MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 19, 2010

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lew C. Bauman
County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: County Administrative Officer’s Report for the week of July 19th, 2010

This is the weekly report by the County Administrative Officer to the Board of Supervisors.

This Week’s Topics: Probation marks its centennial, vote by mail ballots are now available for the upcoming special election, and why you can find a Technology Petting Zoo at – the library.

Probation

The Monterey County Board of Supervisors, Governor Schwarzenegger, and the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) have proclaimed July 18-24, 2010 “Probation Services Week.”

The annual proclamation is more meaningful in Monterey County, where the Probation Department is celebrating its 100th year as the agency responsible for court support and investigations, supervision of adult and juvenile offenders, and the management of two juvenile institutions, Juvenile Hall and the Youth Center.
Chief Manuel Real, the tenth Chief to lead the Department since its inception, hosted the annual Little Hat barbeque for department staff and retirees, as well as professional partners and friends, on Wednesday, July 14th. The event was well-attended by about 200 staff and county partners, law enforcement, criminal justice agencies, and the Judiciary.

Election

August 17 Special General Election – Senate District 15: Monday, July 19, 2010 was the first day vote by mail ballots became available for the August 17 Special General Election. Also Monday, the local Sample Ballot & Voter Information Pamphlet hit the mail stream to the District’s 91,736 eligible votes, along with vote by mail ballots for the 55,854 permanent vote by mail and mail ballot precinct voters. The color of the materials remains green in order to make the materials stand out – the cover of the local pamphlet is entirely green and the vote by mail ballot return envelope is also green. As a reminder, the ballot does look exactly the same as it did for the June 22 Special Primary with all candidates listed in the same order and with the same ballot designations under their names.

As mentioned in an earlier CAO Weekly report, there were a few location changes to voting precincts so it is important to review your assigned polling place on the back cover of the local pamphlet. Vote by mail voters may still drop their voted ballot off at any of the city hall locations up to the Friday before Election Day (Friday, August 13), and up to 8:00 pm on Election Day. All city hall and voting locations are listed in the voting materials.

As a reminder, Senate District 15 does not encompass the entire County of Monterey. It does include areas along the coast side, west of Salinas, from the northern end of the County at the Santa Cruz boarder down to the southern end of the County at the San Luis Obispo boarder. Areas not included in Senate 15 are represented by Senate District 12 which will appear on the November 2010 ballot.

November 2, 2010 Statewide General – As a reminder, local candidate nominations is now open through 5:00 p.m., Friday, August 6. Any eligible voter interested in running for City office, such as mayor or council, should obtain and file papers with the respective city clerk.

General Office: last week, the Monterey County Elections Department hosted the 2010 Annual Conference for the California Association of Clerks and Elections Officials (CACEO). There were approximately 140 county government officials representing 43 California counties, along with various elections and county clerk-related vendors making up nearly 200 attendees at the week-long event.

The 5-day event consisted of certification courses offered through the California Professional Election Administrators Certification program (the Elections Department celebrated a graduate this year in Ms. Heather Frisella who oversees voter registration and general outreach services), Association committee meetings, general and specific learning sessions for both election and county clerk functions, as well as the Thursday evening dinner for the installation of new officers for the Association.
The Secretary of State, Debra Bowen, was in attendance to install new officers as well as to present two awards from the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS). The title of the event was “CACEO’s Greatest Hits – Celebrating Award Winning Programs from 2007 to Present. Join In..... It will be Music to Your Ears!” Sessions covered innovative county programs that had received challenge awards from the California Association of Counties for being effective and creative. The theme was music and was used throughout the event starting with a jazz ensemble for the Tuesday evening welcome reception and Wednesday’s open pool side event at the President’s House on the campus at the Monterey Hyatt, a DJ to close out the Thursday night dinner and each of the 14 sessions began with a song that was tied to the topic of the session. The weeklong event was a success; even Mother Nature did her part by allowing the sun to shine each day - as The Beatles would say, “Good Day Sunshine!”

Libraries

The Technology Petting Zoo is coming to Monterey County!

Do you feel like you are being left out of the conversation when people start talking about DDR, Nook, Kindle, Guitar Hero, or Wii-motes? Ever wonder what an iPad really feels like? Have you ever panicked because someone was talking about a hot new gadget and you thought it was an ice-cream flavor?

Worry no more. Monterey County Free Libraries (MCFL) is giving you a chance to become tech-savvy and smart enough to converse with teens about these and other new thingamajigs. The Technology Petting Zoo is coming to the Greenfield branch of MCFL on August 3rd. A morning session from 8:30 to 11:30 am will be for staff only. An afternoon session from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. will be open to the public. The library is located at 315 El Camino Real in Greenfield.

The Technology Petting Zoo is part of a California State Library program that gives libraries and library patrons an opportunity to get hands-on experience and become familiar with current technologies. MCFL is able to bring this program to the county free of charge through the California State Library’s Rural Initiative program that provides resources to the state’s geographically isolated public libraries.

Much of MCFL’s service area can be classified as” Rural” (less than 250 people per square mile) or “Frontier “(less than 11 people per square mile), and with no city of over 50,000 people in the region.

For more information about the Technology Petting Zoo program, please call (831) 883-7573.