

COUNTY NEWS

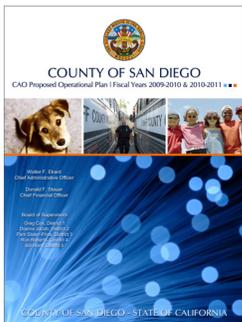
ISSUE 06 YEAR 09



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Next Year's Budget Presented to Board



Last month, Chief Administrative Officer Walt Ekard presented a Proposed Operational Plan to the Board of Supervisors.

The Operational Plan, informally known as the County budget, provides the County's financial plan for the next two fiscal years (July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011). The current budget calls for \$4.94 billion in spending, down 4.7 percent from last year's Operation Plan, with 758 fewer employees.

[Watch the Proposed Operational Plan presentation.](#)

The Operational Plan identifies the major accomplishments achieved during the past year, discusses strategic objectives for the next two years, details planned expenditures over the next two years, and projects the resources that will be used to finance these activities.

This year's plan is markedly different from those of years' past, Ekard told the board.

(Continued on Page 4)

Law Enforcement Memorial Dedicated to Fallen Officers

Amidst the sunshine and palm trees of the County Administration Center's southwest lawn, a somber event took place last month.

More than 500 people attended a dedication ceremony for the San Diego County Regional Law Enforcement Memorial, honoring 80 local law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty since 1864.

The special memorial includes the name of every fallen police officer, Sheriff's deputy and state and federal law enforcement officer in the San Diego region.

Resting upon a carnelian granite base, the memorial is a 6-inch layered glass wall that stands nearly 5 feet tall and 15 feet long. A walkway from Harbor Drive leads across the lawn of the County Administration Center to the wall, into which the names are sandblasted. Following the dedication ceremony, family



members of fallen law enforcement officers were able to rub the etched names of their loved ones onto slips of paper, taking an imprint of the memorial.

Seven select words of meaning are embedded in the glass panels alongside the officers' names: Integrity, Honor, Courage, Sacrifice, Duty, Commitment and Loyalty.

The memorial is internally lit with a soft white glow from dusk till dawn, illuminating the names of those honored. The lighting will turn to blue for a period of mourning whenever a line of duty death occurs in the region, and also during the annual memorial ceremony in May.

The memorial is a project of the County of San Diego, the San Diego County Deputy Sheriff's Association, the San Diego County Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation and many private donors. View photos [here](#).



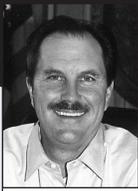
Who still rescues cats in trees? The County does! Last month, Channel 8 filmed the Department of Animal Services rescuing a cat that had been in a tree at the entrance to USD for possibly eight days.

JUNE 2009 Calendar of Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

FLAG DAY 14

FATHER'S DAY 21



In *Walt's* Words

Surveys to Gauge County Service

As part of the County's Serving Everyone with Excellence program, the annual Customer Satisfaction Survey will be on public counters from Monday, June 15 to Friday, June 26. The survey is an important part of this Department of Human Resources program as it allows customers to tell the County how it's doing and provide feedback on how the County can better serve them.

DHR asks departments to encourage customers to take a few minutes to fill out the form. If you have questions about the survey and its distribution, please contact DHR's Employee Development Division, at (619) 578-5770.

DPW Employee Moonlights in Senior Follies

Julie Paulsen, an Engineering Tech II at Gillespie Field, is in this year's production of Senior Follies and would love for you to come to one of the shows.

The 70-member cast is filled with dancers and singers ranging in age from 55 to 94. This year's theme is "On the Road Again," and the cast sings, dances and pays tribute to every state in the nation. Over 50 songs and dance numbers come to life on stage at the East County Performing Arts Center. The show runs June 19 - 28.

For information and tickets, visit http://www.cyt.org/cct_site/productions_senior_follies.php. You can get two tickets for the price of one for mentioning Paulsen's name.

Child Support Pilots Campaign to Contact Parents after Hours

The Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) initiated a pilot project to begin calling non-custodial parents between 5 and 7 p.m. on weekdays in an effort to reach more parents required to make support payments. The targeted group for these calls is parents who recently had a child support order established and have not made their first ordered payment.

Under the pilot program, the non-custodial parent is contacted by telephone during non-traditional hours by a caseworker 10 to 15 days after the court hearing to initiate payment and answer any questions.

The non-custodial parents are encouraged to make their first payment and continue to remain current with their child support obligations to avoid any enforcement actions.

The caseworkers conduct a follow-up call to the non-custodial parent if payment has not

(News Briefs continued on Page 3)

Put Down the Hose

It's the start of summer. Do you see yourself in the backyard, burgers on the grill, the fountain gurgling, the kids scooting by on the Slip 'n Slide rolled out across your lush, green lawn?

It's a nice image. But unfortunately, it's just not realistic anymore. Not unless - depending on which water district supplies your home - you want to pay higher rates or get disapproving looks from your neighbors.

The grill's ok, but you should probably find another activity for the kids. And for now, turn off the fountain and cut back on your lawn watering.

The reality is, we're in a drought, and our region's main water supplier is cutting back delivery by 13 percent this year - 8 percent beginning on July 1. For many of us, cutting back our water usage isn't just the right thing to do; it's the law - enforceable by pretty stiff penalties.

Inside, you can:

- Turn off the water when washing dishes or brushing your teeth.
- Run the dishwasher and laundry only when you have a full load.
- Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket.
- Shorten your showers (this one can be difficult, especially on a chilly morning).

Outside:

- Water your garden or lawn only in the late evening or early morning, when the wind and sun won't speed evaporation.
- Cut each irrigation cycle by one to three minutes, or eliminate a cycle from the week.
- Wait until the top inch of soil is dry to water again.
- Repair leaks and broken sprinkler heads, and make sure the water is falling on soil, not on the sidewalk or driveway.
- Use mulch to reduce evaporation.



Walt

Walt Ekard
Chief Administrative Officer



WATER: A PRECIOUS RESOURCE

Did you know that you can help protect San Diego's water quality by using water more efficiently? By preventing over-irrigation and unnecessary outdoor water use, you can help to prevent polluted water runoff from entering our stormwater conveyances and waterways.

As we all know, outdoor pavement (sidewalks, roadways, parking lots) aren't the cleanest things around. When we al-

low water that we use in our daily routines to runoff and leave our property, we give that water a chance to pick up all kinds of pollutants in its path. Pet waste, oil, trash, and soaps are just a few of the things that can end up in our local waterways as water leaves our property.

In this time of drought, it is especially important to take time to reevaluate the way we use water.

(Continued on Page 3)

County Swings into Action to Stem Spread of Swine Flu

Not long after Chief Epidemiologist Michele Ginsberg received the call that a San Diego County child had tested positive for swine flu, County Public Health officials were dealing with an outbreak the likes of which they'd never before seen.

San Diego County was Ground Zero for the swine flu outbreak in the United States, and within days of those first cases, national and international health officials were talking about a possible pandemic.

The spread of the virus, which came to be known as the Novel H1N1 Influenza A, never rose to pandemic level, but health officials are preparing for another wave – this time a more virulent strain – in the fall.

As of press time, more than 160 people in the county were infected with the virus. The County, working with school districts, temporarily closed three local high schools.

During the height of the virus' spread, County Public Health Officer Wilma Wooten held daily media briefings outside the Health & Human Services Agency building downtown to update the public on the latest developments.

Wooten and Deputy Public Health Officer Dean Sidelinger met with area hospitals and clinics, school districts, local, state and federal government officials and the Mexican Consul General to ensure a coordinated response.

Working with the Department of Media & Public Relations, Wooten filmed several video messages specially targeting schools, parents, businesses and health care providers, among



County Public Health Officer Dr. Wilma Wooten held daily media briefings to update the public on the spread of the virus.

other groups, to answer questions and provide guidance and reassurance. These videos were posted on the County's Web site and also on its Facebook and YouTube pages.

To see the videos, as well as the news releases and other information, visit the County's H1N1 Web page: <http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov/Portal/News/swineflu.html>

A plan for responding to a flu epidemic was already in place. In late 2005 and early 2006, the County developed the Influenza Response Plan, a coordinated local strategy to prepare for and respond to an influenza pandemic that supplements the State and Federal Plans.

A community-wide campaign was launched in May 2007, and was tested in February 2008 during a measles outbreak.

Had it not been for the County's sentinel surveillance system, which is constantly on the lookout for new viruses, the Novel H1N1 Influenza A virus may have circulated longer in the community.

been received after the initial phone contact. In the first month of the pilot, caseworkers were able to obtain payments 13 percent of the time and collect \$27,000 in direct payments.

Sheriff Progresses in Efforts to Automate Crime Reports

On April 28, the Sheriff's records management system (NetRMS) reached an important milestone with the activation of an automated interface to the Automated Regional Justice Information System (ARJIS), San Diego's regional crime information sharing system.

Crime cases account for the majority of records sent via the automated interface and make-up approximately 60 percent of the total cases. Prior to implementation of the new system, patrol deputies entered crime information into the department's records management system, a process repeated by records clerks who keyed a large subset of the same information into ARJIS. This redundant inefficiency has now been eliminated, resulting in approved information reaching the ARJIS system much sooner – down from approximately two weeks to five minutes.

Next steps for the interface project will include the addition of Arrest Reports, Field Interviews and other data elements. With this new interface, data entry timeliness and accuracy has been improved throughout the Sheriff's Department and the regional agencies.

County Fleet Helps Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Department of General Services recently received eight Ford Fusion Hybrid vehicles, bringing the total count of County Fleet hybrid and alternative-fueled vehicles to 190. These new models have a 41-miles-per-gallon rating by the Environmental Protection Agency. When compared to the older sedans they will replace, the hybrids are expected to save 20,000 gallons of fuel and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 287 tons over their useful life.

These new vehicles will be used by the Sheriff and the departments of Public Works; Agriculture, Weights and Measures; and General Services. Eighteen County departments currently have hybrid vehicles, with eight departments having nine or more.

The County's fleet consists of 3,950 vehicles ranging from sedans and light-duty pickups to heavy-duty trucks, off-road equipment, patrol cars and buses. County vehicles travel 41 million miles and consume 3.2 million gallons of fuel per year.



WATER: A PRECIOUS RESOURCE cont.

There are many easy things that we can each do to help save water – and get the dual benefit of protecting the quality of our streams, lakes, and ocean at the same time! The County's Watershed Protection Program urges you to use water efficiently, especially outdoors. You can help prevent water pollution and achieve significant water savings in four easy steps:

- **Sweep it up:** By using a broom to clean your porch or driveway instead of a hose, you get free exercise and fresh air while saving water!
- **Adjust your sprinklers:** Water your landscape, not the pavement. By preventing overspray, you can save an average of 15-20 gallons per day per valve.

- **Repair leaks:** Identify and repair broken pipes, dripping faucets, and broken sprinklers to save as much as 20 gallons of water per day per leak.
- **Use mulch:** Add a few inches of mulch around trees and plants to reduce evaporation and help prevent weed growth and other pests at the same time. This one action can save 40 gallons of water per day per valve and reduce the need for harmful pesticides!

Thank you for doing your part! For further information visit: www.projectcleanwater.org or www.20gallonchallenge.com. To report Stormwater Pollution, call 1-888-846-0800. If you have questions regarding specific water conservation requirements in your neighborhood, please contact your local water provider directly.

Proposed Operational Plan (continued from page 1)

“The recent economic downturn, which impacted all sectors of our community, coupled with the State of California’s continued fiscal instability, is forcing all local governments - including us - to revisit the services we provide to the public and make difficult decisions regarding them. This is all the more challenging because this decline in revenue has been accompanied by an increase in the public’s need for County services,” Ekard said.

The changes and challenges playing out in our financial, housing and retail sectors took years to develop and they will take time to resolve.

Because of that, it is only prudent that we consider this reality when we plan how to spend the public’s dollars. Short-term thinking and band-aid solutions will only postpone - and probably make worse - the hard decisions that today’s economic realities require.”

Still, there was something to celebrate. Over the past year, the County:

- Built and opened a new, state-of-the-art skilled nursing facility at Edgemoor in the

City of Santee to care for the region’s most vulnerable residents;

- Expanded or replaced four community libraries, completed designs for three more and acquired 4,100 acres of new parkland, giving County residents more access to information and natural resources;
- Successfully conducted four elections, including a presidential election that generated record voter turnout;
- Improved the region’s health care safety net;
- Strengthened the region’s firefighting and emergency response capabilities; and
- Negotiated fiscally-responsible labor agreements.

The County anticipates receiving more than \$69.6 million in federal economic stimulus funds for local services and projects, with aggressive efforts to obtain additional grants underway.

After public hearings, the Board will deliberate and consider any adjustments that need to be made before formally adopting the first year of the Plan. At that time, the Board will also approve the second year in principle for planning purposes.

All in the (County) Family

With more than 16,000 employees working for the County of San Diego, there’s bound to be a family or two dispersed among departments. Len Snavelly, Sue MacGowan and Sarah Solis are one of those families – three generations working as civil servants for the residents of San Diego County.

Len moved his family to San Diego and started working for the County of San Diego in the 1980s as a Personnel Officer for the Department of Human Resources at the County Administration Center. He worked for several different departments over the years finally, landing in the Department of Public Works at the County Operations Center before retiring in 2004.

His daughter Sue started in 1995 as an Intermediate Clerk Typist for the Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk and has worked her way up to a Property Assessment Specialist II at the CAC.

Len’s granddaughter Sarah started with Children’s Services as an Office Assistant in El Cajon in 2006 and currently works

as an Office Support Specialist for County Airports at Gillespie Field.

They all spend time together as a family, barbecuing, talking politics, hiking around San

Diego or watching movies. Now that Len is retired, he and his wife like to frequent Barona Casino’s buffet.

Sue and her husband are looking forward to being first time grandparents as Sarah and her husband are expecting their first child around July 24 (perhaps a fourth generation County employee?).

Working for the County has allowed all three to provide excellent benefits to their families as well as give them the freedom and opportunity to reach for the next rung on the County ladder.

Do you have a family member who is also employed by the County? Tell us about it! And send a picture, too. E-mail CountyNews@sdcounty.ca.gov.



IN YOUR WORDS

Occasionally County News will publish a personal story written by a County employee. The following was submitted by Building Inspector Harry Boghossian.

April 24 of this year marked the 94th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide Occurrence.

As a member of the San Diego’s Armenian community, I decided to acknowledge this important date by attending the Armenian Genocide commemoration and candlelight vigil held at UCSD.

At the commemoration, one of the speakers was state Sen. Mark Wyland. He stated that one of his sponsored bills, the Genocide Awareness Act SB 234, was soon to be debated by the Senate Education Committee. This bill, beginning with the 2010-11 school year, would require that a student be exposed to an oral history component related to genocides.

On the spur of the moment, I decided to drive up to the state capitol to testify in front of the committee in favor of this bill.

On April 29, I met with Sen. Wyland and his staff. They directed me to the committee room to testify in front of the chair members. My testimony was as follows:

“One of the greatest atrocities during the First World War was the Armenian Genocide. The 1.5 million Armenians that vanished from this planet that were annihilated by the genocide deserve to be recognized throughout history along with all genocides.

“My father was an eyewitness to the massacre of 1.5 million Armenians. He was exposed to a terrible tragedy. It changed his entire life forever...

“We must never live in the denial of the truth. I urge the Senator Education Committee to support and vote for the Genocide Awareness Act SB 234 so the genocide is never repeated.”

After completing my testimony, nearly 15 other testimonies were heard against the bill. No other testimony was heard in support of the bill besides mine. After completion of all testimonies, the Senate Education Committee approved Sen. Wyland’s Genocide Awareness Act.

Before leaving the capitol I was introduced to the communications director, who showed me around the capitol building. The scenery was very delightful around the capitol building. I enjoyed very much the experience testifying in front of the committee and I thank members of the committee for passing the bill.

Board of Supervisors

- Greg Cox, District 1
- Dianne Jacob, District 2
- Pam Slater-Price, District 3
- Ron Roberts, District 4
- Bill Horn, District 5

Chief Administrative Officer
Walter F. Ekard

County News is published for the 17,000 employees of the County of San Diego. The newsletter is available online at www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dmp (click on “Employee Newsletter”) or via the County’s Intranet at CWW. This information is available upon request in alternative formats for persons with disabilities.

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Saving for College

Do you have college savings accounts for your children? If not, it's never too late to start. There are a few different education savings accounts to choose from, so make sure you do some research before finding one that is best for you.

One option is called the Coverdell education savings account. These are education savings accounts that are sponsored by the federal government. The money contributed comes from after-tax dollars and there is an annual limit to the dollar amount contributed into these accounts. Parents or relatives can set up several accounts at various financial institutions as long as their combined contribution does not go over the annual limit. The earnings and withdrawal from these accounts are tax-free as long as the money is used to pay for college tuition, living, and other eligible expenses.

Coverdell education savings accounts allow contributors/donors to have the flexibility to choose which types of investments the money will go into. For example, you may invest in stocks, bonds, mutual funds, certificate of deposits, etc. This way, you can choose either an aggressive or conservative investment strategy, depending on how much time you have to invest or how much risk you're willing to take.

As with any investment, there are risks and/or management fees associated with education savings accounts. As long as your earnings or return on investment are greater than your losses, then having these plans is a good choice. Another thing to keep in mind is financial aid eligibility. If your family has low to moderate income, having these plans may affect your child's federal aid eligibility.

Another risk which is not associated with investing is the possibility that your child will not go to college. In most cases, the money can be withdrawn by paying a penalty fee or rolled over to another family member, such as a brother, sister or first cousin, without paying a penalty.

For more information on Coverdell education savings accounts, contact San Diego County Credit Union at (877) 732-2848, visit www.sdccu.com, or walk into one of the 26 branch locations.

CTN Awarded Overall Excellence Two Years in a Row

The County Television Network was honored last month with several awards at the annual conference of the Southern California and Nevada chapter of the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors in Santa Monica.

CTN won the coveted large market Overall Excellence award – essentially, naming it the top government channel in all California and Nevada – for the second year in a row.

The first place wins were for:

- **“Your Future Now”** (caregivers video) – special audience category;
- **“County Chronicles”** – magazine show (+\$400k) category;
- **“Silver Age Yoga”** – instructional category;
- **“Java Jams”** – performing arts category;
- **“Reel San Diego”** – talk show (+\$400k) category;
- **“Permeable Concrete”** – environmental category.

County Counsel Attorneys Recognized

Eight County Counsel attorneys received Statewide Recognition Awards at the recent annual conference of the County Counsels' Association of California.

For the second year in a row, San Diego County Counsel's Office had the largest number of award recipients from any of the 58 counties. The second largest number was three recipients each from Orange, San Francisco and Santa Clara counties. A total of 29 awards were presented to county counsel attorneys from twelve counties.

Tim Barry, Tom Bunton, Deborah McCarthy, Bill Pettingill, Caitlin Rae, Gary Seiser and Bill Taylor received Recognition Awards for their accomplishments that benefited counties statewide and/or benefited the County Counsels' Association. Additionally, Nate Northup received a Litigation Award for his significant assistance in the preparation of an amicus curiae brief, which was filed on behalf of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) in the Court of Appeal.

(News Makers continued on Page 6)



May was Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and to celebrate Supervisor Ron Roberts invited County employees to enjoy a performance in front of the County Administration Center by children from Yancheng, China.

Serial Inebriate Program Earns 2009 Taxpayers Association Award

The County's award-winning Serial Inebriate Program (SIP) has earned another honor for its success in addressing the community-wide impacts of chronic alcoholism.

On May 13, Chairwoman Dianne Jacob, along with Vice-Chairwoman Pam Slater-Price and Supervisors Greg Cox and Bill Horn, accepted the San Diego County Taxpayers Association "Golden Watchdog Award" for the County's program aimed at reducing costs associated with chronic alcoholics living on the streets. The program is a joint effort between Alcohol and Drug Services and local law enforcement agencies.

Under the program, clients taken to jail, area hospitals or detox centers are encouraged to seek treatment. In 2008, 39 percent of clients entering the SIP program successfully completed a 30-day intervention program, with 24 percent completing the entire in-patient or out-patient treatment.

According to a study by San Diego State University's School of Public Health, the program saves taxpayers over \$73,000 per month. It is estimated that there are some 300 chronic public inebriates in the central San Diego area, with 500 more who are "at-risk."

AIS Director to Receive National Award for Innovation

Aging & Independence Services Director Pam Smith will be honored as this year's recipient of the Generations United Award for Intergenerational Innovation. The award will be presented during Generations United's Awards Banquet on July 30 at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capital Hill.

Capitol Display Wins Award

The Department of Public Works received an "Award of Excellence" from the National Association of Government Communicators for the display that was created by Cartographic Services for the state capitol's Hall of Counties.

The Hall features displays from around the state. Last fall, the County replaced its aging display with a painstakingly-created beach scene diorama surrounded by photographs representing the region.

The display was featured in September's County News: <http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dmpr/docs/newsletters/news0908.pdf>.

(News Makers continued on Page 7)

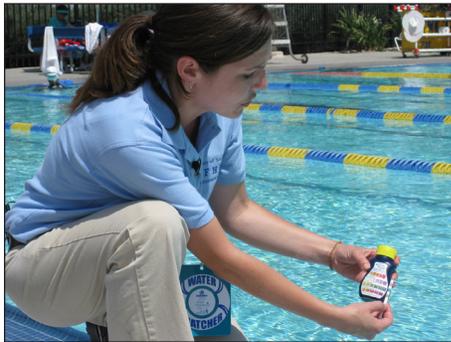
Common Mistake at Pools Can Make You Sick

Pools and water parks are a part of summer fun, but maintenance and other safety mistakes may be more common than you think.

The County Department of Environmental Health is responsible for regularly inspecting every pool in the county that serves more than three families – from apartment complexes to community centers and everything in between, totaling about 6,400 pools.

"One of most common mistakes our inspectors see is not putting enough chlorine in the pool, which can lead to more germs that spread illness. We work with operators to correct problems, but the public is our partner in checking the pool area for safety as well," said Jack Miller, the County Department of Environmental Health Acting Director.

Environmental Health officials recommend checking the chlorine levels using a kit that can be found at pool supply stores for about \$12.



Environmental Health Specialist Heather Buonomo tests the chlorine level at a public pool in Tierrasanta.

Other steps to stay safe and prevent illness in the pool:

- Check to see if pool equipment appears to be in working order; you should be able



Public swimming pools are filling up. The County keeps tabs on public pools to make sure they're safe and clean. Watch tips on how to make sure that time in the pool is a safe one.

to hear pool pumps and filtration systems running.

- Make sure the pool water is clean and clear with little odor.
- Use good hygiene; shower before you swim, don't swim if you have diarrhea and don't change diapers on the pool deck.
- Keep an eye on children at all times; kids can drown in seconds and in silence.

To help remind parents and other family members to watch children in the pool, DEH has partnered with Rady Children's Hospital and other local agencies to distribute "water watcher" tags. The tag hangs around the neck of the person designated to watch children in the pool, and has information about what to do in a drowning emergency. Free tags are available at the Safety Gift Store inside of Rady Children's Hospital at 3200 Children's Way in San Diego.

For additional information about pool safety, visit the DEH Web site at www.sdcounty.ca.gov/deh.

County Library Debuts New Bookmobile

Chairwoman Dianne Jacob, along with Fourth District Supervisor Ron Roberts, who is a regular bookmobile customer, and Library Director José Aponte, officiated at a dedication ceremony to launch the new East County Bookmobile on Tuesday, April 28, at the County Administration Center (CAC).

The vehicle features vibrant art created by San Diego muralist John Whalen, of Wall-It Graphics in La Mesa. The art depicts a variety of services offered to library customers, including books, music, art and information. Whalen, who is locally-renowned for his landmark mural of Charles Lindbergh



on the commuter terminal at San Diego International Airport, attended the event. A second new bookmobile, which is slated to serve the North County, will also feature art by Whalen. (Continued on Page 7)

New Bookmobile
(continued from page 6)

The new East County Bookmobile measures 36 feet long — 10 feet longer than its predecessor — and has more than twice the capacity of the older vehicle. It holds 7,400 items and will house computers and a printer for public use. It serves the already established route with 15 sites throughout much of the unincorporated area of East County, as well as the CAC and the Monarch School.



“In my district, which includes all of East County, there are about 9,000 people living in very small, very rural communities. The drive to the nearest library can take more than an hour,” Jacob said.

“That’s why the Bookmobile brings the San Diego County library to them! Library Director José Aponte and his well-read staff roll into town with thousands of books, DVD, CDs and computer access,” she said.

The Bookmobile first came into service in 1959, its arrival announced in the “The Southern California Rancher,” and the ribbon cutting held at the CAC. The vehicle held 3,000 books and phonograph records and served just one East County site: Lake Murray in La Mesa.

After the dedication, Robert Dent, then the Board Chair, checked out the first book. Its title? “How to Supervise.”

For more information on the Bookmobile, visit the County Library’s Web site, at www.sdcl.org. And if you don’t have one yet, get a library card.

It will be, Aponte says, the most valuable card in your wallet.

Ver•ba•tim

Cindy Davis (Agriculture, Weights & Measures) provided technical information that was “timely, thorough and invaluable” to a local building supply company.

“To say that she went above and beyond is an understatement. In thirty plus years in this business I have never been more impressed with a government employee’s service, knowledge, courtesy and extra efforts.”

Shirley Chin (Agriculture, Weights & Measures) was appreciated for her assistance during a recent licensing examination.

“These exams are an important component for successful candidates that will oversee critical programs at the local level. Please accept our gratitude for the tremendous job you did helping us conduct the interviews.”

David Kellum, Tracy Ellis, George Jones and Tina Duh (Agriculture, Weights & Measures) were thanked for their support and participation in a local school’s ‘Agriculture Day.’

“Your efforts gave the students a wonderful, educational and exciting experience. We look forward to seeing you next year!”

Officer Julio Barajas (Probation) received kudos for helping to break up a fight between two groups in a school parking lot.

“Officer Barajas called the Sheriff’s deputies to respond to the scene and assisted me to make sure everyone was safe. I truly believe if PO Barajas was not at my site there would have been students seriously injured from the altercation.”

Lydia Leon (Probation) “was very professional, supportive and seemed to truly enjoy her work.”

“She offered to help and took the time to listen to my story, which isn’t always the case when you’re calling a government office. I probably don’t need to tell you what an asset Lydia is to the Probation Department.”

(Verbatim continued on Page 8)

DEH Staff Earns Top Honors

Liz Pozzebon, Chief of the Food and Housing Division in the Department of Environmental Health (DEH), has won the prestigious award of Manager of the Year from the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health.

Pozzebon was active in the adoption of the new State food code, referred to as CalCode, and its uniform implementation statewide. Specifically, she developed guidance for staff and industry that is used in San Diego County and has now been adopted statewide.

In addition, Julie DeGraw of DEH’s Food and Housing Division has won the Environmental Health Specialist of the Year award from the California Environmental Health Association. DeGraw was recognized for her efforts to create a Web site, www.eatsSAFE-sandiego.org, where San Diego residents and visitors can find the food safety score of their favorite restaurant before leaving home.

This project was exceptionally challenging and required the development of a data validation process to ensure the information is accurate before posting. Since its launch in January 2008, the Web site has had over 30,000 visitors.

Palomar Airport Terminal Project Receives Accolades

On April 23, the McClellan-Palomar Airport Terminal Improvements Project received recognition as the “Best Transportation Project less than \$25 Million” from the San Diego Chapter of the Construction Management Association of America.

In addition, the Project has been selected as a California Transportation Foundation TRANNY Award finalist; one of the top two aviation projects in 2008. The winner will be announced at the 20th Annual TRANNY Awards luncheon on June 3 at the Sacramento Convention Center.

Sheriff’s Detective Honored for Investigative Excellence

On April 16, Sheriff’s Detective Pete Carrillo received the 2009 Robert Presley Institute of Criminal Investigation’s Investigative Excellence Award. The prestigious award was given by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards & Training and was presented during the last day of an annual statewide Detective Training Symposium. Carrillo was one of only a few awardees selected from across the state.

(News Makers continued on Page 8)

Carrillo works in the Sheriff's Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Unit and was selected for his tenacious and thorough handling of the February 2008 Solana Beach and unincorporated La Mesa area rape cases. As lead investigator in the case, Carrillo successfully utilized numerous law enforcement resources to protect the public and isolate the suspect in this case.

The suspect, Jason Washington, was found in possession of a semi-automatic handgun, additional ammunition, a survival knife, duct tape and a canister of tear gas. It was evident he posed a significant threat to the public. If it were not for the quick and labor-intensive efforts of Carrillo, Washington's crime spree would likely have continued.

A Peek Inside Juvenile Hall



The County's Probation Department opens the doors to Juvenile Hall once a year, allowing parents the opportunity to show their kids a taste of what's inside. Join us as we take a rare look to see what it's like.

Richard Delgado and his crew, Chuck Andreasen, Ryan Fuson, Wilson Green, Brandon Kirohn, Alfredo Macias, Ezekiel Maldonado, Joseph Ortega, and Juan Verdin (Public Works, Road Maintenance) were acknowledged by Supervisor Jacob for providing "outstanding service."

"Thank you for responding so quickly to remediate the potential flooding on the property located off of El Canto Road in Casa De Oro. One of the residents shared her gratitude with me for the outstanding service she received from the Department of Public Works. Your hard work and dedication to the people of San Diego County is greatly appreciated. We are fortunate to have you on the County team. Thank you again for all of your efforts in this matter. Keep up the great work!"

Christina Volz (HHSANorth Central Family Resource Center) "is extremely helpful and courteous."

"She understood my situation and did not hesitate to provide all the help that she could for me. The County needs more people like Christina."

And from another client: *"This has been the hardest day of my life. Christina has been so compassionate and thorough. Today I feel I have hope again for me and my son."*

Chris Loeffler (HHSANorth Central Family Resource Center) "does a great job!"

"Chris was very patient and answered all of our questions concisely and promptly. He is an excellent case-worker!"

And more kudos for Chris: *"He was wonderful. He made my appointment easy and relaxed...Amazing guy!"*

Kristina Murphy (HHSANorth Central Family Resource Center) "goes above and beyond the call of duty."

"She has a wonderful, positive, can-do attitude. Her warm caring smile tells us that 'everything will be alright.' Despite the stress involved in her position she rises above and her light shines bright."

Lao Hor (HHSANorth Central Family Resource Center) "was the best gentlemen I have ever had help me. He is truly a good employee. Thank you to Lao!"

Deborah Kirkwood (Public Defender) was acknowledged for "her professionalism, thoroughness, ability and good spirit."

"She had much to contend with, the least of which were: a difficult client, a more difficult father and frequent delays; all while she was handling a group of other serious cases. This experience has given us a whole new view of the Public Defender's Office."

Shanita Duncan (Sheriff) "gives the County a shining reputation."

"Shanita is an excellent service professional. She gave me all the follow-up numbers I needed and took the extra step of consulting with her manager so that I had the information needed for a call back. Punctual, exceptional service!"

Araceli Manzo (Housing & Community Development) "absolutely did everything in her power to enable me to stay in my apartment."

"She spent long, hard and tough hours until the landlord agreed to lessen the rent increase. If she hadn't have done this, I would have had nowhere to go. She treated me like a human being and kept me from being a homeless statistic in San Diego."

Cynthia Robles (Housing & Community Development) "treats her clients very well."

"She patiently listened and spent time with me until all of my questions were clearly answered. May God continue to bless your offices with competent people to help and serve the public. My sincere thanks and congratulations for the excellent quality customer service provided."

In Memoriam

Claire M. Allen (Health & Human Services Agency, 1978)	4/09
Zona M. Arie (Health & Human Services Agency, 1984)	3/09
Richard H. Bourke (Health & Human Services Agency, 1986)	3/09
Milton P. Cherne (Sheriff, 1988)	3/09
Evelyn Colligan (Health & Human Services Agency, 1978)	4/09
Carlton D. Corden (Public Works, 1991)	3/09
Cherolyn Cureton (Revenue & Recovery, 1992)	3/09
Cho T. Garcia (Sheriff, 2004)	3/09
Ollermay Graves (Sheriff, 2004)	3/09
Arthur E. Haas (Public Works, 1988)	3/09
Gerald L. Hill (Agriculture, Weights & Measures, 1986)	3/09
Milton Katz (Probation, 1986)	3/09
Edward C. Keeley (Health & Human Services Agency, 1986)	4/09
Theodore J. Lange (Health & Human Services Agency, 1992)	3/09
Maurice E. Lewis (Probation, 1998)	11/08
Jeanette Marline (Municipal Court, 1993)	2/09
Judith A. Nelson (Health & Human Services Agency, 2000)	4/09
Richard M. Paus (Informational Services, 1997)	3/09
Helen H. Pennywitt (Edgemoor Hospital, 1971)	3/09
Elizabeth J. Pollock (Health & Human Services Agency, 1981)	3/09
Carol A. Purcell (Sheriff, 1989)	3/09
Charles H. Ratcliffe (Probation, 1977)	4/09
Henry C. Ronstadt (General Services, 1982)	3/09
Helen C. Santiago (Health & Human Services Agency, 2005)	4/09
Shirley Warner (Planning & Land Use, 1990)	4/09
Benjamin L. Watkins (Health & Human Services Agency, 2000)	2/09

Ver•ba•tim

Lena Sumal (Child Support Services) *"is great at her job and I really want to thank her from the bottom of my heart."*

"This is a scary place and time for my family and this lady took her time to explain everything and kept repeating 'That's what I am here for.' We need more people with that attitude."

Joe Leon (Child Support Services) *"was efficient, professional and kind."*

"He treated me with the utmost respect. Once he got my case it was handled quickly. If you guys have a class to teach new employees, he would be your #1 man to teach it. He was fantastic!"

Lupita DeMurgia (Child Support Services) *was "more than kind and deserves recognition."*

"Lupita was very nice and patiently answered all of my questions. I want to thank her for taking the extra time to help me."

Lupe Giraldo (Child Support Services) *"was well-versed on all topics" and "a great presenter."*

"Lupe was excellent and made a boring topic interesting." "She had a great attitude and communicated well with everyone."

Jubilee Garner (Child Support Services) *impressed a client with her outstanding customer service.*

"She was very friendly and well informed. This was the best use of my time since the divorce began almost 3 years ago. (It was) a tremendously valuable service."

Gemma Custodio (HHSA/Southeast Family Resource Center) *"is very understanding and concerned for her customers."*

"I can hardly express my feelings of gratitude for the courtesy provided by Ms. Gemma Custodio. She is hard working and very concerned about the physical conditions of her clients as well as their financial situations."

Retirements

George Abi-Najm (Sheriff)
 Magdalena D. Aguilar (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Elouise H. Andrews (Sheriff)
 Rosalinda Arellanes (Probation)
 Teresita P. Bangayan (Probation)
 Regina M. Banks (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Valerie A. Bickel (Sheriff)
 Marianne L. Bickhaus (Parks & Recreation)
 Michael C. Bishop (District Attorney)
 Neil A. Bleich (Environmental Health)
 Lisa A. Blocksom (Probation)
 Jon A. Bowman (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Cherie Brenner (Public Defender)
 Linda R. Brown (Public Defender)
 Leuanglith Bupasiri (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Sylvia J. Burgett (District Attorney)
 Perry L. Burrell (Facilities Management)
 Keith G. Burt (District Attorney)
 Douglas C. Carlson (Superior Court)
 Shirley A. Carrero (Auditor & Controller)
 Constance K. Carroll (Superior Court)
 Robert J. Carroll (Sheriff)
 Bruce W. Chastain (Public Works)
 Thomas J. Chifari (Probation)
 Sandra Church (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Anne Colt (Superior Court)
 John C. Conboy (Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk)
 Christina S. Cook (Sheriff)
 Mark A. Cook (Sheriff)
 Patricia A. Cordrey (Health & Human Services Agency)
 George N. Crawford (Sheriff)
 Dennis H. Cutler (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Cynthia J. Day (Auditor & Controller)
 Elvira O. Deguzman (Sheriff)
 Rosario V. Delosreyes (Child Support)
 Margaret A. Dick (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Nolan R. Egemo (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Matthew W. Erb (Probation)
 Pazleona M. Espejo (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Charles E. Evans (Sheriff)
 Robert G. Fares (Sheriff)
 Kim-thu T. Farley (Health & Human Services Agency)
 William B. Farmer (District Attorney)
 Alice K. Field (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Paulette F. Fowler (Auditor & Controller)
 Delia S. Gaba (Child Support)
 Robert E. Giesick (Environmental Health)
 Myra L. Glenn (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Curtis L. Gonzales (Planning & Land Use)
 Robert D. Gould (Fleet Maintenance Support)
 Vicki D. Graessle (Superior Court)
 Cynthia R. Griego (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Gary E. Haigh (Sheriff)
 Victor D. Haimovitch (District Attorney)
 Jeffrey J. Hamm (Sheriff)
 Pamela E. Hampton (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Barbara J. Harmon (Superior Court)
 Jeannette R. Harris (District Attorney)

Joseph H. Harteis (Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk)
 Elaine A. Heffernan (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Edith G. Hlavac (Sheriff)
 Matilde Ibarra (Health & Human Services Agency)
 David S. Johnson (Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk)
 Linda J. Johnson (Sheriff)
 Rodger W. Johnson (Public Works)
 Van A. Joslyn (Sheriff)
 Jack A. Keirse (Facilities Management)
 Judy S. Kelling (Superior Court)
 Irene B. Kett (Sheriff)
 Joseph P. Kosmicki (Sheriff)
 James C. Lam (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Jou Lim (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Ernesto C. Liwanag (Health & Human Services Agency)
 June M. Lizama (Superior Court)
 Gary A. Malone (Sheriff)
 Ann V. Mara (Superior Court)
 Trudy S. Marshall (Superior Court)
 Robert S. McGowan (Facilities Management)
 Daniel J. Megna (Sheriff)
 Rory J. Mezzanatto (Sheriff)
 Richard J. Murphy (Probation)
 Timothy Neaproeng (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Paul R. Newell (Sheriff)
 Theresa Ollivierre (Public Works)
 Dylan H. Palmer (Sheriff)
 Jesus B. Pamintuan (Sheriff)
 Vincent H. Peace (Sheriff)
 Patricia J. Peel (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Mark V. Pettine (District Attorney)
 Helene L. Phillips (Child Support)
 Donna M. Rafenstein (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Sylvia M. Raslan (Health & Human Services Agency)
 James A. Ray (District Attorney)
 Donna G. Regalado (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Benjamin D. Rivera (District Attorney)
 Linda L. Rodgers (Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk)
 Fred G. Romero (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Chantal M. Saïpe (Land Use & Environmental Group)
 Sylvia Sanchez (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Emma C. Santos (Child Support)
 Carolyn Schramm (Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk)
 Craig M. Schreiner (Sheriff)
 Narges Shahroudi (Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk)
 Daniel A. Sharpe (Sheriff)
 Adeline T. Suson (Air Pollution Control)
 Catherine M. Tague (District Attorney)
 Albert M. Tamayo (Public Defender)
 Nancy J. Taylor (Superior Court)
 Douglas F. Tomkiel (Sheriff)
 Denise A. Vando (Library)
 John E. Velguth (Auditor & Controller)
 Peter K. Weichert (Sheriff)
 Sandra L. Woodhouse (Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk)
 Jeanne R. Woody (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Wanda Younger-Brockman (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Linas J. Yurkus (Sheriff)

Service Awards

35 Years

Lynn S. Titalii (Child Support)

30 Years

Elaine L. Adams (Probation)
 Ricky L. Arias (Sheriff)
 Robert E. Bishop (Sheriff)
 Edward A. Campos (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Mary A. Garcia (District Attorney)
 Debbie M. Havens (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Anna Louise Hirsch (Probation)
 Ronald L. Hobson (Sheriff)
 Martha J. Huffman (Probation)
 Dawn P. Kay (Office of Emergency Services)
 Lynne Koch (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Robin L. Koop (Facilities Management)
 Randall A. Kummer (Probation)
 David R. Lopez (Sheriff)
 Hugh A. Morgan (Sheriff)
 Bryan A. Nazareth (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Stephen W. Nosal (Sheriff)
 Paula J. Robinson (District Attorney)
 Paul E. Rose (Sheriff)
 Vivian M. Sanchez (Sheriff)
 Maria S. Sewell (Sheriff)
 Gary E. Steadman (Sheriff)
 Eric D. Stubbs (Sheriff)
 Kerry F. Vessels (Facilities Management)
 David L. Weil (District Attorney)

25 Years

Lesley G. Bunnell (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Charles S. Campe (Sheriff)
 Velia Corral (District Attorney)
 Joseph C. Dean (Sheriff)
 Kenneth L. Harrison (Sheriff)
 Peter A. Martinez (District Attorney)
 Kerry L. McNeill (Environmental Health)
 Lynette M. Mercado (Human Resources)
 Mark S. Palmer (Probation)
 Douglas R. Sanders (Sheriff)
 Veronica Wesolowski (Child Support)
 Robert V. White (Health & Human Services Agency)
 David A. Williams (District Attorney)
 Christopher A. Woodruff (Health & Human Services Agency)

20 Years

Patricia D. Aline (Sheriff)
 Andrea Arreola (Sheriff)
 Gerald J. Asbury (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Karen A. Avilla (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Eric L. Berblinger (Sheriff)
 Phyllis V. Brown (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Valesha E. Bullock (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Mark C. Chapman (Sheriff)

20 Years continued

Caralin L. Coffey (County Counsel)
 Marlene M. Coyne (District Attorney)
 Aaron D. Dabbs (Sheriff)
 Brenda J. Daly (District Attorney)
 Robert J. Daren (Health & Human Services Agency)
 James S. Dillahunt (Probation)
 Peggy A. Espiritu (Health & Human Services Agency)
 James M. Gardner (Planning & Land Use)
 Flordeliza O. Gelle (Health & Human Services Agency)
 William T. Giddens (Public Defender)
 Maria Hernandez (Health & Human Services Agency)
 June A. Herzog (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Karen Hockensmith (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Karen A. Hovey (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Eric V. Koch (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Regina L. Lowry (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Theresa H. Macias (Child Support)
 Sharon Massoth (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Glenn R. McAllister (District Attorney)
 Joe McClinton (Facilities Management)
 Regina McInerney (Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk)
 Peter L. Miranda (Sheriff)
 Thomas C. Ness (Sheriff)
 Susan L. Newman (Probation)
 Diane Overman (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Thomas J. Pastuszka (Clerk of the Board)
 Andrew Pease (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Samuel P. Pledger (Sheriff)
 Miwa C. Pumpelly (Sheriff)
 Julieta Quinonez (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Rodolfo E. Ramirez (Public Works)
 Guadalupe Romo (Probation)
 Julita T. Rummel (Auditor & Controller)
 Mercedita Salice (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Darin W. Smith (Sheriff)
 Denis J. Smith (Sheriff)
 Julie C. Sobecki (Sheriff)
 Darrell A. Strohl (Sheriff)
 Scott M. Swannie (Sheriff)
 Cecilia Taborga (Health & Human Services Agency)
 MyNgoc Thi Tran (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Christine E. Toby (Sheriff)
 James L. Tumlin, Jr. (Environmental Health)
 Donna K. Turbyfill (Public Works)
 Lori A. Turko (Sheriff)
 Magdalena Valladolid (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Marylyn O. Vandermoer (Health & Human Services Agency)
 Michael P. Waite (Sheriff)
 Jean V. Weber (Health & Human Services Agency)
 John F. Whiteman (Sheriff)
 Patrick D. Yates (Sheriff)
 Graciela Zavala-Garcia (Public Defender)
 Evelyn M. Zuniga (Public Safety Group)