



Around Tulare County

DELIVERING INFORMATION ABOUT TULARE COUNTY — SEPTEMBER 2013

Supervisor's Message: We Want to "Fix Your Space"



I like to watch reality television. Some of the shows I like to watch include Survivor, Amazing Race, Master Chef and, my favorite, Restaurant Impossible. They are favorites because for twenty five years I worked as a contractor working on mostly restaurants. From design to the final construction and decorating I just can't get enough of turning a rough stone into a beautiful diamond. That's why I want to host our own Tulare County reality contest. We are going to partner with our own Capital Projects & Facilities Department who will act as the "build team" and the Purchasing Department to do something we have never done before. Even though our facilities department works very hard each year filling

almost 1,300 work orders per month, we realize that they can't get to it all. We want to:

FIX YOUR SPACE

That's right. We want to hear from you about your working space and the challenges you face each day as you go to work. Now we are not talking about the whole building, just your work space or area - this might even be your break room. I believe every employee deserves a clean and safe environment to work in. I for one love to go to work and enjoy my office space.

Over the past few years this Board has shown its commitment to the employees of the County by improving work conditions and finding locations that best serve our constituents. Tulare Works Visalia is in a new location on North Dinuba Blvd. in Visalia. The Sheriff's Department has moved several of its employees from the old barracks at Sequoia Field to the Government Plaza site and our Probation

Department is now located on Center Street in Visalia in the recently remodeled Tulare Works location. These moves and changes were made because we were able to identify poor working conditions and had the desire to make the improvements.

Here are the rules:

1. Tulare County employees only.
2. One request per employee.
3. Write a request in no more than 150 words.
4. Tell me what your space needs.
5. One picture of your space.

Please send the request straight to me at pcox@co.tulare.ca.us. This can be through email or inter office mail. I want to find out who has the worst working space in the County and fix it. Who knows? There might be room enough for two.

**Phil Cox, District Three
Board of Supervisors**

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Lindsay Hired as Assistant CAO



Longtime City of Hanford administrator Mary Lindsay has been hired as the Assistant County Administrative Officer in Tulare County. Lindsay started August 12.

"We are pleased to bring someone into the Tulare County family with decades of public service expertise," said Jean Rousseau, County Administrative Officer. "Mary will be a valuable asset to our organization for years to come."

Prior to her new position with Tulare County, Lindsay worked in various roles during her 26-year-career with the City of Hanford. Lindsay started with the City

of Hanford in 1987 as a personnel technician, and then was promoted to personnel analyst and senior administrative analyst. Most recently, she served as Deputy City Manager in Hanford from 1996 to 2012.

Among her duties as Deputy City Manager, Lindsay managed personnel operations, served as a citywide budget coordinator, managed the municipal airport and worked on assigned projects and programs.

As Assistant County Administrative Officer, Lindsay's duties will include:

managing the General Services Department; monitoring, coordinating, and providing direction to the overall administrative activities of the County; establishing funding priorities; determining service levels and allocating budget resources; and evaluating program effectiveness.

Lindsay earned a degree in Business Administration – Personnel & Industrial Relations from California State University, Fresno in 1986. Prior to CSU, Fresno, Lindsay was a student at the College of the Sequoias.

"We are encouraging all families to take a stand against obesity by breaking the cycle of unhealthy eating." Dr. Karen Haight, County Health Officer

September is Latino Health Awareness Month

Tulare County's Health & Human Services Agency (HHSA) and Network for a Healthy California observe Latino Health Awareness Month each September to encourage Latino families to live healthier and more active lives.

Residents are invited to the Latino Health Awareness Month fair on Saturday, September 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the General Food Store, 211 N. Valencia Blvd., Woodlake. Attendees will discover healthy twists on traditional foods and tips and resources will be shared to encourage healthy change.

"We are encouraging all

families to take a stand against obesity by breaking the cycle of unhealthy eating," said Dr. Karen Haight, County Health Officer. "By making simple changes, such as adding more fruits and vegetables to traditional dishes, parents can begin to turn the tide on obesity in the Latino community."

In the last decade, obesity has doubled among Latino children and now nearly half of Latino children ages 9 to 11 are overweight or obese. Studies show that having a normal weight reduces the risk of developing type 2 diabetes by almost 70 percent. In addition, children whose parents are

overweight or obese are at higher risk for becoming obese themselves.

During Latino Health Awareness Month, Latinos throughout California are encouraged to adopt life-long healthy habits. Families can discover healthy twists on traditional recipes like adding more fruits and vegetables and using healthier cooking methods.

For more information, tips and free resources like healthy Latino recipes, visit www.NotMyKids.net or find us on Facebook at Facebook.com/NetworkForAHealthyCalifornia.

Employee Spotlight: Tulare County Firefighters



Pictured: One of three strike teams sent to Rim Fire.

Three Tulare County Fire Department-led strike teams helped fight one of the largest wildfires in California's history in late August.

The Rim Fire, located in Tuolumne County near Yosemite National Park, started August 17 and has burned more than 235,000 acres. As of Sept. 1, it is being called the fourth-largest in state history.

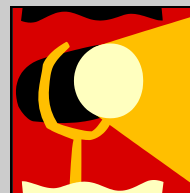
In response, Gov. Jerry Brown declared a state of emergency to allow more resources to be called upon to help contain the fire.

Tulare County Fire Department (TCFD) Battalion Chiefs Doug Hicks, Ted Reese, and Jeff McLaughlin each led separate strike teams up to the Rim Fire during the final two weeks of August. In addition, TCFD Battalion

Chief Jonathan Kutka served as an assistant strike team leader. Each strike team included different fire agencies from throughout the San Joaquin Valley. Those agencies included: Bakersfield, Dinuba, Farmersville, Fresno, Porterville, Tulare, Tulare County, and Woodlake fire departments.

Tulare County Fire Department Division Chief John Crivello said each strike team usually consists of 20 fire fighting personnel, which include captains, lieutenants, firefighters, and extra-help firefighters. Of the three strike teams sent, 26 were Tulare County Fire Department staff.

Division Chief Crivello said assignments for the strike teams included structure defense in Pine Mountain Lake, Tuolumne City, Mather, and Yosemite Park.



There are many County employees who are doing outstanding things for their community outside of their job.

Do you know a County employee who should be in the spotlight? Let us know at:

newsletter@co.tulare.ca.us

Program Spotlight: Boards, Commissions, & Committees

Have you ever considered volunteering to participate on a County board, commission, or committee or just wanted to know the names of the people who serve on them?

The Tulare County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors has now made it easier for the public to find out by

posting all relevant information on the Internet.

By visiting, <http://tularecounty.ca.gov/clerkoftheboard/index.cfm/board-commissions-and-committee/>, residents can review a list of all boards, commissions, and committees. In addition, special district and special district

rosters are also posted for your convenience.

If you do not have Internet access and need to acquire an application, please call 559/636-5000.

Want your program to be in the spotlight? Please send suggestions to:

newsletter@co.tulare.ca.us

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**Festival of Hope to be Held in September**

The Tulare & Kings Counties Suicide Prevention Task Force (SPTF) will host the 4th Annual Festival of Hope on Sept. 28-29 at the Tulare Outlet Center.

The Festival of Hope, or FoH4, is a two-day event featuring a variety of elements to engage and inform the community about the impacts of suicide.

FoH4 features a positive atmosphere filled with breath-taking street paintings (chalk pastel murals) created by professionals and volunteer artists, free live concerts, dancing, and a resource fair.

In conjunction with FoH4, the SPTF and the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Tulare County will

host the "Walk of Hope" to kick off the weekend.

The walk will be held at 9 a.m. on Sept. 28 at Del Lago Park. Participants are encouraged to arrive early at the Tulare Outlet Center, where free bus services will be provided for transportation to Del Lago Park. After the walk, participants will be transported back to the Tulare Outlet Center.

AROUND TULARE COUNTY

Around Tulare County is published once a month as a service to the public. Unless otherwise noted, articles are written by County staff. For additional information, contact Jed Chernabaeff.

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SEPTEMBER COUNTY ACTIVITIES, DEADLINES, EVENTS, MEETINGS**Meeting: (Date/Time)****More Information:**

Board of Supervisors' Meeting: 9 a.m. Sept. 10*, 17, 24.
Tulare County Water Commission: 3 p.m. Sept. 9
Tulare County Association of Governments: 1 p.m., Sept. 19
Tulare County Planning Commission: 9 a.m. Sept. 11, 25.
Tulare County Indian Gaming Committee: 10 a.m. Sept. 18

559/636-5000
559/636-5005
559/624-7274
559/624-7000

* The Sept. 10 Board of Supervisors meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at the Woodlake City Council Chambers



Places to Go Play: The Tulare County Museum of Farm Labor and Agriculture is located at Mooney Grove Park in Visalia. The 17,000-square foot structure showcases the people who have lived in, used and farmed the San Joaquin Valley during the past 500 years. Learn more about the Museum of Farm Labor and Agriculture and other places in Tulare County to "Go Play" at

www.tularecountymap.com.