

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE COUNTY OF MONTEREY

DATE:

July 18, 2011

TO:

Board of Supervisors

FROM:

Lew C. Bauman

County Administrative Offi

SUBJECT:

County Administrative Officer's Report for the week of July 18, 2011

This is the weekly report by the County Administrative Officer.

This Week's Topics: Elections reports that the candidate nomination period for the November elections are now open, Probation marks Probation Services Week by reflecting on the department's many accomplishments this year and Monterey County used special effects to dazzle state fairgoers and bring home top honors from the California State Fair.

Elections



November 8, 2011 Consolidated School and Special District General Election: The candidate nomination period opened Monday, July 18th and will close on Friday, August 12th for the November General Election for members representing various schools and special districts in the county. There are 28 local school and 16 special districts with offices scheduled for the ballot (the voter-elected Carmel Valley Fire Protection

District has recently merged with the appointed Monterey County Regional Fire District). August 12th is also the deadline to qualify local ballot measures for the November ballot.

General Office: This week, staff members will participate in an educational conference hosted by Sacramento and Sutter Counties for the 103rd Annual Conference for the California Association of Clerks and Elections Officials (CACEO) to be held in Squaw Valley. As you may recall, the Monterey County Elections Department hosted last year's conference. The four-day event will offer sessions focused on redistricting, general and specific learning sessions for both election and county clerk functions, as well as various association committee meetings with specified program areas. This conference and a

New Law Workshop in December are the only events held in California to offer continuing education to Elections Officials.

The Department has also begun to work on projects relating to the recent federal grant award, "VOTE Grant," relating to improving access to voting and voting information. The project timeline runs from July 1, 2011 and must be completed by December 2012. The total award amount the Department was granted is just over \$243,000.

Probation



Governor Jerry Brown has proclaimed July 17-23 Probation Services Week for 2011, using the week to recognize "California probation professionals'immense contributions to our state."

Probation is an essential component of the criminal justice system, and provides offenders with a pathway to a productive, successful and law-abiding future. In Monterey County, Probation staff is responsible for supervising adult and juvenile offenders, and for the care and custody of juvenile offenders in Juvenile Hall and at the Youth Center.

Chief Probation Officer Manuel Real is particularly pleased about his department's solid, long-standing partnerships with law enforcement agencies, community-based organizations and groups to provide public safety services to the community, rehabilitative programs to offenders and restitution to victims of crimes.

"Staff has been just wonderful, staying consistent, committed and professional during this very challenging and stressful budgetary time. No matter what, they keep their eyes on the ball, and keep going. Working in the probation arena makes you adept at dealing with unresolved issues, so our business is very dynamic and sometimes unpredictable. But we believe in change and second chances, and moving forward."

Just this year, the Department relocated two major operations, the Adult Division and the Silver Star Gang Prevention and Intervention program, implemented a new case management system, and gradually implemented a significant paradigm shift toward evidence-based practices and programs, and measurable outcomes.

Changes will continue with upcoming implementation of AB 109, the Public Safety Realignment shifting responsibility for low-level adult offenders and parole supervision from the state to the counties, which Chief Real anticipates being the most profound change affecting probation in the last 30 years.

Administration/Intergovernmental Affairs

Monterey County's exhibit at the California State Fair is bringing home the awards again. A consistent winner over the years, this year Monterey County has earned not only a Gold Award, but an award for special effects.

The state fair runs through July 31st in Sacramento and features an amazing variety of exhibits, entertainment and attractions. Last year's fair attendance topped 740,000.

Each year, California counties create exhibits to showcase the best they have to offer and the top exhibits are honored in a judging.

"These exhibits are a tremendous marketing tool for counties," explains Debby Bradshaw, Management Analyst III who has overseen the creation of exhibits for the last six years. "Thousands of people walk

through the exhibits hall each year, and it gives us the chance to showcase our county as a destination for tourism. We also have a vacation package we give away to one lucky person and that really brings fair attendees to our exhibit."



The 20 x20 foot exhibit is jampacked with examples of Monterey County industries, events, locations and attractions.



This year, the judges really liked the 'fire and rain' aspect of the exhibit, giving it the Best Special Effects award. In the agriculture section of the exhibit, a video showcases county crops, and when it rains in the video, real rain comes down on the produce in the exhibit. Overhead, a giant wine bottle is flanked by two giant glowing candles, making this display hard to miss.