

# NEWS

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## Supervisors name museum hall in honor of Hansberger

The Board of Supervisors today announced plans to name the newest attraction at the San Bernardino County Museum after Third District Supervisor Dennis Hansberger on the occasion of his final meeting as a member of the board.

The Dennis Hansberger Hall of Geologic Wonders is scheduled to open in the spring of 2009. The 12,000-square-foot, three-floor addition to the County Museum in Redlands will feature exhibits focused on the geologic history of the Southwest.

During today's meeting, Supervisor Hansberger was also honored by a long list of elected officials and public agencies for his years of service to the people of San Bernardino County.

Supervisor Hansberger has been a member of the Board of Supervisors for 20 years, from 1972 to 1980 and from 1996 until the present. During that time he served as a strong advocate for the County Museum and other cultural and quality-of-life services for residents, a consistent voice for reform and ethics, a supporter of fiscal responsibility and accountability, and a proponent for countless essential projects in his district and throughout the county. Supervisor Hansberger will be succeeded by Supervisor-elect Neil Derry on Dec. 1.

"We've had a good run and have accomplished a great deal," Supervisor Hansberger said today. "In the difficult time ahead, this county is better prepared to survive than any other."

He cited among his proudest accomplishments San Timoteo Creek, the removal of 400 abandoned shacks from the desert, the county's first combined library and senior citizen's center in Mentone, the planned expansion and relocation of the Moonridge Zoo, the rebuilding of Cedar Glen following the 2003 wildfires, and fire prevention efforts in the mountains.

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"We are working to create a place where people want to be," Supervisor Hansberger continued. "My colleagues don't focus on what we aren't. Help us become our dream."

"I've always seen Supervisor Hansberger as the dean of the Board of Supervisors because of his breadth of historical knowledge about so many aspects of county government," said Board of Supervisors Chairman Paul Biane. "Dennis has been a dedicated leader of the Third District during his 20 years as an elected county supervisor, and it was an honor to serve beside him."

"To use a baseball metaphor, Dennis 'called them like he saw them,'" said Board Vice Chairman Gary Ovitt. "From President Richard Nixon to President-Elect Barack Obama, Dennis has been a presence on the county scene. His institutional knowledge and historical memory is irreplaceable and will be missed."

"When I think of Supervisor Hansberger, two words first come to mind: wisdom and integrity," said Fifth District Supervisor Josie Gonzales. "As the true historian of our board, he's been retrospective as well as prospective in our discussions on critical issues impacting San Bernardino County residents. It has been my honor to serve alongside him. I will miss his humor, his camaraderie, his steadfastness, and his genuine caring for the people we serve."

"I have always respected Dennis' knowledge of county issues. He has achieved an extraordinary career serving county residents," said First District Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt.

"Supervisor Hansberger carries a tremendous amount of institutional memory with him as he retires," said County Administrative Officer Mark Uffer. "Having had the opportunity to work for him as director of the County's Arrowhead Regional Medical Center and now as County Administrative Officer, I was always able to gain a countywide view of the issues at hand. We will all certainly miss that perspective as he moves on to other challenges."