



COUNTY OF MONTEREY CAO Weekly Report

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SPECIALREPORT



Emergency Services Planner Pat Moore shares his experiences with the Soberanes Fire as part of the development of a regional emergency information system.

County Notes

- > It's going to be hot this weekend! Stay cool with these tips from the Health Department which are posted in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Emergency Planner Shares Experiences for Joint Project

Monterey County has had its share of disasters and is now putting that experience to good use to help neighboring and Bay Area counties in times of crisis.

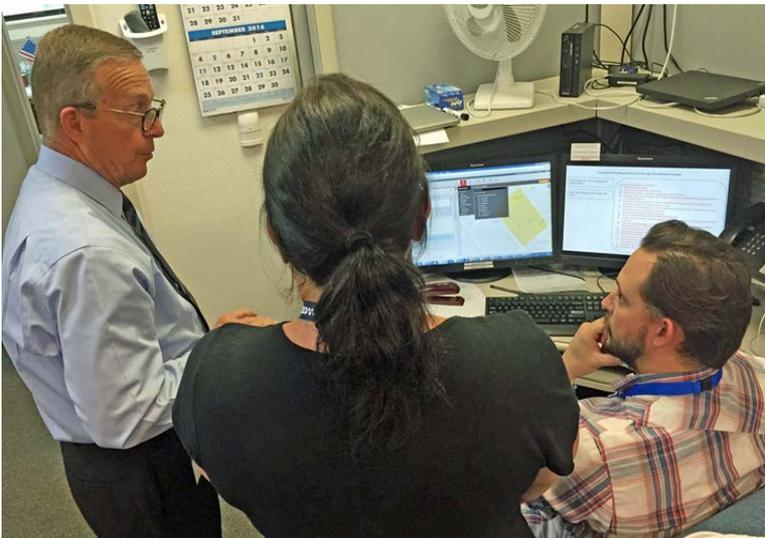
The County, through the Office of Emergency Services, is taking part in the development of a regional information system.

This regional effort is bringing together emergency managers and public information officers from cities and counties from Monterey to the south to Sonoma County to the north. The idea is to create a Regional Joint Information System 'Framework' that will be in place at all times, so that when a crisis occurs anywhere in the region, all partners are available to assist at a moment's notice.

As part of the process, participants are examining lessons learned from previous disasters. OES Emergency Services Planner Pat Moore is part of the team developing the regional information system and he was tapped to speak to the group about his experiences with mass notifications during the Soberanes and Chimney Fires of 2016 and Winter Storms of 2017.



Counties participating in the regional Joint Information System project.



During the Soberanes Fire, Moore trained EOC workers and others to use the notification system due to the emerging crisis. He recommends to other agencies that they train staff in advance whenever possible.

Moore played a critical role during these disasters - among his many duties was to create mass notifications and warnings to the community using a computerized system. Many at the workshop have a similar system in their own emergency centers, but few have had the level of use as Monterey County did during these recent disasters. Moore walked the group through examples of efforts that worked, didn't work and why. Because he uses the system so frequently, he was able to share with the group how to troubleshoot problems during a crisis as well as best practices *before* the emergency happens, such as archiving message, managing computer interface and notification capacity.

He also reminded the group that in disasters, many agencies and jurisdictions are involved

and that getting agreements in place and communications established ahead of time can prevent delays and misunderstandings during the heat of the crisis. He shared with the group Monterey County's unique situation with the Pajaro River - that one part is in Santa Cruz County, the other in Monterey County; during the winter rains, each county had different information about the timing of critical river levels and damage that needed to be communicated to the public.

The regional project will hold more workshops and exercises during the summer and fall, with a planned launch of the program at year's end.

Employees Give Local Students Real-World Business ‘Tips of the Trade’

For elementary students in Salinas who wonder what it would be like to run their own business someday - that day came early, on May 31st.

That was the day county staffers volunteered with the Junior Achievement organization at Roosevelt School in Salinas.

Employees from finance, business and administrative offices spent the morning with some 300 students as part of Junior Achievement’s economic empowerment program, working together on fun activities and inspiring them to dream big and forge their own path in the world of business and finance.

“This is my third year in the classroom at Roosevelt and I love seeing how excited the students are when they see it’s ‘JA Day,’” says Treasurer-Tax Collector Mary Zeeb. “Students enjoyed the learning activities so much they asked if they could take the items home to use with their families. I can’t wait for next year to roll around and I hope more employees can find a few hours to spend in a classroom. It’s a win-win – rewarding for both the employee and the kids.”

Junior Achievement programs includes both class curriculum and activities, but Associate Administrative Analyst Juan Pablo Lopez says the kids really enjoyed the business-style activities that made the information come alive and made concepts like supply chain understandable.



Monterey County volunteers Mary Zeeb, Juan Pablo Lopez, Manny Gonzalez and Joe Ripley stand with other volunteers at Roosevelt School.

“The most interesting project was the hot dog stand activity,” says Lopez. “Student groups ran their own hot dog stand businesses and had to work around scenarios that disrupted their operations such as a missed shipment of supplies. It taught students that as a business owner you should expect challenges and have solutions ready for when they arise.”

What happened when the hot dog stands were hit with fake missed shipments? Lopez says students had some options and they chose business solutions such as using different supplies such as turkey hot dogs, choosing another vendor (preferably a local one!) and giving away coupons to be used in a future visit if their customers were disappointed.

This year’s volunteers were Treasurer-Tax Collector Mary Zeeb, Assistant CAO Manny Gonzalez, Associate Administrative Analyst Juan Pablo Lopez and Health Department Finance Manager II Joe Ripley.

Congratulations Health Challenge Winners

To all those who took part in this spring’s Health Challenge, congratulations on a job well done! As a county, we racked up 2,004,490 minutes of exercise!

There were some department exercise teams that took the challenge to new heights and organizers were able to rank participant achievement.

Here are the top three County teams in the exercise challenge and the number of minutes they accomplished. This should get you all inspired to beat those numbers next year!



2017 WINNERS

1ST PLACE: DSS Call Center | 25,945 Total Minutes

2ND PLACE: Library | 60,799 Total Minutes

3RD PLACE: Health- Nursing Team | 55,235 Total Minutes

*Ratings are calculated by dividing the total number of minutes by the number of participants per team.

1st Place: DSS Call Center (Score: 5189)



Team members (l-r): Arika Garcia, Ana Cuin, Charisma Rodriguez, Ana Cortez Zarate and Claudia Barocio Reynoso.

2nd Place: Library Team (Score: 4782)



Team Members (l-r): Be Astengo, Rachel Schneider, Arely Hernandez, Lorena Rosas and Kris Amaral. Not pictured are: Pam Leja, Marina Toledo, Elizabeth Gandara, Linda Ingram, Maria Lomeli, Martin Zuniga, Sally Ibarra, Veronica Puente, Robert Donahue, Patti Neal, and Eliza Perez.

3rd Place: Health Department Nursing Team (Score: 4039)



Team members (l-r): Pat Sanchez, Amanda Mihalko, Kelly Croswell, Sharon Barnett, Moira Lewis, Zuri Picazo. Not pictured are: Gonzalo Coronado, Jessica Perez, Isabel Rodriguez, Stephany Ponce, Jairo Hernandez, Julie DelaPaz, Joy Alegria and Evelyn Alvarez.