MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 6, 2009

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lew C. Bauman
       County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: County Administrative Officer’s Weekly Report for April 6, 2009

This is the weekly report by the County Administrative Officer to the Board of Supervisors. This report provides information on issues affecting the County and the progress of County activities.

Health

The Monterey County Mental Health Commission, with support from the Health Department, Behavioral Health Division, is hosting the fifth annual FIESTA OF HOPE on Thursday, May 7, 2009, at the Embassy Suites in Seaside. The FIESTA OF HOPE was created to provide a community event that also educates the general public and raises awareness of resources, treatment options and support available to those touched by mental illness. The FIESTA OF HOPE is a venue for consumers to share their voices while attending a fun and informative gathering. The event was strategically scheduled to be a part of “May is Mental Health Month.”

Mental illness is not just an individual issue; it is a family and community issue. The FIESTA OF HOPE provides an opportunity for the community to come together to share their common interests around mental health. It brings together public and private service providers, along with mental health consumers and families who have struggled with mental illness, to enjoy a great meal, receive information, and be encouraged by seeing the supports that are available in Monterey County.

The FIESTA OF HOPE also includes an exhibition and consumer art sale. Resource tables provide information about mental health services that are available in Monterey County.
Exhibitors display information boards, answer questions, and provide brochures and other informing materials for guests to take with them.

This year’s keynote speaker is Assemblymember Anna Caballero. Her topic is “Strengthening Families.”

The **FIESTA OF HOPE** has provided the Commission an opportunity to recognize community members who have made a difference in the lives of those impacted by mental illness. The *Jerry Smith Mental Health Community Service Award* is presented to the individual in the community who has been a champion for service delivery for those with mental illness. The *Jay Foss Mental Health Clinical Services Award* is presented to a practitioner who has given outstanding services to consumers of mental health services in our community. The 2009 **FIESTA OF HOPE** will add a third award, the *Outstanding Consumer Award*, to be presented to a consumer of mental health services in our community who has utilized the services to a significant degree and made real progress in their ability to function in the community.

Tickets for this event are $40 and can be purchased by calling Paula Lewycky at (831) 755-4509.

**Library**

**Funding sources for nonprofit organizations**: Is your nonprofit organization looking for new sources of funding? The Monterey County Free Libraries has many resources available free of charge to grant seekers, including the Foundation Directory Online, the premier grant-seeking database on the web. The Seaside branch of the Monterey County Free Libraries is offering training on how to use a valuable database on Saturday, April 18, 2009, 2 – 3:30 p.m.

This training will provide a hands-on introduction to this database. You will learn how to:
- Create customized searches to develop targeted lists of foundations
- Find out about grants for your subject area or field of interest
- Identify grant makers that fund in your city, state or region
- Search specific foundations for detailed information

The Seaside Branch Library is located at 550 Harcourt Ave in Seaside. This program is offered free of charge but space is limited. Please register by calling the library at 831-899-2055

**Positive Action in a Negative Economy**: The King City Branch of Monterey County Free Libraries is hosting a series of presentations titled *Positive Action in a Negative Economy* in April. The series is designed to help empower members of the King City and South County communities who are facing job layoffs, reduced income, and other challenges during these
tough economic times. The public is invited to attend hour-long presentations by experts from local organizations:

April 13, Monday, from 6 p.m., One Stop Career Center – Find out what job search and career development services are available at the Career Center.

April 16, Thursday, from 6 p.m., Kevin Kessler, Hartnell Instructor and Vice-Principal at the Soledad Correctional Training Facility, will give a Resume Writing Workshop.

April 20, Monday, from 6 p.m., King City Family Resource Center will discuss two highly successful programs - Mommy & Me is a classroom based program design to focus on the parent, or another adult family member, and child (0-5 years) as they play together. Parents as Teachers is a program where parents are supported by certified parent educators and given information on early brain development.

April 23, Thursday, from 5:30 p.m., Hartnell College – Community Colleges play a more important role than ever in tough economic times in helping people plan seriously for the future.

April 27, Monday, from 6 p.m., READ with Monterey County Free Libraries – The Literacy division of the Library will give a presentation about its Adult Literacy Program, Families For Literacy program and the Reading Safari van which takes story times and library materials to childcare and preschool facilities around the County. There will also be a discussion on how the King City branch can become an Adult Literacy Center.

This concludes the CAO report.