



THE JACOB JOURNAL

A Newsletter from Supervisor Dianne Jacob

Winter 2010

A Place for Safety

New Sheriff Storefront Means a Safer East County

When the principal of Spring Valley Middle School, Dana Wright, approached Supervisor Jacob about a opening a Sheriff's storefront in Casa de Oro, no one knew just how many community partners would join forces to get the doors open in record time and against the odds in a challenging economy.

Supervisor Jacob was thrilled to join Sheriff Bill Gore to dedicate the new storefront on Campo Road near Conrad Drive. The two stood shoulder to shoulder with business and neighborhood improvement groups including the Spring Valley Citizens Association to dedicate the office and celebrate increased law enforcement visibility in the area.

Key to the opening of the storefront was property manager Bob Houck who went above and beyond to help the County afford the space.

The storefront will be open to the public and the CHP and County Codes Enforcement officers will have a presence there too.

There are three other Sheriff's satellite offices in East County in Lakeside, Rancho San Diego and Spring Valley.



KEEPING PEACE: Supervisor Jacob joined Sheriff Bill Gore recently to dedicate the department's Casa de Oro storefront.



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Year as Chair Loaded with Challenges

Supervisor Jacob wrapped up her fourth tour as Chair of the Board of Supervisors, an honorary position that traditionally rotates among Board members. As the County's official representative on legislative matters and important events, the job of the chair entails a lot of extra work. Recently Supervisor Jacob took time to reflect on 2009.

When I delivered my State of the County Address last February, our County was in solid financial shape. However, we were battenning down the hatches for three different storms, each potentially catastrophic: declining revenues, massive Wall Street losses and, of course, the State budget.

The threat was unprecedented. The solvency of our County was at stake. I stated that the County would use innovation, technology, creativity and outsourcing to survive. I said we would likely be a smaller government, doing more with less, but our doors would stay open.

Meeting Challenges
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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

Meeting Challenges

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Rapid Response: Community partnerships helped the County successfully manage the H1N1 outbreak last year.

Turns out the financial challenges were worse than we anticipated. We spent 11 long months defending our budget. Today, our credit rating is AAA and we retain our title as one of the best managed local governments in the nation. Meanwhile, our pension fund has a AAA rating and funded ratio of 91.5 percent.

We held the line in 2009!

Protecting Public Finances

We managed the financial crisis with what has become our Board's trademark: strict fiscal discipline.

In February, we made an angry trip to Sacramento to shake-up the Legislature and demand true structural reform. Together, we blocked Sacramento from cutting cash aid payments to 63,000 vulnerable children. We also carried through on our commitment to outsource certain positions in order to keep those services alive.

Our employee unions recognized the gravity of last year's budget crisis and together, we reached labor agreements with all of our unions.

An under-recognized accomplishment, we rolled back pension benefits for all new hires to what they were in the 1970s.

As quickly as we received Federal Stimulus dollars, we got them out the door to spark the local economy.

Infrastructure Matters

To position our government to perform core services into the future we broke ground on the first phase of the new \$500 million Operations Center. This is the largest infrastructure project in the history of the County.

And, we opened the new \$73 million Medical Examiner & Forensic Center on-time, under budget and paid for in cash.

Public Safety Top Priority

In a seamless and organized process, we appointed a new Sheriff after the retirement of our friend and colleague Bill Kolender.

When the lease expired on the Superscoopers, we found a better deal. We invested in year-round firefighting aircraft through the Aerial Fire Protection Program recommended by the Unified Disaster Council.

We put in place tougher brush abatement and vegetation management plans to stop wildfires before they start.

We funded a sweeping review of the region's \$450 million fire protection system to find out

what's working and what needs to change.

Using a model developed by the San Diego Gang Commission, we're launching an innovative venture to fight gangs in East County. I can't give too much away but let's just say community and faith-based groups are working with law enforcement to fight back!

And, we were the driving force behind state legislation to stop repeat DUI offenders with ignition interlocks.

Public Health Put to the Test

How do you alert the public to a surprise health threat without causing unnecessary panic?

The County managed the H1N1 outbreak with flying colors. We had a plan and stuck to it. Our strong, existing partnerships with schools and the region's network of providers helped disseminate the vaccine in an orderly fashion.

When the federal government fumbled on the supply-side, we stayed calm and were careful not to be alarmists.

Last year, a *Union-Tribune* investigation revealed conflict-of-interest concerns at the First Five Commission. In response, we overhauled Commission rules to maintain integrity. That's important because the Commission is entrusted with administering precious Prop. 10 revenue.

We devised a strategic plan to be laser-focused with those First Five dollars. We're going to put

Meeting Challenges
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them in the places where the problems are; where they will do the most good for most kids.

We opened the new \$123.5 million Edgemoor Hospital for our weakest residents. The more efficient facility was funded in part by federal dollars and saves taxpayers \$4.1 million annually in operating costs.

We got to work rooting out waste, fraud and abuse within the state's In-home Support Services program. We're now requiring background checks and fingerprinting. Similar reforms are being made at the State level.

Green Revolution

In December, we plugged into the CaliforniaFIRST program. Soon, San Diegans will be able to spread the cost of rooftop solar electric systems over 20 years on their property tax bill.

Similarly, we sponsored State legislation signed into law in October to compensate solar customers for surplus solar energy.

The new County Operations Center will meet the U.S. Green Building Council LEED standards. It will be the largest LEED campus anywhere in the County, public or private.

We adopted an ordinance mandating waterwise and firewise landscaping on all new

development.

To top it off, we won the 2009 "Organizational Excellence SANDEE" award from the California Center for Sustainable Energy and beat out all other governments in the region for the highest honor of the night.

The Finest Quality of Life

We debuted the Lakeside Baseball Park in a community that really needed something to boost its spirits. It's got classic ballpark architecture and state-of-the-art turf on its diamonds.

We secured a State historic landmark designation for Camp Lockett, the WWII Army base in Campo that was the last home of the famed Buffalo Soldiers.

We broke ground on replacement libraries for Ramona and Fallbrook.

We're in talks with Mayor Sanders to explore funding options for a new Chargers stadium. I need to stress that any deal will have to be a good deal for taxpayers.

Finally, in 2009, we added nearly 1000 acres of public parkland. It will have riding and hiking trails so that San Diego families can get out there and take in the natural wonders of our great County!



Sunrise Powerlink Construction Bad for Business in Alpine



Concerned: Jacob and County staff present an analysis of proposed Alpine undergrounding.

When state regulators approved SDG&E's controversial Sunrise Powerlink more than a year ago, few East County residents appreciated the magnitude of construction, particularly the proposed undergrounding through Alpine.

Supervisor Jacob believes that's because the environmental documents didn't offer sufficient details of the selected route, especially its impact on businesses. To make matters worse, SDG&E's expensive public relations campaign insisted that a route through the southern part of the county was impossible.

Supervisor Jacob has alerted state regulators to her concerns. You can too:

Sunrise@aspenerg.com or (866) 711-2106.

Watch this space for updates on the battle against the line.



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

Crest
January 28, 2010 at 8:30 a.m.
Crest Community Center
113 N. Park Dr., El Cajon

Ramona
February 25, 2010 at 8:30a.m.
Guy B. Woodward Museum
645 Main St., Ramona

Campo
March 25, 2010 at 8:30 a.m.
Community Center
976 Sheridan Road, Campo

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Signature _____

Company _____

Mailing Address _____

City, Zip _____

Phone/e-mail _____

We hope to hear from you soon!

Jan. 10

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