



District 2 Highlights

Lamorinda Edition

Supervisor Gayle B. Uilkema, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, District 2
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Spring 2009

Serving: Canyon, Lafayette, Moraga, Orinda

Digital Television Transition: Will You Be Ready?

Your TV signal is switching to "digital." For more than fifty years, TV broadcasters have sent their shows to your TV using "analog" signals. After **June 12, 2009**, most of the old analog signals will be gone and most of the stations you watch will use only the new digital signals.

Why Is The Government Switching to Digital?

- For improved public safety for everyone. The transition to digital will help police, fire and other public safety departments communicate more easily with each other during emergencies.
- For you, digital TV offers better picture and sound, as well as more channels and program choices.

What Does This Mean To You?

- If all of your TVs are hooked up to cable or satellite, you will continue to get your TV after the switch. Just check with your cable or satellite company to be sure.
- If you have a digital TV, you are ready for the switch. (If your TV is more than 10 years old it probably is not digital. If it is less than 10 years old, ask the manufacturer if your TV is "analog-only.")
- If you have an analog-only TV with a roof top antenna or "rabbit ears," you will not be able to watch most TV stations after June 12, 2009 unless you get a "converter box."

Converter Box?

- The converter box will attach to your TV and let you continue receiving free TV.
- With the converter box you can get a better picture and more channels. The antenna you have should work with the box.
- You can buy a converter box at a retail store. The boxes will cost \$40 to \$70.
- You can get two \$40 coupons per household from the US Government to help you pay for up to two boxes. (One coupon per box only.)

For more information about the digital transition call **888-CALL-FCC (888-225-5322) (voice)** or **888-TELL-FCC (888-835-5322) (TTY)** or go to the website www.dtv.gov

For more information about converters and coupons call **888-388-2009 (voice)** or **877-530-2634 (TTY)** or go to the website www.dtv2009.gov

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From left, Sally Church stands with Bea Cunningham and Gennifer Mountain of the County's Fall Management Program.

Moraga Women Flip for Fall Prevention

Bea Cunningham, Co-Vice President of the Moraga Women's Society, invited Supervisor Gayle Uilkema to be the speaker for the group at their meeting held at the Trinity Cultural Center.

The group was especially interested in the topic of Fall Prevention. Supervisor Uilkema told the members what the County is now doing in regard to raising awareness and educating the community on how to reduce the incidents and severity of injury from falls. She focused on how to maintain an independent lifestyle while dealing with natural physical changes that must be acknowledged and accepted. To avoid what she terms a "life changing experience," she pointed out a few important tips to maintain optimum health.

Gayle then introduced Gennifer Mountain, the Program Manager of the County's new Fall Prevention Program, who gave practical advice and suggestions for ways to protect oneself from serious injury.

If you would like to learn more about this program, go to www.mowsos.org/pages/page.php?pageid=50 or call Gennifer at **925-937-8311**. You can make an appointment with Gennifer for her to do an assessment of your home to help keep you safe.

Digital Television – Continued from Page 1

If you decide to replace your old analog TV with a new digital one, here are some things you need to know about disposing of your old TV.

"It is illegal to throw them out. They contain materials that can be harmful to the environment and human health," said Jon Myers, a spokesman for the California Integrated Waste Management Board, a state agency that regulates landfills.

In 2003, a California law took effect which charged anyone who buys a new TV or computer monitor an additional \$6 to \$10. That money goes into a fund that pays private companies 39 cents a pound to collect and recycle the unwanted e-junk. To receive funding, companies must verify they are dismantling the equipment in California, and not shipping it to China, India or other developing countries, where child workers commonly break it apart, wearing no safety gear.

As a result, you have many choices for properly disposing of your unwanted electronic devices.

- Many Goodwill, St. Vincent de Paul or other thrift shops accept old TVs and computers for free.
- To find out where to recycle your TV in Contra Costa County, go to www.cccrecycle.org or call the county recycling hot line at **800-750-4096** (press #2).
- To find out where to recycle your TV for free anywhere in California, go to www.erecycle.org.

Remember, e-waste is more than just TV's and computer monitors. E-waste recycling events are held on a regular basis throughout the county. You can find a schedule of these events and the items they accept at www.cccrecycle.org.



The friendly County vs County Food Fight between Contra Costa and Solano counties had a true winning outcome for the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano. The final combined tally of the two counties was \$114,779. The employees of Contra Costa averaged \$9.93 per employee, raising over \$68,000, while members of the community, including Lamorinda, added another \$18,760.

Thank you all for your generosity!



From left, Stephen Gentry poses with Supervisor Uilkema and Lucy Hupp Williams at the Orinda Association event.

Orinda Association Names Awardees

Recipients of the Orinda Association's Volunteer of the Year and William Penn Mott, Jr. Environmental Awards were presented at the Orinda Country Club to long time residents of Orinda.

Lucy Hupp Williams was honored as the Volunteer of the Year for the lifetime of dedication she has shown toward helping others. Lucy has used the strength gained from overcoming obstacles to contribute to her community in ways that include being a model of volunteerism. Most recently, as the hard working President of the Orinda Historical Society, Lucy contributes her time and energy to preserving the archives of Orinda and inspires others to join her in her efforts.

Stephen Gentry received the honor of the William Penn Mott, Jr. Environmental Award for his passion and work in gaining an extraordinary knowledge of bees and how they fit into the complex nature of the environment. He is known as the "Bee Man" and has shared his knowledge with school children and community groups in and beyond Orinda.

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema was happy to be in attendance to present Certificates of Congratulations to both highly deserving award winners.

**Did you find this newsletter interesting?
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quarter?**

**To receive newsletters by email, send an
email request to jray@bos.cccounty.us and
you will be added to the list!**



From left: Tony Eichers, Lafayette Chamber President and Manager of the Lafayette Park Hotel, Don Tatzin, Mayor of Lafayette, Mrs. Courtright and her husband Tom Courtright.

Lafayette Business Person of the Year

Tom Courtright was named the Lafayette Business Person of the Year and was honored by members of his community at the Lafayette Park Hotel and Spa. Ed Stokes was the emcee for the event and set the pace for a fun evening as Tom's friends came to the podium to tell their personal stories that began years ago when Tom first came to Lafayette from Berkeley.

Tom Courtright has brought to Lafayette the very best that the Nursery and Landscape industry has to offer. It is because of his dedication that he is honored by members of his community as Lafayette Business Person of the Year.

Beyond the Bay Area, Tom has put Lafayette on the map in that he is now President-elect of the American Nursery & Landscape Association, as well as being active on many more national and international nursery organizations.

Moraga Volunteers Honored

The Moraga Park and Recreation Foundation held its annual reception to honor its Life Members. They are persons who have donated at least \$500 in one calendar year.

Chuck Treat, President of the Foundation, invited Supervisor Uilkema to attend this important event held at the Hacienda. As keynote speaker, Gayle addressed the group of celebrants by applauding the Life Members for their steadfastness in supporting the Foundation in these difficult times. All the volunteers who keep Moraga the lovely place it is were commended for giving generously of their time and for the hard work spent at many of the park and recreation events.



Sherry Grant, President of the Moraga Kiwanis, reads from her heart-shaped notes as Gayle anticipates the delicious crab.

Kiwanis Crack Crab and Raise Cash

Supervisor Uilkema enjoyed seeing her long time friends at the Moraga Kiwanis Crabfeed. The sold out event attracted over 300 members of the community and their invitees and the room was beautifully decorated in a Valentine's Day theme. The crab was exceptionally good this year and no crabs were left behind by the diners.

An auction was held following the dinner to raise funds for the Kiwanis to donate to numerous sources decided upon by the membership. Supporting youth programs and education is a major focus of the Kiwanis contributions.



From left: Judge John Minney poses with Sam Sperry who is holding the hard hat he was awarded for his crabfeed antics.

Breakfast is Served by Moraga Kiwanis

Supervisor Uilkema was invited by Judge John C. Minney to address the Moraga Kiwanis Breakfast Club a few days after their successful crabfeed. Gayle spoke about the challenges facing the Board of Supervisors as they work to maintain a balanced budget in light of the economic downturn. One bright spot is that, while real estate prices have dropped throughout most of the county, parts of Lamorinda saw an increase of 6% this past year.

Board of Supervisors Actions

November '08 - February '09

Kick off the "Contra Costa County Cares" Holiday Food Drive.

Cost reduction options to rebalance the 2008/09 budget to reflect state cuts; Provide direction to staff on additional action to be taken.

Conference with Labor Negotiators

Approve/Authorize application to the CA Dept of Community Services and Development, Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program for energy assistance and weatherization services; Accept funding.

Approve/Authorize standard agreement with the CA Dept of Public Health, Office of AIDS, to pay CCC for the County's AIDS Drug Assistance Program.

Approve/Authorize contract with Community Violence Solutions for Safe Havens Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program.

Approve/Authorize contract to provide routine street sweeping services once per month for all curbed streets in unincorporated CCC.

Approve/Authorize sharing agreement with the VA, N.CA Health Care System, to provide dermatology services for patients referred for treatment by CCRMC physicians.

Continue emergency action by BOS on 11/16/99 re: homelessness in CCC.

Ordinance to establish a \$275 fee to be charged/collected when CCC removes from public or private property an abandoned vehicle that has been declared a public nuisance.

FY 08/09 budget reductions to adjust for the impact of State and other local revenue losses; approving associated appropriations and revenue adjustments to rebalance the 08/09 Adopted Budget; acknowledging further economic impacts will require subsequent budget adjustments.

Approve/Authorize contract for public education/industrial outreach activities mandated by Joint Municipal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits issued by SF Bay/Central Valley RWQC Boards.

Ordinance designating the Sheriff and Dept of Conservation and Development as the officials authorized to enforce the Abandoned Vehicle Ordinance; Fix 12/16/08 for adoption.

Appropriations/Revenue Adjustment authorizing new revenue from Office of Traffic Safety "Avoid the 25" Grant; appropriate it to fund DUI prevention/interdiction operations.

Authorize letter to CCC's congressional and state legislative delegation regarding proposed economic stimulus proposals and suggestions for expediting local projects.

Approve/Authorize grant award from US Health & Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to continue operations of Transition Homes Program.

Approve/Authorize contract amendment for the continuation of Prevention and Treatment Program.

Approve/Authorize application/acceptance CA OES, California Multi-Jurisdictional Methamphetamine Enforcement Team grant for investigation of methamphetamine-related crimes.

Approve/Authorize contract with CC Community College District to pay CCC for off-campus child care provided to CalWORKs participants enrolled as students at CC College.

Approve/Authorize contract with John Muir Health, Inc. for CCC's use of a mobile van to provide health services in Central County.

Approve/Authorize all required legal documents to provide FY 08/09 CDBG Housing Development Assistant Funds to Eden Housing, Inc. for senior affordable housing project in Lafayette.

Special Meeting on Legislation

Transfer of Court facilities in CCC from the County to the State, consistent with the Trial Court Facilities Act of 2002.

Adopt residential variable solid waste receptacle rate structure/collection rate increase of 4.44% for customers in unincorporated areas served by Allied Waste Services.

Report dated October '07 regarding survey/analysis of the commute habits and alternatives of CCC employees; Award departments that have exhibited highest utilization of commute alternatives.

Report on federal and state review process for proposed Indian gaming casinos in CCC.

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County Contacts

Supervisor Gayle B. Uilkema	(925) 335-1046
Abandoned Vehicles	(925) 313-2659
Adult Protective Services	(925) 646-2854
Agricultural Department	(925) 646-5250
Airport, Buchanan Field, Keith Freitas	(925) 646-5722
Animal Services Dept., Martinez – Glenn Howell	(925) 335-8300
Animal Services Dept., Pinole	(510) 374-3966
Area Agency on Aging, John Cottrell	(925) 335-8700
Auditor-Controller, Stephen Ybarra	(925) 646-2181
Building Inspection Division, Jason Crapo	(925) 335-1108
Building Application & Permits	(925) 646-1609
CCTV, Patricia Burke	(925) 313-1180
Children's Services – Adoptions	(925) 313-7770
Children's Protective Services – Central County	(925) 646-1680
Children's Protective Services – West County	(510) 374-3324
Clerk-Recorder, Stephen Weir	(925) 646-2955
Code Enforcement, Central County, Tim Honea	(925) 335-1147
West County, Tyrone Ridgle	(925) 335-1147
Lamorinda, Greg Wixom	(925) 299-0116
Community Development Division, Aruna Bhat	(925) 335-1221
Community Services, Pat Stroh	(925) 646-5990
Community Substance Abuse Services	(925) 313-6300
County Employment Information	(925) 335-1701
Contra Costa Health Plan, Milt Camhi	(925) 313-6000
Contra Costa Regional Medical Center	(925) 370-5000
County Administrator, David Twa	(925) 335-1086
County Assessor, Gus Kramer	(925) 313-7400
County Librarian, Ann Cain	(925) 927-3205
Central Library	(925) 646-6434
Library –Crockett Branch	(510) 787-2345
Library –Hercules Branch	(510) 245-2420
Library –Lafayette Branch	(925) 283-3872
Library –Martinez Branch	(925) 646-2898
Library –Moraga Branch	(925) 376-6852
Library –Orinda Branch	(925) 254-2184
Library –Pinole Branch	(510) 758-2741
Library –Rodeo Branch	(510) 799-2606
Library –Walnut Creek Branch	(925) 646-6773
County Road Maintenance, Joe Yee	(925) 313-7000
District Attorney, Robert J. Kochly	(925) 957-2200
Employment & Human Services, Joe Valentine	(925) 313-1500
Environmental Health, Sherm Quinlan	(925) 646-5225
Fire District of Contra Costa, Chief Keith Richter	(925) 930-5500
Crockett-Carquinez Fire Protection Dist.	(510) 787-2717
Moraga-Orinda Fire Protection Dist.	(925) 258-4599
Rodeo-Hercules Fire Protection Dist.	(510) 799-4561
First Time Home Buyers	(925) 335-7235
Grand Jury	(925) 646-2345
Hazardous Materials Ombudsman, Michael Kent	(925) 370-5020
Head Start Programs	(925) 646-5540
Health Services, William Walker, MD	(925) 370-5003
Homeless Programs	(800) 808-6444
Household Hazardous Waste	(800) 750-4096
Housing Authority, Joseph Villarreal	(925) 957-8011
In-Home Support Services	(925) 313-1770
Juvenile Hall	(925) 646-4800
LAFCO, Lou Ann Texeira	(925) 646-4090
Law Library	(925) 646-2783
Legal Assistant for the Elderly	(510) 374-3712
Martinez Detention Facility, Inmate Info	(925) 646-4495
Medi-Cal Services Eligibility	(925) 646-2941
Mental Health Services, Donna Wigand	(925) 957-5150
Mosquito Abatement/Vector Control	(925) 685-9301
Office of Emergency Services	(925) 646-4461
Private Industry Council	(925) 646-5239
Probation Department, Lionel Chatman	(925) 313-4023
Public Defender, David Coleman	(925) 335-8000
Public Works, Julie Bueren	(925) 313-2202
Retirement Office	(925) 646-5741
Sheriff-Coroner, Warren Ruff	(925) 335-1500
Superior Court, Clerk of the Court	(925) 646-2951
Superior Court, Jury Services	(925) 646-2002
Superior Court, Richmond	(510) 374-3800
Superior Court, Richmond, Jury Info	(510) 374-3803
Treasurer-Tax Collector, William Pollacek	(925) 646-4122
Veterans Service Office, Phil Munley	(925) 313-1481
West County Detention Facility, Inmate Info	(510) 262-4200

Additional county departmental information can be found on the county website: www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/

Board of Supervisors Actions *(continued)*

Municipal Climate Action Plan which includes municipal emission reduction targets, quantifies greenhouse gas reductions from existing municipal programs as well as identifies potential reductions from the implementation of additional measures; Direct the Climate Change Working Group to work with the CAO/county departments to identify/evaluate other measures that could be implemented to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions in CCC.

Resolution adopted 5/6/08 to implement the Tactical Employment Team Program, whose objective is to mitigate the negative impact that anticipated layoffs will have on CCC's workforce; Authorize deletion/addition of positions in affected CCC depts, as approved by BOS on 12/16/08; CAO return to BOS with additional information regarding short/long-term budget balancing options and report from the County Assessor on assessment activity; Acknowledge further State reductions/economic impacts will require subsequent adjustments to FY 08/09 Budget.

Approve/Authorize to submit on behalf of CCC, cities, and other homeless service providers, a Consolidated Application for the '08 McKinney-Vento Assistance funding, along with the necessary certifications and assurances, to HUDD to provide supportive housing and services to homeless individuals and families.

Special Meeting: Board Operating Procedures and Communications; Committee Procedures and Operating Guidelines; Key Issues for 2009/10; County Administrator's Priorities and Structural Reorganization Opportunities; County Administrative Officer's Organizational Structure; Expectations of County Administrative Officer

2009 Reorganization of the Board of Supervisors

Recommendations for BOS appointments to local, regional and statewide boards, committees and commissions for 2009.

Accept Engineer's Report for CSA L-100; declare intent to levy/collect assessments and fix public hearing for 2/24/09 to adopt proposed annual assessments/complete public noticing, Lafayette.

Honor Tom Courtright, Lafayette's Business Person of the Year, by Supervisor Uilkema.

Approve/Authorize letters to State Senator and Assembly Members outlining impact on CCC on Freezing Bond Revenue.

31st Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration and Humanitarian Awards Ceremony

Auditor-Controller report containing property tax-related costs of the Assessor, Tax Collector, Auditor and Assessment Appeals Board for 07/08 FY; Fix 3/3/09 for public hearing on determination of property tax administrative costs; notify affected local jurisdictions; prepare/publish required legal notice and make supporting documentation available for public inspection.

Modification to T Hangar and Shade Hangar Rental Agreement, and Large Hangar Rental Agreement to delete requirement that tenants carry aircraft physical damage insurance; Amend existing hangar rental agreements to effect same change to insurance requirement for specified Buchanan Field Airport tenants, Pacheco.

Designate 3/17/09 for FY 09/10 budget hearings; 3/24/09 for adoption of FY 09/10 County and Special District Budgets.

Note: this is a partial list of Board activities. A complete record of Board activities can be found at the County's web page: www.co.contra-costa.ca.us

Contra Costa County Mental Health Commission

This Commission serves to review and evaluate CCC's mental health needs, services, facilities, and special problems; advise the governing body and local mental health director as to any aspect of the local mental health program; review CCC's performance outcome data and communicate its findings to the State Mental Health Commission; assess the impact of the realignment of services from the State to the County on services delivered to clients and the local community. Meets in Martinez, 4th Tuesday at 4:30.

Volunteer Opportunities

Have you been looking for an opportunity to become more involved in your community? Are you interested in meeting new and interesting people? If you answered yes to either of these questions, then here is your opportunity! Below is a list of available County positions, please take a moment to peruse the list and see if something is of interest to you.

Application forms for **Volunteer Opportunities** are available from Supervisor Gayle B. Uilkema's office at **(925) 335-1046**, the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors office at **(925) 335-1900** or can be downloaded from the District 2 website at

www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/depart/dis2/

Womens Commission

The Commission serves to identify major economic, educational and social concerns of women in Contra Costa County as well as to reach and inform all women on a variety of issues. Meets in Concord, 3rd Tuesday at 3pm.

Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board

Applicants shall have a professional interest in, or personal commitment to, alleviating problems related to drug abuse and inappropriate alcohol use in their community. Any individual who is a paid employee of or a paid consultant to any agency which contracts with the County on behalf of its Health Services Department for any drug or alcohol-related programs is prohibited from serving on this Board. Any individual who is a volunteer member of the Board of Directors of any agency which contracts with the County on behalf of its Health Services Department or any drug or alcohol-related program is discouraged from serving. Meets the 4th Wednesday from 3:45-6:15pm.

Contra Costa County Library Commission

This Commission serves to advise and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and the County Librarian as to the needs of the public as well as to develop and recommend proposals for the betterment of the County Library including such efforts as insuring a stable and adequate funding level for the libraries in the County; to provide a link between the community and the Library System; and to establish a forum for the community to express its' views regarding goals and operations of the County Library. Meets monthly on the 4th Thursday at 7pm.

If you believe that you, or someone you know, are the victim of elder abuse, Adult Protective Services operates a 24-hour response telephone line.

Call 925-646-2854 or toll free 877-839-4347.