for the past 17 years. She is a very devoted volunteer that enjoys coming in at 7:00 a.m. to prepare coffee for our senior programs before the seniors arrive. Ms. Ramos helps organize the holiday potlucks and is always the first to sign up. She also finds the time to volunteer at her local church as a counselor for troubled teens. The teens are drawn to her for trust and comfort in which she takes great pride. It doesn't stop there, she helps with fundraising to support the missionaries by selling her homemade specialty foods, such as tamales, stuffed chili peppers, and special desserts. The City of Baldwin Park congratulates and is proud to nominate Ms. Elvia Ramos for the 2016 Los Angeles County Older Americans Recognition Day Award.



Maria C. Rodriguez—from the City of Irwindale—has served the community by being a lifetime member of the Ladies Auxiliary Post 113. With her service, she has held numerous positions, such as Second Vice President, Third Vice President, Chaplain, and Sergeant of Arms. In the past years, she also held office for the State of California and National Ladies Auxiliary. Her passion is to serve those who served our country. Maria volunteered at the Veterans Clinic. She dedicates her time to her home post of Irwindale AMVETS Post 113 by helping Veteran families for holiday programs. Maria is an active member in the Irwindale Sister City Club and volunteers in fundraising efforts. Irwindale is proud to nominate Maria C. Rodriguez for this award.



Amadita Sanchez—from the City of Pico Rivera—at the age of 89, has made several contributions to improving her community. As a founding member and the Treasurer of the Pico Rivera Christmas Basket Committee, Mrs. Sanchez tirelessly assists the less fortunate in the city by making unique and treasured baskets that provide residents with joy and hope. In

addition, as a long standing member of the Pico Women's Club, Mrs. Sanchez serves on various committees performing a wide range of responsibilities. She works as an administrative support staff member for the organization's annual charitable fashion show which benefits the El Rancho High School Scholarship fund. She is also a respected member of the Forever Young Senior Club and is known for her selfless ways of driving fellow seniors to various appointments. Her leadership is an inspiration to all and she truly exemplifies the meaning of a volunteer. The City of Pico Rivera is honored to nominate Amadita Sanchez for the 2016 Older Americans Recognition Day Award.



Albert Smith—from the City of Azusa—has been a volunteer for our center for many years. Both Al and his wonderful wife, Juanita, work together as they deliver meals to our seniors in the Home Delivered Meal Program. In addition to being a part of our Home Delivered Meal Program, Al enthusiastically calls out the numbers for our Bingo Program. His upbeat attitude helps create a great environment for the Bingo players. Al has helped to make wonderful memories for children of all ages at the City of Azusa's Winter Family Fiesta and Tree Lighting Ceremony and Breakfast with Santa Program. He plays the role of Santa in these programs with love, patience, and kindness that the children look forward to every year. Al and Juanita make a great difference in our community. It is with great honor that we nominate Mr. Al Smith who is a wonderful example of having the true spirit of volunteerism! Thank you for all that you do! The Azusa Senior Center is proud to nominate Mr. Albert Smith for this year's Older Americans Recognition Day Award.



Jean Lem Smith—from the City of Bell Gardens—signed up to be a volunteer in many areas of the El Dorado Park for over 25 years. She assists in serving meals with Human Services Association and helps where she can. She forms senior groups to volunteer at the Performing Arts Centers. Jean has a group that plays scrabble at the donut shop. She loves to get seniors

together for Hollywood Bowl performances. She takes seniors on casino trips. Jean is an energetic person that loves people and has a big heart. Thank you, Jean, for all of your years of service and dedication to the senior lunch program.



Claudine Stines—from the City of Walnut—has been an active resident of Walnut since 1973. In 1980, she began giving back to the community through her involvement with the City’s Annual Family Festival as the Arts and Crafts Chair. Claudine has also dedicated countless hours in the fight against cancer. She served as the Event Coordinator for the renowned Anyssa Foundation. Her efforts, passion, and commitment to find a cure for cancer, led to her appointment as the 2006 and 2007 Chair for the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life Walnut. Her leadership and dedication to the cause netted \$130,000 and \$150,000, respectively. She commits wholeheartedly to her community. Currently, she is an advocate for the City’s Aquatic Program and is leading a grassroots community group dedicated to a future Aquatics Center in Walnut. As stated by Jimmy Doolittle, “There’s nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer.” Claudine exemplifies the true spirit of a volunteer. Walnut is a much better place to live and raise a family because of her work.



Ida Talalla—from the City of Los Angeles—has become a trusted community leader on issues impacting our senior population. For Ms. Talalla, “Community is where my home is and my home is my community.” Three years ago, she founded the Echo Parks Seniors, a group that she started in response to the loneliness and isolation so many of her peers were experiencing. The group hosts speakers, engages in group activities, and advocates on behalf of all seniors in the community. Among Ms. Talalla’s achievements have been her tireless efforts to get the Echo Park Senior Center opened. On March 17, 2016, Ms. Talalla was among the keynote speakers at the Echo Park Senior Center grand opening. Her tenacity inspires her peers to let their voices be heard and her wisdom compels community leaders into action!



Robert Valverde—from the City of Montebello—is a fixture at the Montebello Senior Center. He is known as the only unpaid employee. Mr. Valverde volunteers at the Montebello Senior Center where he dedicates time every day in some capacity. If a helping hand is needed, he can be counted on. His quick wit puts a smile on the faces of many. Mr. Valverde proudly served in the United States Marine Corp. The City of Montebello is proud to nominate Mr. Robert Valverde for the 2016 Older Americans Honoree Award.

SECOND SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT



Honorable Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor

Emily Williams
Board Deputy

District 2 Commissioners

Estella Beaver-Thomas	Marva Cooper Bell
Alice Craft	Ron Jackson
Lonnie McNamee	Charles Mitchell
Elizabeth Payne	Arvis Spriggs
Richard Wolfe	



Barbara Jean Adams—from the City of Los Angeles— currently volunteers at the Jim Gilliam Senior Center, and is a member of the Jim Gilliam Senior Club. She serves as one of the Membership Chairpersons. She has also served as President, Vice President, Trip Chairperson, and Sergeant of Arms. She volunteers for our Neighborhood Association, Baldwin Village Community in Action. Barbara enjoys singing, dancing, and was formerly one of Reverend James Cleveland's traveling choir members, which performed in London, Washington DC, and Carnegie Hall. Barbara retired in 2012 from the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) City of Los Angeles, establishing more than 10 senior clubs throughout the city. She served the City of Los Angeles for 15 years. It is an honor to nominate Barbara for the 2016 Older Americans Recognition Award.



Dale Adams—from the City of Hawthorne—has been volunteering at the Hawthorne Senior Center for three years and some of his volunteer duties are picking up

the pastry donations each morning, passing out the treats, taking lunch trays to the disabled seniors, shopping for Bingo gifts twice a week, and calling Bingo numbers. Dale was a professional barber and owned his own shop before retiring in 2008. He has given free haircuts to some of the gentlemen here at the senior center. Dale is a real asset to our senior center and we greatly appreciate him. Thank you for your service Dale.



Dolores Caldwell—from the City of Los Angeles—is a consistent member at the Bradley Multi-Purpose Center (MPC). She is a pillar of her community. She takes great pride and thought concerning her community and the residents of Alice Manor by inviting them to events and lunch at the Bradley MPC. She serves as one of the members of the Advisory Board Council at Alice Manor. She is an advocate in making the property safe and inviting. Ms. Caldwell has helped with many outreach adventures. For example, she brought in a Disaster Preparedness Workshop through the Los Angeles City Fire Department and a community fair hosted by

Los Angeles City Councilmember, Janice Hahn. She has participated in Public Hearings for seniors to voice their concerns and needs. Ms. Caldwell is very supportive of Alice Manor and the activities and events that are brought in for the residents.



Albert De La Rosa—from the City of Compton—has passion to empower adults and bring cultural awareness back into the East Rancho Dominguez Community Center. Albert enjoys giving adults the chance to learn English and speak Spanish in Compton. As a result, East Rancho Dominguez Community Center has increased its public participation. When he volunteered to teach English as a Second Language and Spanish at the East Rancho Dominguez Community Center three days a week, the center received a large number of responses from the students who believed the program was a success. In the favorite words of Albert De La Rosa, "Teaching is a great reward and satisfaction." East Rancho Dominguez Community Center is proud to nominate Albert De La Rosa for the 2016 Older Americans Recognition Award.



Ostell Griggs—from the Willowbrook Senior Center—has never hesitated to volunteer his assistance for the annual center Christmas party by overseeing the raffle gifts and distribution. The Game Room is his attraction to the center. He began serving as the Assistant Game Room Monitor, and that is no easy task. Last year, we lost the Game Room Monitor who had been in place for many years. Mr. Griggs stepped right in with a willingness to assume full leadership of monitoring the Game Room. In his role, he wears many hats assisting with the food pantry and moving tables and chairs for various events. He is an active member of the Center Advisory Council. Mr. Griggs volunteers with a willing spirit, appearing to be very comfortable with making a difference in the center activities.



Franklin J. Henderson—from the Yvonne Burke Senior Center—is now a volunteer and a member of numerous

clubs at the senior center. In 1929, during the great depression, Franklin Henderson was born in Miami, Florida. At age 11, Franklin joined the Boy Scouts learning military discipline and survival skills. With 21 merit badges, young Franklin was the first black Eagle Scout in the USA. The Yvonne Burke Senior Center is proud to honor Mr. Franklin J. Henderson with the prestigious 2016 Older Americans Recognition Day Award.



Annette Hunter—from the City of Los Angeles—has served as a volunteer in Los Angeles over the past ten years. Her ministry is one of service to others and nothing excites her more. She always has a positive attitude no matter what is going on in her life. Ms. Hunter does not let her life circumstances or situations hinder her from being of service to the other seniors at the center. She arrives at least an hour early daily and assists with making coffee. She is at the receptionist desk ready to greet with a smile. Ms. Hunter provides personal assistance to some of the seniors as well. There is nothing that she is asked to do that goes undone. Ms. Annette Hunter is being nominated for the Older Americans Recognition Award because she has proven to be a phenomenal volunteer.



Marie A. Lindsey—from the City of Lynwood—began her years of volunteerism with the Lynwood Unified School District serving as an instructor involved with the Angel Care Network. Ms. Lindsey has faithfully volunteered at the City of Lynwood Senior Center and throughout the Lynwood community. She is currently serving as the Music Director for the senior center choir, The Golden Voices. She has generously volunteered her time and talents for the past seven years. Ms. Lindsey takes The Golden Voices to the surrounding senior housing facilities, as well as the local hospital to entertain the residents and patients and brightens their days with music and singing. She has been a loyal member of her church, Curry Temple, where she volunteers as the Music Director for the Music Ministry and oversees their musical instruments. Along with her musical talents, Ms. Lindsey cheerfully

volunteers at the food distribution site that supplies food to families in need of assistance. Ms. Lindsey always says how much she enjoys sharing her time and talents with others. The City of Lynwood proudly nominates long-time volunteer, Marie A. Lindsey, for the 2016 Older Americans Recognition Day Award.



Thais Magrane—from the City of Culver City—is celebrating an incredible 20 years of active volunteer service at the Culver City Senior Center. She contributes her energy and expertise to the Nutrition Program for more than six hours every day, and has done so since 2003. Her efforts are essential to the daily operation of the lunch program. She helps with important daily forms, and data. Thai serves on the Nutrition Advisory Council, helps at the reception desk, and has received two “Golden Apple” Nutrition Awards from Los Angeles County Community and Senior Services. At events, she helps with set up, decorating, and registration. Culver City Community groups that benefit from Thais’ involvement include the Culver City Historical Society, Friends of the Library, and St. Augustine’s Church. Thais continues to “Blaze a Trail” and plans on adding to her 20 years of volunteer activities at the senior center and in her community. She is looking forward to showing her love for Culver City by playing an active role on the City’s Centennial Committee. Thais Magrane is a shining example of an outstanding community volunteer, and the City of Culver City and the Culver City Senior Center are pleased to recognize her as the 2016 Honoree at the Annual Older Americans Recognition Day Awards Program.



Sharon Matthews—from the City of Los Angeles—has been a volunteer at the Ahmanson Senior Center for the past seven years. Sharon drives a far distance or takes the bus to dedicate her time to the seniors. She is very involved with the quilting club, as well as the knitting and crocheting program. Often times, she donates materials to the program to help those who are less fortunate. Sharon is always there when extra help is needed with any of the programs at the center. The Ahmanson Senior Center is very lucky to have Sharon Matthews as a leader and well respected community

member. Sharon Matthews makes a great candidate for the Older Americans Recognition Day Award.



Larry A. Nunez—from the City of Gardena—has been volunteering for the Gardena Senior Bureau in several capacities for over nine years. He is a regular at all of the activities and always has a great attitude with everyone. Larry says that he volunteers because it makes him feel good and brings out the best in him. A Navy Veteran, Larry takes his volunteer duties very serious, but not himself! He is always ready with a new joke to tell. Larry can always be counted on and is very reliable and responsible. Larry is a great advocate for Gardena. He meets many people and always mentions our programs in his conversations. Larry really lightens the atmosphere wherever he goes!



Delores Tate—from the Peoples Coordinated Services Multi-Purpose Center Crenshaw—is a true definition of a “humble servant.” She has only been a member of the center for a few years, yet it seems like a lifetime. She attends to the more fragile seniors with care and compassion. Delores often delegates herself as their monitor on outings to ensure they are able to enjoy the activities along with the others. She is a teacher, learner, supporter, and giver. Delores is well deserved of this prestigious award.



Sandy Tofflemire—from the City of Lawndale—has a friendly and energetic personality which led to a career at Delta Airlines for 40 years! After retirement, she decided to volunteer with the City of Lawndale Travel Club and use her many years of experience in the travel industry to help. Ms. Tofflemire has volunteered with the Travel Club for 12 years. As the Secretary of the club, her kind demeanor is admired by many members. She is very generous and donates many gifts to be used for senior luncheon raffles. Ms. Tofflemire is an inspiration to others and is a talented actress. She has performed for many local theatre productions and television commercials. Ms. Tofflemire is a role model,

and her outlook on life exemplifies what being a healthy active older adult is all about.



Lois M. Whitaker—from the City of Inglewood—has been a member of the Inglewood Senior Center for the past 18 years. She is an avid Bid Whist player, and as such, was instrumental in starting the infamous Wednesday afternoon Bid Whist games. She is a member of the Project Advisory Council, the Activity Committee, and the Food Bank Committee. Lois has been a part of the Inspirational Choir and has performed in Chicago, Oklahoma, and Louisiana with the Golden Chorale Choir. Always willing to help and share her energy and enthusiasm wherever she can, Lois also volunteers at the Yvonne B. Burke Senior and Community Center. In addition, Lois is very involved with her block club and plays a major role in making sure that all neighbors are up to speed on imploring all the tenants of being an effective part of their neighborhood watch. The Inglewood Senior Center very proudly salutes Lois Whitaker for exemplifying the true spirit of volunteerism and for her dedication to the community.



Mary Williams—from the Watts Labor Community Action Committee (WLCAC) Theresa Lindsay Senior Center—is an advocate for our senior center. She has reached out to Councilmen regarding community beautification projects and the upgrading of facilities. Ms. Williams performs outreach to the community to get others involved, as well as making the community aware of what services are provided. She volunteered to be in charge of the Senior Advisory Board and other panels that advocate for seniors. Ms. Williams is always willing to speak out on behalf of the seniors, including writing letters to local Councilmen regarding senior housing and health issues.

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH



BLAZE A TRAIL: MAY 2016

THIRD SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT



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Nina Dancy Alexander—from the City of Los Angeles— has been actively involved in her community serving as a volunteer for many organizations, such as Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, National Council of Negro Women, Top Ladies of Distinction, Los Angeles Chapter, National Association of University Women, Women’s Club of Hollywood, Women’s Federation of World Peace serving as an Ambassador of Peace, Special Olympics, Optimist, and Chi Eta Phi Parliamentarians. Nina Alexander is currently President of the Federation of Senior Clubs West Area and serves as an advocate for senior centers in Los Angeles. She is actively involved at Founder’s Church serving as a Practitioner of Religious Science Emeritus and Wedding Coordinator. She organized and coordinated the Women of Founders and the senior group for her community, Young Energetic Spirits. Additionally, she is a member of Claude Pepper and Vineyard Senior Centers serving on their boards. Nina Alexander believes, “Life is a special gift, so share it with love and joy each and every day.” Founder’s Young Energetic Spirits, is proud to nominate Ms. Nina Dancy Alexander for the 51st Annual Older Americans Recognition Day Award.



Delores Barker—from Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, El Cariso Park—has dedicated her time and energy at El Cariso Park over the past ten years volunteering at our facility for various special events. Delores volunteers to dress up as the Easter Bunny and Mrs. Claus. She donates Easter baskets and candy for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Annual Christmas giveaway. El Cariso Park is honored to nominate Ms. Barker for the 2016 Older Americans Recognition Day Award.



Reverend Dr. Dudley D. Chatman—from the Alicia Broadus Duncan Multi-Purpose Center—has been the Pastor of the Greater Community Missionary Baptist Church of Pacoima for 30 years. His involvement in the total community is unprecedented. He is involved with the senior center, and he is very involved with assisting youth to secure training and job opportunities. In 2010, the church opened their newly constructed community center, which houses an alternative school for at risk youth, operated by ABC Learn and Youth Build, Inc.

under the “No Child Left Behind Program.” The school has served hundreds of neighborhood children and families in the surrounding area. For the past two years, Pastor Chatman led his church, to provide a 120-bed emergency shelter for the homeless in San Fernando Valley, in response to the Los Angeles County Emergency Shelter Program for the winter months. Pastor Chatman is currently engaged in helping the City and County organizations address the housing crisis.



Edythe and Elmo Espree—from the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks—are leaders of the Vineyard Senior Citizens Club as part of the Federation of Seniors, Los Angeles Department of Recreations and Parks. Edythe is President of the Vineyard Senior Citizens Club and is an active volunteer for over ten years. She is an avid Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP) volunteer, a docent for Los Angeles City Hall and has been the President of the Children’s Home Society. Edythe became “Rosie the Riveter” during World War II helping to build ships, while Elmo served in the Army. Elmo is an Army Veteran, serving in World War II and Vietnam. After the war, Elmo was one of the first Black Street Car Drivers in the City of Los Angeles. He spends much of his time sharing his historical accounts of Blacks in World War II with students at various schools throughout Los Angeles. He volunteers at the Vineyard Senior Center ensuring that activities are planned and that the Senior Club is an enjoyable activity for all members. Elmo and Edythe served their communities through wartimes and peace times and continue to do so today. Age has not diminished their activity!



Maria Heilpern—from the City of Beverly Hills—has been a valuable volunteer and member of the community of Beverly Hills for many years. She is currently the 2nd Vice President of the Beverly Hills Active Adult Club. She assists with the club’s excursions, parties, computer classes, and the senior lunch program. Maria loves getting to know people and greets everyone with a warm welcome! She exemplifies a positive attitude and has a great sense of humor. She

does “Blaze a Trail” for staying young at heart and enjoying life to the fullest no matter what her age. She is always ready for a new adventure and wants to help out wherever she is needed. The City of Beverly Hills is proud to honor Maria at the 51st Annual Older Americans Recognition Day!



Donna J. Klein—from the City of Sherman Oaks—has been a facilitator, mentor, and instructor at the Sherman Oaks East Valley Adult Center (SOEVAC) for more than ten years. We are grateful to have this opportunity to express our appreciation for her devotion to the seniors in her class. Ms. Klein has been involved in art for forty years and came to us as a volunteer instructor after teaching at the Mission Renaissance School for 11 years. The seniors in her class work in multiple forms of art, watercolor, pen and ink, and oil. Regardless of the senior’s artistic skills, she can help them in creating art work that expresses their views, thoughts, and feelings in a way that everyone can experience when they see their creations. Ms. Klein has the support of a wonderful husband, three children and just loves being a Grandmother! SOEVAC proudly nominates Donna Klein as our honoree for the 51st Annual Older Americans Recognition Day.



Shelly Kogod—from the Pan Pacific Senior Center—serves on the Pan Pacific Senior Center Club Board. He tirelessly strives to provide interesting trips for the club members at the lowest cost. He solicits gifts for special events from the local vendors. Mr. Kogod assists with the center events, making sure that the coffee is made, chairs and tables are set-up, and in any other way that will make events run smoothly. Mr. Kogod and his wife attend other functions at various senior centers and bring back fresh ideas for events to the senior board meetings. It has been a pleasure working with Mr. Kogod.



Josefina Lorenzana—from St. Barnabas Hollywood Senior Center—was invited by a friend to come to the Hollywood Congregate Meal Program six years ago. She

hasn't stopped coming since that first day. Today Josefina comes to the center to stay active and to socialize with her friends. In addition to participating in the center's activities, Josefina volunteers every day in the center's Congregate Meal Program by helping seniors to register for the daily lunch program. She also helps to serve lunch to the seniors. In addition to helping in the lunch program, Josefina helps to welcome new seniors and shares with them all of the different activities and services offered at the center. We could not have a successful lunch program without the help of volunteers like Josefina.



Richard Medina—from the Las Palmas Adult Center—has volunteered for many years and is always hard working. He has become one of the most trusted members at our center and is an example of what true volunteerism should be. He is always happy and willing to go beyond his own needs. Las Palmas is proud to honor Richard Medina with the 2016 Older Americans Month Recognition Award.



Sheldon Mende—from the City of Westlake Village—has been involved as a volunteer for many years. Shel is a dedicated member of the Cultural Recreation Advisory Board. He serves on three of the four sub-committees, including the Westlake Village Entertains, Westlake Green and Healthy, and Westlake Seniors. He is the City's Village Trolley Ambassador utilizing the service, providing feedback, and singlehandedly obtaining sponsors for the unique service in the City. Shel can be found at most city events working from beginning to end. He also attends City Council meetings and provides feedback and support to the city and city staff. In addition, he has served on the Board of Directors for the Westlake Lake Management Association for five years. Shel always has a smile, a kind word, and is never afraid to lend a helping hand. The City of Westlake Village is very thankful for Shel's time, generous spirit, and willingness to participate throughout the years.



Marcy Norton—from the City of West Hollywood—has an incredible history of volunteerism and activism. She has been on the City of West Hollywood's Public Safety Commission since 2011 and serves as their liaison to the Senior Advisory Board. Marcy was on the City of West Hollywood Women's Advisory Board from 2000-2011. Marcy was a member of the Friends of the West

Hollywood Library and a founding and active member of the West Hollywood Book Fair for over ten years. Marcy is a life member of the National Council of Jewish Women and is very active on their Advocacy Planning Committee. Marcy is involved in fundraising to build wells to bring clean water to impoverished villages in Niger through the Wells Bring Hope Charity.



Winnie Poon—from the City of Santa Monica—is an exceptional volunteer with a passion for excellence. She brings great clarity, organization, and structure to all she touches. Winnie began volunteering in August 2014, following her professional career as a Health Care Analyst. In a short period of time and almost single-handedly, Winnie streamlined processes, reconciled databases, and organized key areas of the administrative offices, including the Benefits Enrollment Center, Supply Inventory, Finance Department files, and most recently, Volunteer Services. Six months ago, when the paid volunteer coordinator left the organization for another opportunity, Winnie stepped in and assessed our volunteer recruitment and reporting processes. Thanks to her smart recommendations, Volunteer Services now functions more efficiently than ever. Her kind heart coupled with her skill for streamlining and improving processes has been a gift to WISE & Healthy Aging in the City of Santa Monica.



Lois Rochetti—from the City of Los Angeles—has been an asset at the Canoga Park Senior Citizens' Center for over seven years. Lois has been volunteering as a helper in our donation center. Working several hours a day, Lois greeted seniors coming to get donated bread and baked goods. Lois continued her volunteering as President of the Canoga Park Senior Citizens' Club even during times of poor health. When her term as Club President finished, Lois continued returning to volunteer as a donation center helper. Recently, the club's trip coordinator resigned, and Lois stepped in to help and has taken on the duties for that position. This is no easy feat as Lois had very little experience planning trips and excursions. In the true spirit of "Blazing a Trail," Lois is learning new skills and is doing a wonderful job! Thank you for the opportunity to nominate Lois Rochetti for the 51st Older Americans Recognition Day Award. The center is blessed to have her.



Mona Simon—from the Robert M. Wilkerson Senior Multi-Purpose Center (MPC)—first came to the center in 2010 soon after she moved to the area from the east coast. It did not take long for her to start volunteering in the information and assistance booth where she answers phone calls, distributes lunch tickets, and greets other seniors as they arrive. Mona likes music and to sing. She has been singing since she was young while growing up in St. Croix and is a member of the chorus at the center. The chorus sings in nursing homes several times a month throughout the year, bringing smiles to the residents. Robert M. Wilkerson Multipurpose Senior Center is very grateful for Mona's dedication to the center. The Wilkerson Senior MPC is proud to nominate Mona Simon for the 2016 Older Americans Recognition Day Award.



Sharon Taylor—from the City of Agoura Hills—is a valued senior member and volunteer. In the time Sharon has volunteered with the Senior Program, she has developed excursion programs, served on the Senior Advisory Committee, and volunteered at special events. One of the programs that Sharon has developed is "Day Trippin," where the locations are cost friendly and draw participants that do not typically join us on the all-inclusive trips. The theatre performances she has planned to the Pantages Theatre, Glendale Centre Theatre, Pasadena Playhouse, and Solvang Theatre, have been popular and successful. Without Sharon these programs would not exist or be successful. She listens to her trip followers and plans locations they have suggested. Her many hours of online research and phone calls show in the enrollment and positive feedback from participants. The trips she plans are almost always full. Sharon's forward thinking on the Senior Advisory Committee is beneficial as she brings new and fresh ideas to the committee. We appreciate Sharon's hard work, dedication, commitment, enthusiasm, and energy that she puts forward in all that she does for the Senior Program and City of Agoura Hills is greatly appreciated.



Proserpina O. Ticsay—from the Bernardi Senior Center— has volunteered for our senior center for five years. She is a Registered Nurse who comes once a

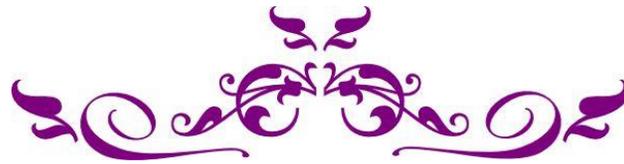
week to take the seniors blood pressure and advises if there are any concerns. She is a wonderful person, funny, friendly, and caring. She also volunteers at other centers. It is an honor to nominate Proserpina O. Ticsay for the 2016 Older Americans Recognition Day Award.



Mary Torres—from the Bernardi Senior Center—has been a volunteer for ONEgeneration since 2007. She dedicates her time to serving older adults with cognitive impairment. Recently, Mary was diagnosed with Parkinsons, but this has not discouraged her to serve her community. When ONEgeneration had a shortage of staff, Mary was volunteering 40 hours per week. Mary's kind personality, outgoing energy, and helpful attitude makes her an extremely important asset to our organization.



Alvin Turner—from the City of Los Angeles—believes in learning, teaching, and connecting. After retiring at the age of 55, Turner began substitute teaching. One of his important roles was to influence and encourage young students to get in touch with their abilities and their capacity to be all they can be in life and to stay in school. Turner continues to encourage students working with foundations and organizations that give scholarships annually to deserving students. Alvin Turner connects to people from all walks of life sharing his loving attitude and joy of being alive. He serves as a volunteer for several organizations, including Founder's Church where he is currently President of the Board of Trustees, coordinates the ushers, teaches contemporary Bible Study weekly, teaches accredited classes, and is a member of Young Energetic Spirits, Founder's Senior Group. Alvin Turner is a wonderful example and role model for children and adults alike as he demonstrates how one lives a life of love, peace, and joy in harmony and gratitude while living life fully.



We offer our gratitude to the following individuals who so generously contributed their time and talent to making this event a success!

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Anna Avdalyan, Program Manager, Area Agency on Aging (AAA)
Corneitha Kirk, Human Services Administrator II
Guillermo Medina, Human Services Administrator I
Monique Norman, Staff Assistant I
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Jovita Chan
Joel Diaz
Cynthia Ear
Andranik Grigoryan
riKu Matsuda
Barbara Thomas
Benjie Uy
Ericka Vayas
Louis Viera
Angela Whitaker
Ernetta Winbush

Other County Departments

Los Angeles County Fire Department
Internal Services Department

Others

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion
Paradise Printing Company
White House Florist
Balloon Emporium

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*Congratulations to all
Honorees*

May 25, 2016