DATE: February 7, 2011

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lew C. Bauman
County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: County Administrative Officer's Report for the week of February 7, 2011

This is the weekly report by the County Administrative Officer.

This Week's Topics: The District Attorney announces the Investigator of the Year honoree, Elections continues its polling place surveys and the Health Department wants local youngsters to put a colorful spin on health information.

District Attorney
Monterey County District Attorney Dean Flippo is pleased to announce that District Attorney Investigator Christina Gunter has been selected as the Monterey County District Attorney's Investigator of the Year for 2010. Gunter will be honored at the Annual Monterey County Peace Officers Association Awards Dinner on February 18, 2011.

During 2010, DAI Gunter worked as the lead and sometimes sole investigator on numerous complex sexual assault cases. Many of these investigations resulted in guilty pleas, successful prosecution and lengthy prison sentences, including one case in which a sentence of 170 years to life was handed down. The success of these cases was due in large part to the long hours and tireless dedication that DAI Gunter puts into all of her investigations in preparing the cases for trial.

District Attorney Dean Flippo stated that he and his office are extremely proud of Investigator Gunter’s work and that she has more than earned the distinction of being the District Attorney Investigator for the year 2010. She is truly an outstanding example of what we expect from our investigators and is highly deserving of this nomination.
**Elections**

May 3, 2011 Special All Mail Ballot Election – Monterey Peninsula Water Management District vacancy: The deadline to file or withdraw nomination papers to seek office was 5:00 p.m. Friday, February 4th. Last week’s report indicated there were three qualified candidates seeking to fill the vacancy on this board. On Friday, one candidate decided to withdraw their nomination, leaving two candidates on the ballot.

According to California Election Law, the Secretary of State conducts a randomized alphabetical drawing which will be used to determine the order of the candidate names on the ballot. The local election official first notifies the Secretary of State of the special election date and the last possible date for accepting nomination papers. The Secretary of State then conducts the drawing on the first business day following the close of that nomination period. Elections should find out this week what the official ballot will look like in regards to the names. Once that information is available, staff can begin to design the ballot materials.

**General Office – Polling Place survey project:** Early reports from staff indicate that, depending on the location, the survey can take between 40 minutes to an hour and 45 minutes, and that a majority of the sites continue to require intervening mitigation by the Department to meet the current Americans with Disabilities Act requirements. While these surveys are taking place, Elections staff is also seeking out and surveying new locations that may be available in the future, especially to replace the current sites that the Department feels are no longer suitable for voting purposes.

**Health Department**

The Health Department is looking to local schoolchildren for a fresh approach to some old standards. The second annual Stay Healthy Poster Contest is underway, and submissions are due by the end of March.

The contest asks kids to create posters about those tried, true but sometimes boring messages that your mom or doctor always told you: wash your hands, cover your cough or stay home when you are sick. And it seems kids are up to the challenge, since last year’s first outing for the contest saw more than 300 submissions.

“The kids love to create the artwork and it gives teachers an opportunity to talk about healthy habits in class,” says Karen Smith, Public Information Officer for the Health Department. “The contest is a fun way to reinforce the lesson, and we hope kids also share what they are learning at home.”

The contest asks students grades Kindergarten to 8th to create posters choosing one of the following themes:
- Wash Your Hands
- Cover Your Cough
- Stay Home When You Are Sick
- Eat Healthy

Posters can be in either English or Spanish and plans are also in the works to expand the contest to include a photo competition for middle and high school student. Contest rules can be found on the health department website:


Besides posters, the winning works will be seen on calendars and magnets and the original artwork will be displayed at the Health Department offices in Salinas.

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