

The Jacob Journal

A Newsletter from Supervisor Dianne Jacob

May 2002

Serving the Cities of:
El Cajon
La Mesa
Lemon Grove
Poway
Santee

Serving the communities of:
Agua Caliente
Allied Gardens
Alpine
Barrett
Blossom Valley
Bostonia
Boulevard
Campo
Canebrake
Casa de Oro
Crest
Cuyamaca
Dehesa
Del Cerro
Descanso
Dulzura
Eucalyptus Hills
Fernbrook
Flinn Springs
Granite Hills
Grantville
Guatay
Harbison Canyon
Jacumba
Jamul
Julian
Lake Morena
Lakeside
Mount Helix
Pine Hills
Pine Valley
Potrero
Ramona
Rancho San Diego
Rolando
San Carlos
San Pasqual
Santa Ysabel
Shelter Valley
Spring Valley
Tecate
Tierra del Sol
Vallecitos

Serving the Indian Reservations of:
Barona
Campo
Cosmit
Cuyapaipe
Inaja
Jamul
La Posta
Manzanita
Mesa Grande
Santa Ysabel
Sycuan
Viejas

East County welcomes libraries of the future

Anyone who thinks community libraries will become obsolete in a world increasingly dependent on computer technology should visit the San Diego County Library's newest branch in Rancho San Diego.

With its thoroughly modern computer stations and state-of-the-art community meeting space, the Rancho San Diego Library is just one of a handful of East County library projects that are changing the face of the traditional community library as we know it.

The County's vision of the modern library is a far cry from some quiet and isolated storehouse filled with stacks of unread books. Today's modern library is strategically located, carefully designed to foster community activities and armed with the latest in research technology.

Much has progressed since 1999 when, thanks in large part to the passage of Proposition 14, a movement began to build and improve community libraries. Proposition 14 calls for the state to pay 65 percent of the construction costs for libraries if a community can raise the rest of the cost.

That same year, the Board of Supervisors set aside \$15 million for community libraries across the County. Today, with Internet access, senior citizen programs, information

technology training and facilities for community groups of all types, San Diego County is writing a new chapter in the history book of public libraries.

There's a lot more than silent reading going on at the County's branch library in Potrero. Conveniently located on the grounds of Potrero Elementary school, the library is designed to expose students to the wonders of information. With its Western architecture and pleasant community multi-purpose room, the library is a comfortable gathering place and has become a source of pride for the community.

Library advocates in Julian and Campo are busy raising money for

bigger and better libraries. Julian residents have raised nearly all of the local match for their \$3.3 million library. From the design phase of the 9,500-square-foot structure to its location on the grounds of Julian High School, the library in Julian is being created *for the people of Julian by the people of Julian*.

The architecture of Campo's new 2,500-square-foot library is designed to compliment the landscape of the community. With support from the community, it will replace the current 489-square-foot storefront.

Ramona residents are raising money for a larger library as part of a complex

"San Diego County is writing a new chapter in the history book of public libraries."

Supervisor Dianne Jacob



Libraries of the FuturePage 1
Libraries of the Future.....Page 2
Community Plans/Property.....Page 3
Get the Journal at home.....Page 4
How to reach me or my staff.....Page 4

continued on page 2

Libraries of the Future

Continued from Page 1

that would include a senior center. The Ramona community is a big supporter of intergenerational programs that pair young people with senior role models. Ramona residents believe that seniors who read to children or mentor children or teens lead happier, healthier lives. The location of the proposed library in Ramona will create a perfect place for these wonderful friendships to develop.

Construction of a new library is underway in Spring Valley. Right now, residents and the County are working to preserve a plan that would include a teen center and gymnasium near the library. If the State of California keeps its promise to contribute to costs, this much-needed community activity complex will be the gem of Spring Valley.

The community of Alpine wants to be part of the modern library revolution too. The community is working to raise the needed \$1 million to qualify for state funds to replace its current 3,000-square-foot-library. I support the avid readers of Alpine and I'm excited about working to turn that dream into reality.

Perhaps the best prototype of the technology-focused and community-oriented "library of the future" is

the County's newest branch library in Rancho San Diego. With its inviting architecture and strategic location near a middle school and a senior living center, the library in Rancho San Diego is a magnet for community activity.

The County had help from the private sector to make the Rancho San Diego Branch Library a true library for the people. For those who think a good book goes best with coffee, drinks and sweets, there's an Incredible Cheesecake Company café near the library entrance. Cox Communications graciously created a tech center at the library. The center boasts 12 computer stations each with Cox high-speed Internet access. Technicians are available to help patrons navigate their way through cyberspace.



What's your favorite book? Supervisor Jacob and a young reader whisper about their favorite stories at the grand opening of the Rancho San Diego Branch Library.

Half the nation is not connected to the Internet, according to nation's Office for Information Technology Policy and the County believes that public libraries are the perfect solution to bridge this so-called "digital divide." All branches of the County Library already offer Internet access, and the County is striving to offer additional workshops to help residents master the latest in computer technology and software.

There's an old expression among library advocates, "Libraries change lives." Considering the benefits of the modern library movement in the East County, I think that expression could be amended. Libraries indeed change lives, but they also change communities.

For more hours and information about any of the San Diego County Library's 32 branch libraries visit the library's website at www.sdcl.org or call the administration center at (858) 694-2414.



Surfing in Rancho San Diego: A library patron tries out the Cox Communications Tech Center at the newest branch of the County Library.

What will your community look like in 2020?

The County wants to make certain you have a voice in planning the future of your community. That's why the County's Department of Planning and Land Use will be conducting workshops throughout East County during May. The County's best minds in urban and rural planning will report on the status of the County's General Plan 2020 and help residents understand drafts of land use distribution maps. This is a good opportunity to learn more about the planning process and share your vision for your community.

Ramona	Saturday, May 11	1:00 p.m.	Ramona Community Center
Pine Valley	Saturday, May 11	9:00 a.m.	Pine Valley Community Clubhouse
Cuyamaca	Tuesday, May 14	5:30 p.m.	Cuyamaca Fire Station
Lakeside	Saturday, May 18	11:00 a.m.	Lakeside Community Center
Lakeside	Wednesday, May 29	7:00 p.m.	Lakeside Community Center

Please call at least three days in advance to confirm all meeting dates and times: (619) 615-8289 or log on to the County's Department of Planning Land Use website at: www.sdcdplu.org.

Your property ought to be in pictures

Location scouts are always looking for interesting and unique types of commercial and residential properties. With so many picture-perfect settings from Poway to Jacumba, East County would seem like a Hollywood producer's dream.

Listing with the San Diego Film Commission's Location Library is the first step to making your home or business a star. If you own or manage property in East County, the Film Commission wants to hear from you.

The Commission asks that you send pictures taken both horizontally and vertically of your property or structure. Include interior and exterior shots along with a brief description of the property and your contact information. The Commission advises that 35 millimeter film works best. Good luck!



Send your pictures to the San Diego Film Commission, 1010 Second Ave., Suite 1500, San Diego, CA 92101 or by email at info@sdfilm.com.

Join me for Coffee and Conversation...

May 31, 2002 9:00 a.m.
Guy B. Woodward Museum
645 Main Street, Ramona

Friday, June 14, 2002 8:30 a.m.
Water Conservation Garden, Cuyamaca College
12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon

Get The Jacob Journal!

The Jacob Journal will be mailed to you on a regular basis by request only. So, if you like what you've read, fill out the form below and mail it back to us at 1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101 or fax it to us at (619) 696-7253. We'll put you on our mailing list to get The Jacob Journal regularly!

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We hope to hear from you soon!

May-02

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