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THE RAMOS REVIEW

News from Third District Supervisor James Ramos

First Edition

January/February 2013

www.sbcounty.gov/bosd3

Message from Supervisor James Ramos:

Thank you for subscribing to my newsletter. It is my hope to keep you up-to-date with news and events from around the Third District. Our newsletter will always contain our contact information. Please feel free to contact us with any feedback you may have. I am honored to serve as your County Supervisor.



New Sheriff in Town

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors unanimously appointed John McMahon to serve as the next Sheriff. On January 9, 2013, McMahon was officially sworn in as the Sheriff of San Bernardino County. Sheriff McMahon has spent 27 years with the Sheriff's Department during which time he has served as Captain of the Apple Valley station, Assistant Sheriff, and Deputy Chief for the desert stations. He also has experience overseeing jail facilities in the County.

If you would like to submit a story or event to The Ramos Review, please send an email to SupervisorRamos@sbcounty.gov or call 909.387.4855. Due to limited space, we may not be able to accommodate your request. Please note the information found in the calendar is subject to change without notice.

San Bernardino Office: 385 N. Arrowhead Ave., Fifth Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0110.



Supervisor Ramos Around the District

Inland Empire Economic Partnership's Annual Awards Dinner

The Inland Empire Economic Partnership is a partnership dedicated to addresses the many needs throughout our region. At this year's awards dinner, the County of San Bernardino received the Public Partner of the Year Award!



The County of San Bernardino receives the Public Partner of the Year Award

Dr. MLK Prayer Breakfast

On MLK Day, the Supervisor attended the 33rd Annual Prayer Breakfast put on by the Inland Empire Concerned African American Churches. The event included an awards presentation, many guest speakers as well as dance performances. Supervisor Ramos was honored when he was invited to speak about how Dr. King inspired him and his own experiences facing adversity.



Supervisor Ramos with Assistant Sheriff Ron Cochran

Boys and Girls Club of the Hi-Desert Annual Awards and Installation Dinner

Yucca Valley- At the Boys and Girls Club Awards Dinner, Supervisor Ramos spoke about his life experiences and told the youth in the audience of the importance of education. He also had the opportunity to give certificates to award winners that evening on behalf of the County Board of Supervisors. The Supervisor was inspired by the hard work and dedication of the staff and volunteers at the Boys and Girls Club of the Hi-Desert.



Touring Omnitrans

Supervisor Ramos had the opportunity to tour the Omnitrans facilities after his briefing from CEO Milo Victoria. The Supervisor sits on the Omnitrans Board where he, along with the other Board members, adopts budgets, establishes policy, and adopts rules and regulations for the conduct of business.



Supervisor Ramos touring the Omnitrans facilities

Supervisor Ramos Around the District

Change of Command

On January 11, 2013, Brig. Gen. George W. Smith Jr. relinquished his command of the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center to Maj. Gen. David H. Berger.

Brig. Gen. Smith will be deployed to Afghanistan to serve as Deputy Commander of the II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward). Prior to taking command in Twentynine Palms, Maj. Gen. Berger served as the commanding general of 1st Marine Division (Forward) in Afghanistan.

Supervisor Ramos was one of those in attendance that day. "It was truly an honor to watch this great military tradition take place right here in Twentynine Palms."



Brig. Gen Smith relinquishes command to Maj. Gen. Berger

Meeting with the National Transportation Safety Board Vice Chairman

During NTSB Vice Chairman Chris Hart's visit to the Inland Empire, he met with Supervisor Ramos to discuss the powerful use of collaboration and how it can be successful across industries. Both recognized the need for open dialogue to make progress in any situation. The Supervisor valued the insight of Mr. Hart and thanked him for his interest in San Bernardino County. We hope Mr. Hart enjoyed his visit!



Briefing at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center

The Supervisor attended a briefing at ARMC where he participated in discussions of the issues the hospital faces as we approach the implementation date for the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. He was shown the different parts of the hospital and the systems utilized there such as the Patient Monitoring System shown in this picture.



Supervisor Ramos Around the District

Joshua Basin Water District 50th Anniversary

The Supervisor presented a resolution celebrating JBWD for their conservation efforts and dedication to providing quality water to the Basin communities for the past 50 years. He presented this resolution on behalf of the Board of Supervisors to JBWD President Mickey Luckman on January 16th in Joshua Tree. Supervisor Ramos applauded the District for their hard work and proactive approach to solving the Basin's water problems.



The Unforgettable Heart Awards

Redlands- The Unforgettables Foundation put on their 2nd Annual Unforgettable Heart Awards on February 14th. The Supervisor had the honor of attending. The Unforgettables Foundation is dedicated to providing emotional and financial support to parents who lose their child. During this event, volunteers from around the region were honored for the hard work and dedication. The Supervisor was honored to receive a gift the Highlanders Boxing Club for his commitment to its vision and work.



Progress in the Third District

The Supervisor's Commission Appointments

The Supervisor has been appointed to represent the Board of Supervisors on many commissions. Among those are the Behavioral Health Commission, First 5, the Inland Valley Development Agency, the San Bernardino International Airport Authority, and many others. He is excited to serve on these Commissions and he looks forward to the work ahead. For a full-list of the Supervisor's appointment [please visit our website](#).



Progress in the Third District

Barstow, Big Bear and Needles Courthouse Closures

On January 31st, Supervisor Ramos and Supervisor Lovingood held a meeting regarding the closures of the courthouses in Barstow, Big Bear, and Barstow. Our court system is funded by the State of California. Due to budget cuts, these courthouses are scheduled to close in May. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss possible solutions to this issue that can take place at the County level.

During the meeting, the two Supervisors were briefed on the status of court funding for San Bernardino County by Court Executive Officer Stephen Nash. Following the overview of the cuts already experienced by our court system, the attendees had a productive discussion of possible solutions in the short-term to mitigate the impact that will be felt by residents in the affected areas.



Barstow Courthouse

Providing adequate and affordable transportation and utilizing remote courthouse technology are two short-term solution ideas that Supervisor Ramos and Lovingood are committed to investigating. All were in agreement that residents must have easy accessibility to the courthouses they will be reassigned to following these closures.

The discussion also included ideas for long-term solutions to the inequitable state funding of our court system. "It is vital that we have our voice heard at the state level. We must come together for the betterment of San Bernardino County as a whole," stated Supervisor Ramos.

Those in attendance agreed to continue to explore alternatives for short-term solutions and to work towards the long-term goal of achieving equitable funding of our court system at the state level.

On February 19th, the Board of Supervisors discussed this issue during their first study session. Testimony was given on the impact of historic and current underfunding from the State for our court system. Mayors Bill Holland (Hesperia), Julie McIntyre (Barstow), and Jay Obernolte (Big Bear) were present to represent residents who will be affected by these closures. At the conclusion of this session, the Board directed the County Chief Executive Office to prepare an item for consideration at the February 26th Board meeting.

On February 26th, the Board adopted a resolution of support for efforts to provide adequate, equitable, and ongoing funding for the San Bernardino Superior Court. This will allow the County to engage the State Legislature, local municipalities and other invested stakeholders to ensure continued timely access to justice is available to all San Bernardino County residents. The Board also approved a recommendation to allow the County Administrative Office, in conjunction with County Counsel, to develop a strategy to work with the community to address issues affecting San Bernardino Superior Court including underfunding and staffing levels.

Progress in the Third District

Video Conferencing in Joshua Tree

At the January 29th Board meeting, the Supervisors approved a proposal from Supervisor Ramos to receive an economic analysis from the CEO to determine the feasibility of installing a video conferencing center in the Joshua Tree office of Supervisor Ramos.

A video conferencing system would allow residents of the Morongo Basin improved access to the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors and other County meetings. During meetings, residents would be able to participate in the public comment portions through the video satellite imaging.

“This conference center would provide greater access to their government, which the residents of the Morongo Basin currently lack,” stated Supervisor Ramos.

On February 26th, the CEO reported back with the findings for establishing a video conferencing system in Joshua Tree. The Board voted to move forward with the project of installing this video conferencing site. It is Supervisor Ramos’ goal to have this system up and running in the next few months.



Joshua Tree County Office Building

New Planning Commissioner Named

Supervisor James Ramos has concluded the interview process and has appointed a new Planning Commissioner to represent the Third District on the Planning Commission. The Board of Supervisors approved the appointment of Kerri Tuttle at the February 12th Board meeting.

Kerri Tuttle, a Joshua Tree resident, has more than 15 years of professional experience in development and land use issues. She has specialized in water policy, land use and planning, compliance with California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Protection Act and other developmental policies. Recently, Ms. Tuttle has assisted the Bureau of Land Management with getting an emergency land lease proposal through the permitting processes.

Supervisor Ramos commented, “Ms. Tuttle has a wealth of professional and educational experience in planning and land use procedures. I believe she will bring valuable contributions to the Commission.”

Ms. Tuttle joins the four other Commissioners who are appointed by the Board of Supervisors and who are charged with overseeing the development of San Bernardino County.

The next scheduled Planning Commission meeting will take place on February 21, 2013. These meetings start at 9 am and are located at 385 N. Arrowhead Ave., San Bernardino in the Covington Chambers on the 1st floor.

Third District Community Highlight

San Bernardino County Museum

Three floors of birds, eggs, wagons, rocks, fossils, bears and buffalo wait for you at the San Bernardino County Museum in Redlands. The museum, the largest in inland Southern California, offers exhibits and programs that give you a whole new way to look at the past – and the future – of the Inland Empire.

Ever think it would be exciting to have been a pioneer crossing the prairie in a covered wagon? Just look at the museum’s Conestoga and you’ll probably change your mind. You’ll find plenty to discover outside the museum, as well. Explore our citrus heritage. See a Southern Pacific steam locomotive and a Santa Fe caboose.

Bring your family and friends for a fun day of learning in our own backyard! The museum is open Tuesdays through Sundays and some holiday Mondays from 9am to 5pm. Admission fees: adult \$8; senior or military \$6, student \$5; child 5-12 \$4; child under 5 & Museum Association member free. For more information, visit www.sbcountymuseum.org or call (909) 307-2669.



Events Around the County

Date	Event
• MAR • 9 SAT	Annual Bald Eagle Count in Big Bear Lake Where: Big Bear Discovery Center When: 8 am More info call: (909) 307-2669
• APR • 4-7 THU-SUN	<u>Redlands Bicycle Classic</u>
• APR • 10 WED	<u>State of the County 2013</u> Citizens Business Bank Arena 4000 E. Ontario Center Pkwy. Ontario, CA 91764 4:30 PM
• APR • 27 SAT	Barstow Fossil Beds- It’s About Time San Bernardino County Museum Field Trip For more info call: (909) 307-2669