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Economic Development Director Tapped for State Board Position; Will Share Expertise Regionally

Adding to his duties as Economic Development Director for Monterey County, David Spaur is adding the role of board member of the Californian Association for Local Economic Development (CALED). Spaur was nominated last month and will begin a four-year term July 1st.

This is Spaur’s second time as board member of CALED. Looking forward, he sees his primary tasks over the next four years to:

- Educate and serve existing members
- Recruit new members
- Provide technical skills to county planning, community development staff and elected officials to help attract, retain and promote quality jobs and revenue to their respective communities.
Spaur says he knows what an impact CALED can have for communities.

“Having served on the Board during the early 90’s, I know firsthand the value CALED can bring to a community and that is one of the reasons I decided to be a CALED Ambassador and to offer my skills to local communities from Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties,” he says. “My hope is to invite the various Workforce Investment Boards to join along with Economic Development Directors to meet quarterly and collaborate on grant opportunities and best practices.”

Spaur says the Central Coast is a unique environment that requires a different approach to job creation - how we work with environment and agriculture interests in job creation for our residents and future residents.

“We share almost all of the same land use and social economic issues, so helping each other helps us all,” he says.

CALED is the premier statewide professional economic development organization dedicated to advancing its members’ ability to achieve excellence in delivering economic development services to their communities and business clients.

Here are some interesting facts about economic development that show what an impact programs can have on local communities. A survey of counties conducted by California State Association of Counties (CSAC) found that:

- 71% of the 33 counties responding to the survey have an economic development program in the county
- 82% of those responding have adopted an economic development strategy or have one in progress
- 80% of the programs are administered from within the County Administrative Office or by a Department of the county. Promoting local economic development adds to sales tax, transient occupancy tax, and other revenues
- Almost 90% of city-funded economic development agencies are credited with increasing city revenues

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**Supervisor Jane Parker Announces Scholarship Recipients**

Three students who live in Monterey County’s Fourth Supervisorial District have been singled out as recipients of Supervisor Jane Parker’s Instigator of Excellence Scholarship.
The 2015 scholarship honorees are Susie Um, Alfonso Meza Ramos, and Jordyn Kamitono.

Created to recognize graduating seniors who are instigators of excellence in their community, the Jane Parker Instigator of Excellence Scholarship is open to all students who reside within the County of Monterey 4th District boundaries.

Here is more information about these deserving students.

Jordyn Kamitono is a resident of Marina and a graduate of Monterey High School. She plans to continue her education at California State University at Fresno. She is described as intellectually curious, academically dedicated and unfailingly hard working. Jordyn was presented with a ceremonial Proclamation at the May 20th Monterey High School Awards Ceremony and received a $500 scholarship.

Susie Um is a resident of Marina and a graduate of Marina High School. She plans to continue her education at UC Berkeley. She is described as engaged, responsible, motivated and mature. Susie was presented with a ceremonial Proclamation at the May 21st Marina High School Awards Ceremony and received a $500 scholarship.

Alfonso Meza Ramos is a resident of Seaside and a graduate of Seaside High School. He plans to continue his education at Holy Names University. He is described as having strong leadership skills, honest and intelligent. Alfonso was presented with a ceremonial Proclamation at the May 21st Seaside High School Awards Ceremony and received a $500 scholarship.

For more information about these outstanding recipients and information about how to apply for the 2016 Jane Parker Instigator of Excellence Scholarship, visit www.janeparker.org/scholarship.