



# COUNTY CURRENTS

Santa Cruz County

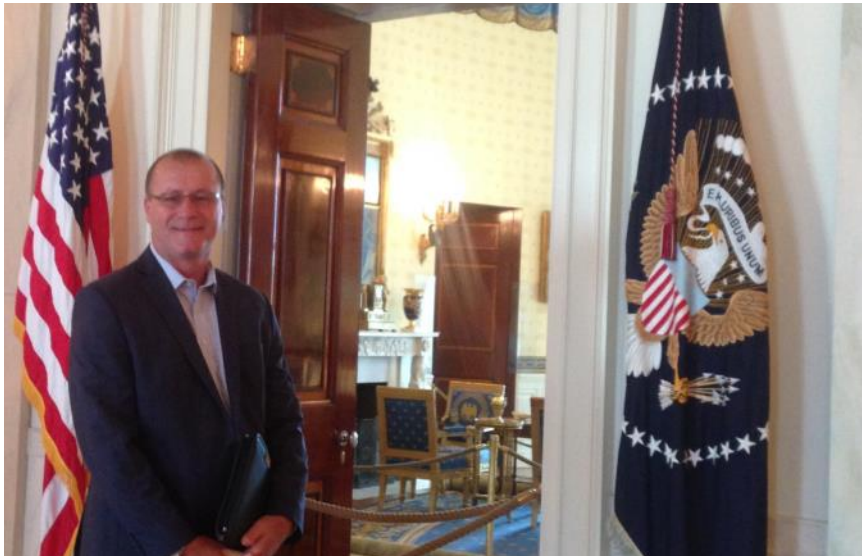
[www.santacruzcounty.us](http://www.santacruzcounty.us)

Summer 2016

A publication of the County Administrative Office Susan A. Mauriello, County Administrator



## Commander and chiefs



*“Trust between law enforcement agencies and the people they protect and serve is essential.”*

*- Sheriff Jim Hart*

President Obama summoned Santa Cruz County Sheriff Jim Hart to the White House in late June to discuss 21st Century policing with top police officials from around the country. The Sheriff's Office has been a leader on the effort, holding local community dialogues on public safety and policing. For more: [21stCenturyPolicing.us](http://21stCenturyPolicing.us).

## Healing options

On June 20, the County was formally approved for an expanded Medi-Cal program to treat drug and alcohol abuse.

More than a year in the making, the new program could double the number of Medi-Cal eligible residents getting treatment, reduce wait times and improve the services they receive such as detox, residential treatment and follow-up care, a key to breaking the cycle of addiction.

“Elimination of waiting lists for alcohol and drug treatment will save many lives, reduce individual and family suffering, and save public dollars that are currently being spent on the fallout from untreated addiction,” said Dr. Bill Manov, chief of the County's Alcohol and Drug Program.



Dr. Bill Manov, Santa Cruz County Alcohol and Drug Program chief

## In This Issue

- Buena Vista Landfill reaches milestone
- LEO's Haven kicks off fundraising campaign
- County Board adopts 2016/17 budget
- First Micro-Business Summit a big hit
- Building Futures



Board members and County staff celebrate the opening of the last section of Buena Vista Landfill

# Beginning of the end

Who gets excited about garbage?

Under a bright blue sky, numerous County officials celebrated the opening of the last remaining module at Buena Vista Landfill in April, signaling the beginning of the end for a solid waste facility that has served the county for more than half a century.

Constructed at a cost of approximately \$6 million, the seven-acre **Module 5** provides more than 250,000 square feet of floor space. It continues Buena Vista's tradition of innovative approaches to solid waste by not only using the latest techniques to avoid leakage, spills or odors, but by including methane gas wells to collect gas for generating power and limiting emissions.

"This facility continues the County's tradition of protecting the environment through innovative approaches to waste management," Santa Cruz County Board Chair Bruce McPherson said. "With Module 5, we've extended the life of Buena Vista Landfill another 15 to 20 years."

"Buena Vista has served us well over the years. The County turned trash into treasure by supporting recycling, maximizing diversion and using this facility to demonstrate responsible environmental stewardship through innovation and forward-thinking policies," County Administrative Officer Susan Mauriello said.

As much as 500 tons of waste comes to the landfill daily, about half of which is eventually recycled. Buena Vista has separate collections for recyclables, wood waste, household electronic goods, metals, mattresses and hazardous materials.

The County is also planning a new composting facility to open by 2018. It has also been named the recipient of the California Resource Recovery Association's 2016 Outstanding Recycling Program.



In June, the County recognized numerous supervisors and managers who've completed online leadership development courses through **Santa Cruz County Learns**.

Next year, in order to better serve the public, the program will be expanded to all regular County employees. It will have 12 new learning programs on a wide variety of topics including Business Writing, Desktop Computer Skills, Time Management and Organizational Skills, Presentation and Meeting Facilitation Skills and many others.



*Evangelina Estrada and her grandmother, Samantha Estrada, introduce themselves to a goat at a June fundraising kickoff for **LEO's Haven**, an accessible playground at Chanticleer Park. For more info or to donate, go to: [www.santacruzplaygroundproject.org](http://www.santacruzplaygroundproject.org).*


**COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ DEPARTMENT OF**  
**PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND CULTURAL SERVICES**





**2016-17 PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES**

**L**ooking for something to do this summer? Whether you're 8 or 85, the Parks Department's Activity Guide is a great place to start. From hikes to summer camps, there's something for everyone. [Check it out!](#)

## \$3M for better health care

In May, the County announced it has secured \$3 in State and federal grants to assist with facility improvements and expansion, and projects that will benefit clients needing crisis intervention and stabilization, mental health care and primary care services. The grants were awarded to the County's Health Services Agency.

"We work hard competing for grants to improve services for all our clients," Health Services Agency Director Giang Nguyen said.

A \$1.2 million state grant provides capital funding to assure the continued operation of 2nd Story, a peer-operated, adult crisis respite program. Another state grant, for \$247,000, will fund renovations to significantly expand facilities to serve youths at the behavioral health unit, and support and expand the capabilities of the County's Mobile Emergency Response Team.

A \$925,000 grant from the federal Health Resources & Services Administration will help remodel the clinic facility and expand exam rooms at the 1080 Emeline Ave. clinic, while another HRSA grant, for \$625,000, will assist with establishing medication-assisted therapy clinics and case management for patients at county-run clinics living with substance use disorders.

### Citizen Connect



We've updated our app to include fireworks reports, election results and much more, all at the touch of a finger. [Download Citizen Connect](#) for iTunes and Google Play.



With assistance from the Cabrillo Host Lions Club, the County in April finally broke ground on long-planned concessions and bathrooms at Polo Grounds County Park. Look for the new building the summer!

## Board approves 2016-17 County budget

Following a more than a week of public hearings, the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday unanimously approved a \$696 million budget that supports critical services such as public safety and health care while demonstrating financial prudence and sound fiscal policy.

The 2016-17 Budget increases public safety funding, improves substance abuse and mental health services, expands economic opportunity, protects the environment and more. The budget also continues the County's long recovery from the Great Recession by building up rainy day funds.

"I'm pleased that the Budget reflects the Board's priorities," Board of Supervisors Chair Bruce McPherson said. "We have emphasized public safety, health care, economic opportunity and fiscal prudence; continued to limit

budget growth and improved budget reserves; and added funds for youth and homeless services."

The Budget moves the County closer to a Board-established goal of a 10 percent general fund rainy day reserve to safeguard against future economic downturns, which many experts predict within the next few years. The policy recently helped the County achieve an improved credit rating from Standard & Poor's.

While representing a decline in spending and overall funded positions from the prior year, the 2016-17 Budget includes added deputies and probation officers, and staff to address homelessness and mental health, as well as a coordinator to establish a Multidisciplinary Interview Center (MDIC) for child crime victims through the District Attorney's Office.



**Looking for employment?**  
[www.santacruzcountyjobs.com](http://www.santacruzcountyjobs.com)



## Meet Your Supervisor

### [John Leopold](#)

District 1 includes Live Oak, Summit Road Soquel and parts of Capitola and Santa Cruz.



### [Zach Friend](#)

District 2 includes Aptos, Corralitos, part of Capitola and the South County coast.



### [Ryan Coonerty](#)

District 3 includes much of Santa Cruz and the North Coast.



### [Greg Caput](#)

District 4 includes most of Watsonville and the Pajaro Valley.



### [Bruce McPherson](#)

District 5 includes the San Lorenzo Valley, Scotts Valley and parts of Santa Cruz.



Click on each supervisor to learn more about them and their responsibilities, including how to reach them during constituent office hours.

## Big start for small biz conference

More than 200 local small businesses attended the inaugural “82%: A Micro-Business Summit” in April at Cabrillo College.

“We offered practical, real-world skills that businesses were able to apply the minute they walked out the door,” said Barbara Mason, economic development coordinator for the County of Santa Cruz. “Our local businesses are the fiber of our economy and our community, and we look forward to next year’s event.”



Search engine optimization was among the topics at the inaugural “82%: A Micro-Business Summit” at Cabrillo College.

Eighty-two percent of local businesses have nine or fewer employees, classifying them as micro-entrepreneurs. The County, along with partners Central Coast Small Business Development Center, Slingshot SV and the San

Lorenzo Valley Chamber of Commerce, wants to recognize them as the backbone of our local economy.

## Building Futures, one job at a time

Does it surprise you that one-third of U.S. adults have a criminal record?

Furthermore, each year more than 700,000 Americans are released from prison while another 9 million cycle through jails. Finding work is key to breaking the nation from the cycle of incarceration, with the potential to save taxpayers some of the hundreds of billions in annual criminal justice spending while mapping a brighter future for the 5 million U.S. children who have had a parent in jail or prison.

In June at Twin Lakes Church, employers and employees gathered for a special “Building Futures” event aimed at businesses interested in hiring those with a criminal record, building on Santa Cruz County’s longstanding approach to offender rehabilitation and reentry. Speakers included Jeanne Woodford, former California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation director and former warden at San Quentin State Prison, and Stephanie Akhter, Reentry and Employment Project Manager for the New



Former San Quentin warden Jeanne Woodford told the crowd at Twin Lakes Church: “Nothing stops a bullet like a job.”

York-based Council for State Governments Justice Center.

Several local chambers and business groups cosponsored the event, which was held shortly after President Obama launched the Fair Chance Business Pledge, calling on businesses to eliminate barriers to employment for people returning to their communities.

## Quick Guide

Citizens rely on county government for many needed services. Use this handy guide to find who to call, or come find us on the web at: [www.santacruzcounty.us](http://www.santacruzcounty.us).

**Main Number**  
(831) 454-2000

**Board of Supervisors**  
(831) 454-2200

**Agricultural Commissioner**  
(831) 763-8080

**Animal Services**  
(831) 454-7303

**Assessor’s Office**  
(831) 454-2002

**Benefits**  
(888) 421-8080

**County Clerk/Elections**  
(831) 454-2060

**Economic Development**  
(831) 454-2728

**Environmental Health**  
(831) 454-2022

**Health Services Agency**  
(831) 454-4800

**Parks and Recreation**  
(831) 454-7900

**Planning Department**  
(831) 454-2580

**Public Works**  
(831) 454-2160

**Recycling Information**  
(831) 454-2333

**Sheriff/Coroner**  
(831) 471-1121  
(call 911 if emergency)

**Superior Court**  
(831) 763-8060

**Tax Collections**  
(831) 454-2510