DATE: June 13, 2011

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lew C. Bauman
County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: County Administrative Officer’s Report for the week of June 13, 2011

This is the weekly report by the County Administrative Officer.

This Week’s Topics: The County Agricultural Commissioner has the honor each year of announcing which county crop is number one, and that happened this week; a Deputy District Attorney has received an advanced law degree from a first in the nation program, and the county’s internship program continues to receive praise for its accomplishments.

**Agricultural Commissioner**

Agriculture is the strongest driver of Monterey County’s economy and each year the Agricultural Commissioner’s office issues its Crop Report, which identifies the top value crops produced locally as well as key information about this critical industry.

The Crop Report for 2010 was released to the public June 14th and the suspense of which commodity is the ‘top crop’ is over. Strawberries are #1 for the second year in a row. The top five crops and their gross values are in the box at right.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top Five Monterey County Crops</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Strawberries</td>
<td>$751,114,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Leaf Lettuce</td>
<td>$724,619,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Head Lettuce</td>
<td>$511,904,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Broccoli</td>
<td>$297,125,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Nursery</td>
<td>$266,121,000</td>
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For those who live and work here, and are accustomed to seeing miles of fields in production, it’s easy to forget how important those field really are. In 2010, crops in Monterey County had a value of $4 billion. Eleven crops have values of more than $100 million, 15 have values of more than $10 million.
This year’s crop report also highlights changes within the Agricultural Commissioner’s Office that are improving services to both the community and industry through new technologies. The department has completely overhauled its website, has launched an improved inspection program that provides digital access to agriculture shipment certificates and is anticipating the launch of a new web-based system for pesticide permit use reports.

Check out the new website at: http://ag.co.monterey.ca.us/. You can read the new crop report online at http://ag.co.monterey.ca.us/assets/resources/assets/163/cropreport_2010.pdf?1308009938

**District Attorney**
Monterey County District Attorney Dean Flippo is pleased to announce that Deputy District Attorney (DDA) Elizabeth Thomas has received a Masters of Law in Prosecutorial Science Degree from Chapman University School of Law located in Orange County, California.

This two-year program is the first program in the nation to provide a Masters of Law in Prosecutorial Science. The program is a post-Juris Doctor degree granted under the exclusive auspices of the California District Attorney’s Association and Chapman University School of Law. It has a very competitive admission process with a low residency, distance-learning feature, which allows selective prosecutors from all over California to participate.

Ms. Thomas is the lead prosecutor in the District Attorney’s Truancy Abatement Unit. She received her Juris Doctor from Western State University College of Law – Fullerton in 1998. Soon after, she was hired as a deputy district attorney in Tulare County and was assigned to general criminal prosecution and consumer fraud. In 2001, she was hired by District Attorney Flippo and was assigned as the first full-time deputy to the District Attorney’s Truancy Abatement Program.

DDA Thomas expanded the Truancy Abatement Program by reaching out to every school district in Monterey County and she was instrumental in establishing the first Truancy Court in Monterey County. To date, more than 10,000 families have been participants of the abatement program, with countless habitually truant students returning to satisfactory school attendance and to high school graduation.

**Administration – Internship Program**
The County’s Internship Program is again on the receiving end of recognition for its accomplishments.

The program has been nominated for an Outstanding Internship Program Award with the California Internship & Work Experience Association (CIWEA) for 2011/2012.
Each year CIWEA recognizes programs that provide exemplary internship or work experience opportunities. CIWEA's aim is to highlight best practices and encourage organizations to continue offering resources and opportunities for student success.

Internships in Monterey County are diverse in order to accommodate a wide range of areas of study. The County's program attracts students from the following list of majors and more:

Business Office Technology
Business Administration
Criminal Justice
Law/Paralegal
Health Science
Behavioral Health
Engineering
Computer Science
Public Policy
Human Resources Management

The internship program offers students valuable work experience for school credit or career building.

The program has placed more than 180 interns in 2009/2010 in valuable work experience opportunities that provide public service to the County of Monterey. Now in its third year, the program has been recognized both locally and at the state level for its successes.

To see the full spectrum of opportunities available, check out the latest Internship Bulletin at http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/intern/pdf/InternshipBulletin.pdf

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