

# The Jacob Journal

Happy Holidays from Supervisor Dianne Jacob

December 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

## Land preservation plan gaining ground Jacob says County's 'MSCP' respects property rights, meaningful open space

Anyone who's stood at the top of Volcan Mountain north of Julian knows how awe-inspiring a view from San Diego County's Back Country can be.

Looking east from Volcan, you'll see the warm shades of browns and reds that color the Anza Borrego Desert. To the south is the jagged terrain of Eagle Peak, home to the melodic waterfalls of Cedar Creek.

West of the ranches of Ramona and beyond the City of Poway, that huge patch of blue is the Pacific Ocean.

Indeed, the majestic open spaces of San Diego County practically beg us to come exploring. Open space protects our natural resources, limits urban sprawl and, when we find the time to fish, hike or horse ride, truly enhances our quality of life.

Like you, I believe that every generation deserves the opportunity to experience our County's beautiful landscape. That's why, in 1997, I co-sponsored the County's Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) to set aside acres of meaningful open space for our children and our children's children.

In just five short years, by striking a delicate balance between land preservation and

responsible development, the MSCP has earned praise from landowners and conservationists. In fact, this year, the MSCP was honored by the National Association of Counties as a model open space program for other counties to adopt.

***"Open space protects our natural resources, limits urban sprawl and... truly enhances our quality of life."***

***-Supervisor Dianne Jacob***

How does the MSCP work?

The County along with twelve local jurisdictions, U.S. Fish and Wildlife and California's Department of Fish and Game crafted the MSCP based on two very important principles.

First, we wanted to give our children the opportunity to observe nature by preserving our region's natural resources along with access to hiking and riding trails. Second, we wanted to respect private property rights by designing a program that would financially benefit landowners.

We've worked to acquire not just land, but biologically-important land that, once committed to permanent open space, helps protect the habitat of sensitive plant and animal species. So far, the County has identified swaths of these species-rich areas throughout the region, many of them contiguous, and hopes to set aside 100,000 acres so that we might stay connected to our rural heritage.

In addition, we've made it beneficial for landowners to take part in the MSCP program. The MSCP respects property rights and gives landowners the choice to develop land or sell it for open space.



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**MSCP Success**

Continued from page 1



**Preservation Portal:** Supervisor Jacob visits [mscp-sandiego.org](http://mscp-sandiego.org).

has been used to describe the MSCP. For me, success will be realized when your grandchildren can see the views like the one from the top of Volcan Mountain.

**Here are a few of our keystone land acquisitions under the MSCP:** Nearly 4,000 acres at Volcan Mountain near Julian, the 4,800 acres of the Daley Preserve in Jamul, nearly 5,400 acres at Edwards Ranch near Santa Ysabel, 18,500 acres of the Otay Mountain Wilderness Area south of Dulzura, more than 2,600 acres of Rancho Cuyamaca, 2,600 acres in Crest, 110 acres at Wright's Field in Alpine and more than 220 acres in and around Lakeside among others.

Because the MSCP takes a comprehensive approach to preservation, the region can more easily comply with the State and Federal Endangered Species Act. The County receives credit for protecting various species and can pass those benefits along to landowners who participate in the MSCP. This means that landowners can proceed with responsible development without further environmental reviews from the State or Federal government so long as the requirements of the MSCP are followed.

How is the MSCP fairing so far? The County is well ahead of schedule to reach its goal of nearly 100,000 acres of open space. So far, more than 84,000 acres have been committed for preservation. More than 66,000 of these acres are in the County's Second District!

The phrase "wildly successful" has been used to describe the MSCP. For me, success will be realized when your grandchildren can see the views like the one from the top of Volcan Mountain.



**Animal Friends:** Rangers Patty Heyden and Paul Kucharczyk introduce Supervisor Jacob to a Great Horned Owl and a Rosey Boa.

## Taking a bite out of the bark beetle

A snapped power line was the culprit behind this summer's devastating Pines Fire near the community of Julian, but a tiny little pest is also to blame for the rapid spread of the fire.

The destructive bark beetle has plagued the Back Country for nearly more than a decade. The beetle has chewed through 35 percent of the region's pine trees, leaving behind dry wood which is powerful fuel for deadly wildfire.

At the urging of Supervisor Jacob, the County of San Diego has proclaimed a local emergency to respond to the

damage of the bark beetle, the first step the County can take to appeal for State and Federal assistance. By joining forces with Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, the County hopes to clear the dead trees and develop a comprehensive plan to eradicate the bug.

After the Pines Fire, the County took action to bring local, State and Federal fire and wildlife officials together to develop a region-wide brush-clearing plan. This same team will be tackling the bark beetle infestation.

## Why is Supervisor Jacob MADD this holiday season?



**S**upervisor Jacob is always MADD over the holidays. Not only is she a member of the San Diego Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving Advisory Board, she's concerned about new statistics released by the California Highway Patrol.

According to the CHP, 122 people were killed in San Diego County in alcohol-related traffic collisions last year. These statistics represent a 47 percent increase from the 83 persons killed in the previous year. When you stop to think that all of these crashes were preventable, it's enough to make anybody MADD!

Supervisor Jacob wants to remind you that the holidays are one of the most dangerous times of year on our roadways. Half of all traffic fatalities are alcohol-related compared to 40 percent during non-holiday periods. MADD and Supervisor Jacob are teaming up once again to ask San Diegans to tie red ribbons to their vehicles during month of December. "Tie One On For Safety" and you'll let others know that San Diego is serious about safe driving.

*For your red ribbon, contact the MADD office at (760) 746-6233 or visit [maddsandiego.org](http://maddsandiego.org).*



**Kids First:** Supervisor Jacob and KFMB Radio's Rick Roberts celebrate San Diego's chapter of Child Watch.

## Child Watch is Here

**I**f a child goes missing in San Diego County, the region is better prepared than ever to wage a search campaign.

That's thanks to 760 AM KFMB Radio's Rick Roberts who has been campaigning to establish a chapter of Child Watch of North America right here in San Diego.

After months of fundraising and hard work, the chapter is now a reality. Rick, a long-time advocate for children, knows

that Child Watch is the organization of choice among law enforcement agencies to search for a missing child. Under the direction of Suzanne Howe, the San Diego chapter is ready at a moment's notice to activate search teams, print and distribute flyers and work with parents and police to find missing children.

### **Join me for Coffee and Conversation**

**Friday, December 13, 2002 at 8:30 a.m.**

**Bread Basket of Alpine  
1347 Tavern Road, Alpine**

# 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!

Dec-02

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