



CAO's Corner

By Susan S. Muranishi,
County Administrator

With October marking the 20th Anniversary of the Oakland Hills Firestorm and the 22nd Anniversary of the Loma Prieta Earthquake, disaster preparedness was very much on the minds of Alameda County's elected officials, agency/department heads and employees. Supervisor Keith Carson hosted a series of disaster preparedness workshops that included participation by Sheriff Greg Ahern and County Fire Chief Sheldon Gilbert. Our employees also received numerous reminders to prepare themselves for major emergencies. Memories of the firestorm and earthquake remind us all that it's important to prepare now. Alameda County has an easy-to-follow Emergency Preparedness online guide, available at <http://www.acgov.org/emergency.htm>, that can get you started in preparing for a disaster. The guide includes tips on how to create a Disaster Supplies Kit, how to store emergency supplies of food and water and how to shelter in place. As we work to assist the public in getting prepared, the County workforce also is being reminded that it likely will be called upon to assist others should our region experience a major emergency. Alameda County employees have a history of bravely stepping forward to assist others when disaster strikes. Earlier this year, employees contributed about \$50,000 for victims of the March earthquake in Japan. Employees have also supported relief efforts following the 9/11 attacks, the tsunami in Southeast Asia, Hurricane Katrina and the earthquake in Haiti. And there's no doubt County employees will step in to assist locally should disaster again strike the Bay Area.

Donna Ziegler Appointed Alameda County Counsel

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors has unanimously appointed Donna Ziegler as the County Counsel for Alameda County, effective October 10, 2011. In this role, Ziegler will serve as the chief legal advisor and counselor to the Board of Supervisors, County Administrator and elected and appointed department heads. The Board conducted a national search to replace former County Counsel Richard E. Winnie in March 2011 after a distinguished career. Pending selection of a permanent County Counsel, Richard R. Karlsson, former Chief Assistant County Counsel, ably served as Interim County Counsel in the months prior to Ms. Ziegler's appointment. Ms. Ziegler joined the Office of County Counsel in 2000 as a Deputy County Counsel and was promoted to the position of Assistant County Counsel and later, Chief Assistant County Counsel by Mr. Winnie. Following her appointment, Ziegler said, "I am honored and excited to be appointed as the County's chief counsel and look forward



to serving the Board of Supervisors and leading the staff in the Office of County Counsel. The County is facing tremendous challenges and I am committed to working with the Board, CAO and County's executive leadership team to serve our residents and communities." Donna graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with an AB and has a JD from Boalt Hall School of Law. She and her family reside in the Fairview District of unincorporated Alameda County.

Nominations for Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame

The 19th Annual Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame luncheon and awards ceremony is set for Saturday, March 31, 2012, at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral on Lincoln Avenue in Oakland. The event will be hosted by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and the Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women. Nominations are now being accepted for outstanding women in 12 categories: Business and Professions; Community Service; Culture and Art; Education; Environment; Health; Justice; Non-Traditional

Careers; Science; Sports and Athletics; Philanthropy and Youth. **The deadline to submit nominations is December 16, 2011.** More than 130 women have been inducted into the Women's Hall of Fame since it was established in 1993. Photographs and descriptions of inductees can be viewed in the permanent Women's Hall of Fame display on the 4th floor of the Alameda County Conference Center, 125 12th Street, Oakland. The program raises money for local charities addressing issues affecting women and

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Firefighters Honored as Alameda County Remembers September 11

The Board of Supervisors recognized the 10th Anniversary of the September 11 attacks by honoring five Alameda County Firefighters who were sent to New York immediately after the attacks to take part in search and rescue efforts there. The five firefighters were among 22 members of the Alameda County Fire Department who spent two weeks working amid the destruction at Ground Zero. Their work involved searching for people who survived and those who did not, escorting victims' family members to the site and keeping people safe in and around Ground Zero. Firefighters spoke of the vast scale of the destruction, the highly emotional and uncertain feelings that gripped New York in the attack's aftermath and the dust that seemed to envelop the city. "The dust was everywhere, almost like the fine powder snow you see in Colorado, but this was



In photo, left to right, are: Captain Steve Gazdik, Battalion Chief Rob Eaton, Assistant Chief Rob Schnepf, Supervisor Wilma Chan, Chief Sheldon Gilbert, Battalion Chief John Walsh and Captain Dave Eaton

the towers and what remained of them," said Battalion Chief John Walsh. The firefighters received rousing applause inside the Board chambers and were presented with a resolution by Supervisor Wilma Chan honoring them for their bravery and their commitment to the safety of Alameda County residents. The fire-

fighters were accompanied by Alameda County Fire Chief Sheldon Gilbert, who would be honored later in September by being named Ronny Jack Coleman Fire Chief of the Year by the California Fire Chiefs Association (CFCA). Chief Gilbert received the honor at the CFCA's annual conference in Riverside.

Richard E. Winnie Honored as Public Lawyer of the Year

Legal luminaries from throughout California gathered in Long Beach in mid September at a special reception honoring the late Richard E. Winnie, longtime Alameda County Counsel, for being named the winner of the 2011 Ronald M. George Public Lawyer of the Year Award by the California State Bar's Public Law Section. Tani Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice of the California

Supreme Court, took part in the celebration while Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty spoke about Winnie's dedication to Alameda County during his decades of public service and the 13 years he served as County Counsel. The celebration in honor of Winnie took place just six months after he passed away following a long illness.

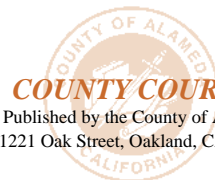


Nominations for Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame

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children. This year the program made contributions of \$2,500 each to A Safe Place, a shelter for battered women and children; New Beginnings Summer Employment Program for at-risk youth; Covenant House, which provides shelter for homeless youth; and Mammography Screening of Alameda Inc. In 2012, the Women's Hall of Fame will also continue its commitment to youth by sponsoring a

\$2,000 Youth Scholarship to help an 11th or 12th grade female student to further her education. The 2011 Women's Hall of Fame inductees will be announced in January and will be honored at the March 31, 2012 event. Tickets to the luncheon and awards ceremony are \$75. Visit our website at www.acgov.org/cao/halloffame/ to submit a nomination or to obtain more information, or call (510) 272-3884 or (510) 259-3871.



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Regional Transportation

The 9-county San Francisco Bay Area region has 80% of all the traffic congestion in Northern California. Alameda County lies at the center of this region and is bisected by numerous federal and state highway and railroad corridors, an international airport and the nation's 4th busiest seaport. With only 20% of the region's population, 40% of its traffic congestion is experienced in Alameda County, by far the largest share of any county in the region. This congestion affects air quality, local streets and roads, the local and regional economy, as well as to the quality of life for those who live, work or travel through Alameda County. Due to the earlier support of voter approved transportation measures, significant investment is being made in transportation infrastructure throughout the county. Progress is being made in major corridors – I-580; I-680; I-880; SR 24; SR 84; SR 92; SR 238 – as well as on transit improvements. Look for project updates in future issues.

Alameda County Adopts New Supervisorial Boundaries

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors formally adopted new supervisorial district boundaries at a public hearing on July 26. Every ten years, following the decennial Census, the population of each of the five supervisorial districts is reviewed to see if they need to be adjusted to meet State requirements that each of the districts is nearly equal in population. Based on the 2010 Census data, the Board determined that it was necessary to adjust the district boundaries to equalize their population. A series of six public hearings was held, with at least one hearing in each district. The adjustments approved by the Board included making all of Dublin within District 1, represented by Supervisor Scott Haggerty. Pleasanton (including the unincorporated Castlewood and Happy Valley areas) was moved from District 1 to District 4, represented by Supervisor Nate Miley. District 2, represented by Supervisor Nadia Lockyer, remained unchanged. District 3, represented by Supervisor Wilma Chan, gained Oakland's Crocker Highlands and Trestle Glen neighborhoods from District 5, represented by Supervisor Keith Carson.

The new boundaries take effect on August 25, thirty days after the board's formal adoption.

County Links

Alameda County Government <http://www.acgov.org/government.htm>
Alameda County Board of Supervisors <http://www.acgov.org/board/>
Lookup/pay Property Taxes <http://www.acgov.org/propertytax/index.htm>
Traffic Tickets https://www.acgov.org/mvp_app/CitationServlet
Awards won by Alameda County <http://www.acgov.org/awards/>
Links to Alameda County Departments and Agencies <http://www.acgov.org/departments.htm>
Employment with Alameda County <http://www.acgov.org/employment.htm>
Alameda County forms <http://www.acgov.org/formcenter.htm>
Alameda County Superior Court <http://www.alameda.courts.ca.gov/>

For a calendar of Alameda County events, visit the County website at <http://www.acgov.org/calendar>. Also check the websites of the members of the Board of Supervisors (listed under Board contacts on the left side of this page).