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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 1

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GRATEFUL GOODBYE — George F. Goehler, Manager of Operations, retires Jan. 13 after 43 years service.

43 Years

Executive Goehler Retiring

Forty-three years of service to mass public rapid transit will end Jan. 13 as RTD Manager of Operations George F. Goehler retires.

During his transportation career, which began in 1930, Goehler has been involved in scheduling, operation and planning of bus service for more than three-quarters of a million commuters.

He was one of two men who developed the original transit schedule programming method through electronic data processing, a system now used by transit throughout the world.

Goehler is past president of the Los Angeles Transportation Club and the National Defense Transportation Association. He probably is the only transit industry member who serves as an executive reservist in the Coast Guard for the Department of Transportation Office of Emergency Transportation.

The then Department of Transportation Secretary John Volpe appointed Goehler as Deputy Director Designate for Region 9, which consists of California, Arizona, Nevada, Hawaii and the outer Pacific islands.

In addition to his accomplishments as
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Credit Union Popular Employee Investment Through Deductions

More than 3,300 of the District's 4,400 employees are members of the Transit District Employees Federal Credit Union, which currently pays five per cent quarterly interest on savings.

There is no limit on the amount allowable through payroll deduction. Savings deposits entered by the tenth of the month receive interest back to the first of the month.

The Credit Union also offers loans, such as personal and auto loans, to employees who have been with the District for one year or more. The most common loans are signature, co-signer and auto loans.

The amount loaned on the purchase of a used car, for example, varies according to the Blue Book wholesale value. The older the auto, the less money will be allowed.

Interest charged on used autos is one per cent per month on the unpaid balance.

Eighty-five per cent of the purchase price, including tax and license, on a new American-made auto can be borrowed from the Credit Union. Interest is three-quarters of one

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Special Way of Living Ends As Shafer Leaves District

Joe Shafer has led a very special life — a special agent life.

His first encounter with special agents actually came early in life. As a young boy in Arizona, Joe "worked" the railroad track in search of pieces of coal which had fallen from trains and often was chased off by railroad special agents.

Prior to living in Bisbee, Ariz., his family resided in Calumet, Mich., where Joe's father labored in the mines. The relocation to a drier climate was necessary for the elder Shafer's health, although he continued to work in mines.

In 1925 the Shafers and their brood of six moved again, but this time to Los Angeles where they remained. Joe was graduated from Lincoln High School, in Lincoln Heights. He followed up on his education with typing and shorthand classes after graduation at Lincoln High School.

During his studies he operated a newsstand which featured 125 newspapers. By the time he applied for and was accepted March 7, 1928, as a steno-clerk for the Transportation and Schedule Departments of the Pacific Electric Company, he had built his business up to



Joe Shafer then . . .

275 newspapers.

Joe was promoted to chief clerk in the Special Agents Department April 1, 1938, a

(Continued on Page 5)

Shares With Others

Tragedies Don't Dampen Handicapped's Cheerful Attitude

Mrs. Margaret Hurley would entitle every District operator the "Operator of the Month" if she was queen. Operators of Line 83 think she is.

The men of Line 83 are remembered by Mrs. Hurley all the time and Christmas seemed an appropriate time to convey her sentiments to them through a greeting card. The single wish listed 16 operators' names — a commendable feat for any passenger.

But there is one outstanding feature about Mrs. Hurley — she is one of the happiest handicapped individuals you'll ever meet.

She was born with her tongue completely attached to the bottom of her mouth and although her father was a doctor the problem was never completely solved.

"My father refused to believe anything was wrong with me, even when my mother told him I had not been able to drink properly," she explains. "Finally he took me to another doctor who operated on my tongue, but he did not cut far enough and now people think I'm from a foreign country because of my pronunciation."

At age 13 she suffered from arthritis, polio or cerebral palsy. Strange as it seems, three doctors diagnosed her case three different ways and to this day she still does not know what actually caused her to lose partial manual dexterity and a limp due to an underdeveloped leg.

As though these tragedies were not enough, she was hit by a garage door during 1963 which damaged two spinal discs. As a consequence she needs to undergo treatment to have the discs slipped into place whenever they become dislodged — sometimes once a month.

Her handicap does not seriously affect her work at the central AID-United Givers office. She notifies various donation recipients of pledges and, in turn, receives the acknowledgement signatures of these organizations or agencies. Although she cannot operate all business machines she does use a typewriter and adding machine.

Records are kept on all donating organizations and companies either on cards or microfilm in the Counting Department, of which the Designation Division is a part. Mrs. Hurley works within the Designation Division.

She is originally from Kansas, but her family moved to California when she was five years of age.

She and her husband were married five

Paycheck Deductions to Increase in New Year

Employee state and federal payroll deductions will increase on wages paid Jan. 1 and after for F.I.C.A. (Social Security), U.C.D. and S.D.I. (State Disability Insurance).

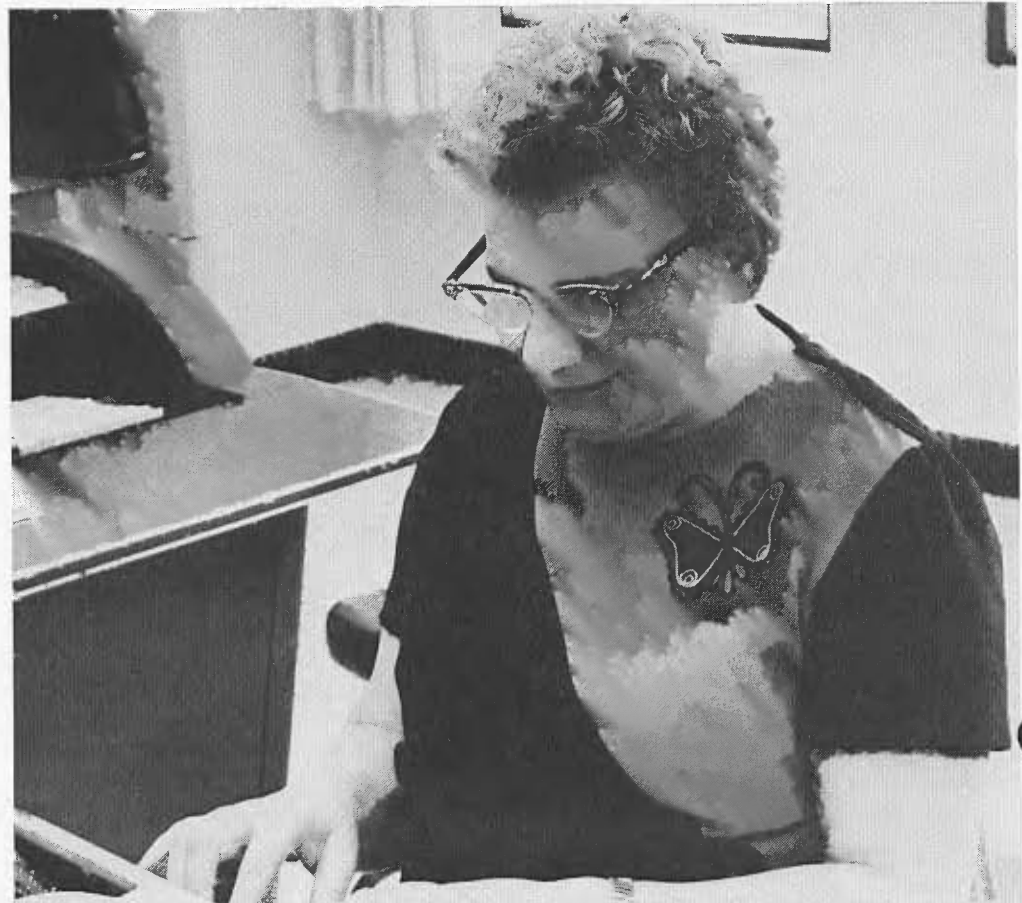
Social Security deductions will increase from 5.2 per cent on the first \$9,000 during 1972 to 5.85 per cent on the first \$10,800 and from one per cent of the first \$8,000 in 1972 on U.C.D. and S.D.I. to one per cent on the first \$8,500.

years ago and his two children by a former marriage reside with them. They are Ed, 20, and Kay, 19, who came to live with them

when their mother, who had remarried, wanted to take them with her to Oregon where she and her husband had bought land.



BRIGHT AND EARLY — Mrs. Margaret Hurley boards a Line 83 bus operated by Stanley McGee, one of her favorite operators from Div. 6. She mailed a greeting card addressed to McGee and 15 other operators. Although she is handicapped she has boarded the 83 for eight years while working at AID-United Givers.



BUSY HANDS — Although handicapped, Margaret Hurley's attitude is one of the healthiest, happiest around. She shared her holiday happiness with 16 Div. 6 operators.

AID-United Drive Ends for District

Employees wishing to donate to their favorite charity or charities through Aid-United Givers may do so by signing up now as Associated Charities, Management-Employees (ACME) solicits donors.

New donors and those employees who have signed up for payroll contributions to this cause and who have not designated specific charities, may do so before April by requesting and returning official designation forms to the Personnel Department.

AID-United assists 16 charities, including the Arthritis Foundation, March of Dimes, American Cancer Society, Crippled Children's Society, Mental Health Association and the City of Hope. Any of these or other charities may be named on an individual's designation form for all or part of his pledge.

For forms contact the Personnel Department at ext. 269.

City Council Agendas Available at Libraries

Los Angeles City Council Committee meeting agendas are available at the Los Angeles Central Library, 530 W. Fifth St., and its seven regional branches.

The agendas are in the Central Library Social Sciences Department, as well as at Arroyo Seco Regional Branch, 6145 N. Figueroa St.; San Pedro, 931 S. Gaffey St.; West Valley, 19036 Vanowen St.; and West Los Angeles, 11360 Santa Monica Blvd.

They are also at the following branches: Vermont Square, 1201 W. 48th St.; North Hollywood, 5211 Tujunga Ave.; and Hollywood, 1623 Ivar Ave.

The experiment was recommended by the City Council's Governmental Efficiency Committee in an effort to inform residents of Council activities.



NOTABLE YEARS — Secretary Billie Orth has served retiring Manager of Operations George F. Goehler for 20 of his 43 years with the District.

Manager of Operations Retiring

(Continued from Page 1)

manager of operations, which he has been since December 1968, he has become an accomplished chess player. He encourages teenagers to also become interested in the strategy game.

Goehler and his wife, Margaret, reside in Los Angeles.

General Manager Jack R. Gilstrap said: "For forty-three years the transit industry in Southern California has been enriched and improved by the contributions of one man: George F. Goehler.

"In a world where change is more constant than continuity, George has persevered and stayed with the job. His steady determination has met the many challenges of a long, distinguished career.

"In a world of relationships which are often casual or self-serving, George has offered devotion to his company, loyalty to his co-workers, and genuine concern for his fellow man.

"With reluctance we see George leave the staff of the RTD. We will miss him, for his place is his own and cannot be filled. But with warm affection we send him toward continued years of joy and activity as he and his lovely wife, Margaret, embark upon a new chapter of their lives together."

Swinging Retirement Ahead for McKane

James Louis McKane will be rocking and rolling his retirement away.

The former Line 55 operator retired Dec. 7 as his fellow employees at Div. 12 hosted a surprise luncheon. The highlight of the afternoon was McKane as he tested the high-backed rocking chair presented by the crew.

His wife, Mae, shared his happiness and surprise as they attended a buffet luncheon.

McKane has been with the District since March 16, 1954. He is a native of Pittsburgh, Pa.



HAPPY REFLECTIONS — A reverse image in a mirror on the wall completes a joyful picture of retiring Operator James L. McKane (c) as his fellow employees host a farewell luncheon. Assistant Division Manager Al Styff and McKane's wife, Mae, look on as he tries out his rocking chair, a goodbye present.



MERITORIOUS SERVICE — A kind deed won Line 51 Operator George N. Alexander (r) the November "Operator of the Month" award. He bandaged the bleeding arm of Mrs. Leona Jackson (c) who was robbed and stabbed by an assailant. Director Don C. McMillan presents the certificate to smiling Alexander.

EMPLOYEE NEWS

Friends and former fellow employees of **Patrick F. Keane**, 80, mourned his passing Nov. 23. He had been a service director for the Transportation Department.

While in this capacity he worked at the Subway Terminal and also at the RTD/Greyhound Terminal.

* * *

Operator **Stan McGee**, of Div. 6 claims that his Line 83 passengers have never borrowed money from him. A lady passenger asked him for \$1 to pay a taxi fare. The incident might not have been significant if Division Manager Wesley D. McCarns hadn't been standing right behind McGee.

* * *

Congratulations to **Angela S. Cortez**, a key punch operator in Div. 3270, who was married to **Leo Martinez** Sept. 23 in Las Vegas. The happily couple honeymooned in the sparkling town. They now reside in Los Angeles.

* * *

Best wishes also go to **Gloria Kutchai**, Personnel clerk, who became **Mrs. Larry Owens** Nov. 26. The Owens honeymooned in Hawaii.

* * *

Hats off to **Denzel (Zeke) Allen** and **Brian L. Pearson**, both of the Engineering Department, who became fathers of sons during October. For Zeke the feat was merely a repeat performance but Brian appeared to be the typical first-time father.

Zeke's latest addition is **Brent Rial**, weighing in at 7 lbs, 10 oz., and he was born Oct. 7. The 20" boy brought the Allen total



BRENT RIAL ALLEN

to five sons and one daughter.

Brian and his wife, **Jaqueline**, couldn't be happier over the arrival of their son, **Jeffrey Brian**, who weighed 8 lbs, 9 oz. He was born Oct. 28.

* * *

Would you believe that Customer Relations Manager **Chris Dahlstrom** and his wife, **Josie**, a secretary III, have marked one year's marital bliss? It's true. They celebrated

(Continued on Page 5)

Operator Award Given for Deed Saving Woman

Policemen, and almost everyone else, agree that women are in constant danger and fear of the most serious crimes which can be committed against them because they are almost defenseless.

Although the public generally sympathizes with a woman's plight, the bulk of this same "concerned" public feigns ignorance of incidents in which women are victimized by robbers, as well as other criminals.

George N. Alexander, a line 51 operator from Division 4, distinguished himself as a truly concerned human being one evening as he drove his normal route and found Mrs. Leona Johnson bleeding from a stab wound inflicted by a purse snatcher who knocked her down and slashed her arm.

The unhesitant operator quickly applied a tourniquet to cease the bleeding and prevented serious injury.

In recognition of his deed, the District honors Alexander as the November "Operator of the Month."

The 26-year transportation veteran was a pitcher for the Cincinnati Crescents, of the Negro American League, prior to joining the District. The coach was the late Abe Saperstein, who also coached the Harlem Globetrotters.

While with Cincinnati, he pitched against such greats as Junior Gilliam, Roy Campanella and Satchel Paige. His team lost 5-2 in a match against Kansas City, for which Paige played.

During his 18-year baseball career he also played for the Cleveland Buckeyes, the Canadian League and barnstormed with the House of David. He played for the integrated Canadian League for five years. As a pitcher, he was a key player based on his speed and rigid control over the screwball, curveball and knuckleball throws.

He later played for an employee team of a District predecessor, the Los Angeles Railway Company.

Division 4 Manager Lloyd H. Brugmann said, "George is an extremely devoted and conscientious employee. We are all very proud of him."

Scientific Dig Tours Offered at La Brea

Guided tours of a scientific dig underway since 1969 are being offered from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday through Sunday at the Rancho La Brea tar pits, at 5801 Wilshire Blvd.

Lecturers will give status reports on the project which has reached an average depth of 10.5 ft., to answer questions and conduct tours of on-site laboratory facilities where hundreds of thousands of fossil specimens have been cleaned, sorted and classified for study.

Group tours may be arranged by calling 934-5198.



GOLDEN RETIREMENT — Mechanic A Leadman Tommy Rocha (r) of South Park retired Jan. 1 marking 50 loyal years of service with the District. He joined the agency Oct. 16, 1922. Among the positions he filled are street car rail construction worker, janitor, welder, armature winder and a Los Angeles Railway brake shop mechanic. Everyone wishes him the best and many happy retirement years.

Employee News

(Continued from Page 4)

Nov. 30 by going out for a romantic moonlit dinner.

* * *

District employees prove that weddings are not always in June.

Sue Lutz, of the Transportation Department, has just said "Yes" to **Robert L. Miller**.

* * *

Two Engineering Department males have decided to join the ranks of the Marriage March.

Larry Hoccom will marry **Veronica Campos** during late March or early April. They will fly to Lake Tahoe, be married and honeymoon there.

Roger Carter and **Lynda Kelly** exchanged vows during December and now reside in South Gate. They are planning a belated honeymoon.

Best of luck to both of the very willing victims.

* * *

No sooner had Chief Special Agent **Joe Shafer** announced his retirement than his job was posted for applications. It's not that the District couldn't wait to say goodbye. It's just that the job is too important to leave open.

Everyone will miss Joe very much. The best of luck and happiness, Joe.

* * *

The holidays were especially joyful for Information Clerk **Brenda M. Hodgkinson** who became **Mrs. Jesse Miley**. The cere-

mony was held in the bridegroom's mother's home, with a garden reception following.



ROBERT R. SCHOLL

Public Information Director **Robert R. Scholl** has resigned his position with the District to become public relations manager for Garrett Corp., a subsidiary of the Signal Companies.

He has been with RTD since April 19, 1971, and his last day was Dec. 29. Scholl assumed his new duties Jan. 1.

Garrett produces jet engines, small engines for aerospace, air conditioning equipment for airplanes, electronic equipment and has produced prototype rapid transit vehicles.

Shafer Retires

(Continued from Page 1)

position he held until April 1, 1944, when he was appointed assistant chief special agent. On Nov. 8, 1952, he was named chief special agent.

Helen Masters, who later married Joe, came to Los Angeles in March 1943 from Toledo, Ohio, to care for her expectant sister, whose husband had been drafted. She liked Southern California so much that she decided to move to Los Angeles.

She became a secretary in the Special Agents Department of Pacific Electric. After a short romance, she and Joe were married Sept. 24, 1944.



Joe Shafer now . . .

Joe is a member of the Chief Special Agents Association (CSAA), the Los Angeles County Peace Officers Association (LACPOA) and the California State Peace Officers Association (CSPOA).

He has served the CSAA as secretary for 18 years and the LACPOA as secretary for three years. In addition, he is an Executive Board member of the latter organization.

The Shafers have three married daughters.

District Welcomes 19 New Employees

The District proudly announces the hiring of 19 new employees.

Joining Div. 3303 are Utility A's **George M. Rodriguez** and **Gary Allan Northrop**, while Utility A's **Nickolas H. Jaramillo** and **Murlin Chester Aykes** are with Div. 3305. Another Utility A is **John Maurer McBurney**, stationed at Div. 3301.

Additional operators for Div. 3299 are **Jorge Luis Soto**, **Larry Douglas Hale**, **Michael David Douglas**, **Johnny Bates**, **James Edward Steward**, **Richard C. Sotomayor**, **Michael Douglas Routh**, **James Curtiss Turner**, **Orlando Jaime Pardo**, **Larry Lee Jarman**, **Lester Lee Brown** and **Gary Dale Pichuisa**.

Other new employees are **Fritz Gottfried Hartl**, a draftsman II in Div. 8000; and **Eddy Blaauw**, a traveling mopper-waxer for Div. 3302.

Savings Popular

(Continued from Page 1)

per cent per month on the unpaid balance if the member pays one-third down and one per cent per month on the unpaid balance if the member pays a minimum down of 15%.

The Credit Union will loan 80% of the the purchase price, including tax and license, on a new foreign-made auto. Repayment interest rate is three-quarters of one per cent per month on the unpaid balance if the member has made a down payment of one-third and one per cent if the down payment was only the 20% minimum.

Loans are available for campers and motor homes but not motorcycles and boats.

Any loan up to \$10,000 is insured at no member cost in the event of death or permanent disability. The insurance applies up to age 60 for permanent disability and up to age 70 for death. The cost is paid by the Credit Union.

An additional feature of the Credit Union is a Life Savings Insurance plan whereby savings are insured up to a maximum of \$2,000. If the savings total \$2,000 at age 55, the account is insured for \$2,000 which are both payable to the beneficiary(ies) in the event of death.

If a member wishes to be eligible for the \$2,000 insurance policy, but has not accumulated \$2,000 by age 55, he or she may borrow the difference to total this amount through an Estate Loan. The interest rate on this loan is one per cent per month on the unpaid balance for less than \$500 and three-quarters of one per cent per month on the unpaid balance for \$500 or more.

The Estate Loans are granted only for the purpose of increasing savings accounts.

Credit Union accounts are insured through the National Credit Union Administration up to a maximum of \$20,000. The Credit Union is not a District enterprise.

For further information visit the office, at Location 31 in Room 622, or call 747-5208.

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Published by and for the employees of the Southern California Rapid Transit District.

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General Manager

GEORGE F. GOEHLER
Manager of Operations

GEORGE L. McDONALD
Manager of Planning and Marketing

MARIA ELENA AMPARAN
Editor

PROMOTIONS

		Div.	Effective
Dan Eldon Brough	From: Shop Clerk To: Asst. Cashier	3305 7000	12/3
Roman C. Gonzalez	From: Mechanic A To: Mechanic AA	3307	12/3
Jack Irving Hyman	From: Mechanic B To: Mechanic A	3314	12/3
Bruce Wieble Emanuel	From: Mechanic B To: Mechanic A	3307	12/3
George Maurice Portier	From: Mechanic C To: Mechanic B	3314	12/3
Jose V. Quinones	From: Mechanic B To: Mechanic A	3314	12/3
Levon Futrell	From: Mechanic B To: Mechanic A	3314	12/3
Jack Walter Greasby	From: Asst. Div. Mng. To: Acting Div. Mng.	3209	11/19
Winifred A. McDonnell	From: Payroll Clerk To: Revenue Clerk	7000	11/7
Kathleen Sutherland	From: Revenue Clerk To: Shop Clerk	7000	11/6
Albert Reyes, Jr.	From: Asst. Cashier To: Community Rels. Rep.	7000	10/2

RETIREMENTS

	Div.	Employed	Effective
Vincent E. Delmar, former Operator	3206	9/10/43	12/14
Jose C. Avila, former Utility A	3301	6/29/55	12/3
James W. May, former Operator	3209	7/4/45	12/3
Urbain U. Cote, former Operator	3203	8/26/46	12/2
Seldon C. Witt, former Operator	3212	9/5/56	12/1
Ben Hernandez, former Mechanic A	3314	8/2/60	12/1
James L. McKane, Operator	3212	3/16/54	12/1
Lloyd F. Hall, former Operator	3208	5/11/39	11/10

In Memoriam

	Div.	Employed	Passed Away
Thaddeus C. Rolfe, former Operator	3211	7/20/57	12/1
Arthur R. Hemm, Operator	3212	11/19/5	11/30
Monte C. Brucker, former Supervisor-Stops and Zones	--	5/14/17	11/25
Gladys D. Prather, former Accounts Clerk	--	8/12/46	11/25
Patrick F. Keane, Service Director	MCL	4/20/23	11/23
Thomas N. Willis, former Operator	3203	8/7/17	11/23
Oscar E. Wheller, Operator	3209	6/24/52	11/21
Michel M. Gross, Operator	3208	6/26/46	11/15
Richard S. Taylor, former Mechanic A	--	7/14/37	11/12
William E. Smith, former Operator	3209	6/24/27	11/3
John F. Knapp, former Operator	MCL	7/5/28	10/19

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