



# THE JACOB JOURNAL

A Newsletter from Supervisor Dianne Jacob

Spring 2010

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  
Wynola

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

## Spring Showers Bring... Tough Decisions

*Reduction to popular grant program 'right thing to do' in difficult budget times, says Jacob*

Supervisor Jacob and her colleague Greg Cox knew their proposal to cut in half funding for the County's Neighborhood Reinvestment program would not be popular.

The \$10 million program provides grants to deserving non-profit organizations that are working to improve the health, safety and economic vitality of neighborhoods.

The bad economy coupled with the state budget crisis means fewer dollars for core services in the months ahead. Jacob and Cox explained that the current painful recession called for the dollars to be redirected to more critical uses.

During more than four hours of public testimony, speaker after speaker described how the funds have built or improved libraries, health clinics and hundreds of youth sports fields.

In the end, the Board made the difficult decision to scale back the program—a hard, but prudent, decision at this time.



**Hard Choices:** County Neighborhood Reinvestment funds have helped improve youth ballfields like this one in Santee. The park was built in partnership with the San Diego Padres' Little Padres Parks program which builds or revitalizes youth ballfields.



## Health Checkup:

How do San Diego

kids and families stack up to state and national averages when it comes to overall health? A new report from the Children's Initiative says our county performs better than California and the nation for rates of infant mortality, child mortality, immunization, enrollment in early care and education, health coverage and poverty. Problem areas: births to teens, obesity and teen drinking.

Read the report at:  
[www.thechildrensinitiative.org](http://www.thechildrensinitiative.org)

## A Tribute to East County's Finest



**Golden:** Olympic diving legend and Valhalla High School alum Greg Louganis was honored by Supervisor Jacob recently in celebration of his induction into the San Diego Hall of Champions.



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## New Curfew Aims to Keep Kids Safe

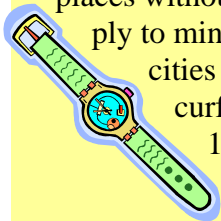
Beginning April 22, young people in the unincorporated

areas of the region will need to be home by 10 p.m.

The change comes after Supervisor Jacob, District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis and Sheriff Bill Gore successfully convinced the Board of Supervisors to turn back the curfew from 11 p.m. to 10 p.m. to make the County consistent with other cities.

Jacob believes the move will stop young people from seeking out jurisdictions with later curfews to stage parties. She said the change will especially help crack down on gang-related activity.

The curfew will apply to all those under 18 loitering in public places without permission from a parent or guardian. It won't apply to minors at or heading home from sanctioned events. The cities of San Diego, El Cajon and La Mesa have 10 p.m. curfews. The County plans to contact other cities with 11:00 p.m. curfews to request a change to 10:00 p.m.



## Cleaning up Crime at Rental Properties



**Home Safe Home:** The East County Public Safety Task Force celebrates the Crime Free Multi-Housing program.

Three cheers for Crime Free Multi-Housing! This innovative program is earning accolades for turning crime-plagued rental complexes into safer, happier homes.

The program pairs interested landlords with law enforcement officers who teach the landlords to spot problem tenants and root out drug and alcohol-related crime.

Landlords learn to foster a stronger sense of community among tenants by making positive, quality-of-life changes to their dwellings such as added security measures.

The results? Complexes that once generated up to 400 emergency calls a year are now desirable places to live with more stable resident bases and connections to the surrounding community.

The Crime Free Multi-Housing program is just one of the tools the East County Public Safety Task Force is using to create a better East County. This active alliance of community groups, law enforcement agencies and drug prevention organizations shows no signs of slowing down. Thanks guys! Let's keep up the good work!

## Fuming Over Latest SDG&E Rate Plan

SDG&E's new scheme to force ratepayers to foot the bill for higher insurance costs related to the 2007 Wildfires needs to be stopped. Supervisor Jacob isn't backing down.

In a letter to the California Public Utilities Commission, Jacob reminded regulators that the Commission's own after-action report determined that SDG&E was in violation of numerous CPUC safety standards at the time of the Guejito, Witch and Rice fires, including minimum inspection and tree-trimming requirements.

Jacob argued that approval of the increase creates a disincentive for utilities to properly maintain their infrastructure.

"The burden to ensure safe equipment would be thrust unfairly upon ratepayers," Jacob wrote.

As a matter of strong public policy that encourages utilities to obey safety regulations, Jacob wants the Commission to stop SDG&E's dangerous plan.

SDG&E's parent company, Sempra Energy, has demonstrated that it can afford to shoulder the higher cost of insurance. Sempra Energy buys insurance for SDG&E. In 2008, Sempra Energy awarded its top five executives \$29 million in bonuses, a figure that mirrors the amount of the increase sought by SDG&E.

*Read Supervisor Jacob's letter to state regulators at: [www.diannejacob.com](http://www.diannejacob.com) Click on "In the News"*

# County Happenings

## Fire Code Now Simpler

San Diego County's Consolidated Fire Code has been certified by the state making it simpler for builders and homeowners to comply with fire protection standards.

In most counties, anyone who builds must show that their project meets two separate fire codes: the local jurisdiction's and the state's code. Now, unincorporated area residents of San Diego County only have to show they meet the County fire code, which can save them time and trouble, because the state certification officially recognizes the County code as equal to or better than the state standards.

## Solar Financing Update

The County is officially plugged into the CaliforniaFIRST program, a state-wide project aimed at helping homeowners afford rooftop solar energy systems by allowing them to spread the cost over 20 years on property tax bills.

The financing component of the project is falling into place at the state level and an enrollment launch is expected during summer 2010. So far, the County and 12

local cities are onboard. You can get details and register for program updates at:

[www.californiafirst.org](http://www.californiafirst.org)

The site allows you to sign up as a homeowner or contractor so that future communications can be targeted to your area of interest.

## East County Health Hero

Long-time Spring Valley resident Barbara Warner was named by the County Health and Human Services Agency as one of 10 individuals and regional organizations recognized for their extraordinary achievements in public health.

Barbara is the collaborative coordinator for the Spring Valley Youth and Family Coalition and played a key role building a Spring Valley Gym and Teen Center. Congratulations to Barbara!

## Jacob Journal by e-mail

Will you help Supervisor Jacob save paper by signing up to receive *The Jacob Journal* by e-mail? Please drop her a message at [Dianne.Jacob@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Dianne.Jacob@sdcounty.ca.gov)



and let her know you'd like to go paperless. We'll put you on our e-mail list!

## It's Our Duty to Question the State Over Chelsea King



The murder of Poway's Chelsea King by a registered sex offender has rocked the region's sense of safety and called into question

state supervision of the man accused of the crime, John Gardner.

Gardner managed to rack up multiple parole violations after his release from prison for the assault and attempted rape of a teen girl. The *Union-Tribune* reported that Gardner also managed to set up a MySpace account, in direct violation of parole rules. These are too many red flags unnoticed.

Chelsea's family has asked that her legacy include a review of the system that failed to protect her and stronger laws for registered sex offenders. We can't accept finger-pointing or excuses from any agency responsible for keeping Gardner in check. We must expose every flaw and fix it. Already it seems that GPS tracking would have made a difference in Chelsea's case. Watch this space for developing news about the monitoring of registered sex offenders.



Join Supervisor Jacob for coffee and conversation in these communities...

Alpine  
April 29, 2010 at 8:30 a.m.  
Women's Club of Alpine  
2156 Alpine Blvd,  
Alpine

Casa De Oro  
May 28, 2010 at 8:30 a.m.  
Casa De Oro Travel Agency  
10630 Willie Baker Way,  
Spring Valley

Rancho San Diego  
June 24, 2010 at 8:30 a.m.  
Rancho San Diego Library  
11555 Via Rancho San Diego,  
Rancho San Diego

# Get The Jacob Journal!

The Jacob Journal will be mailed to you on a regular basis by request only. 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. You can also sign up to receive the Jacob Journal on our website at [www.diannejacob.com](http://www.diannejacob.com).

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We hope to hear from you soon!

Spring 2010

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