



COUNTY OF MONTEREY
CAO Weekly Report

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SPECIALREPORT



A young participant in the Breastfeeding Awareness Walk and Health Fair enjoys the moment.

County Notes

- > The Military and Veterans Affairs Office supports the Homeless Veterans Stand Down event August 19-21. Know someone one who needs help? [Details are here.](#)

Awareness Walk and Health Fair Grows as a Community Event

A huge turnout this year for what has become a very popular annual event - the Breastfeeding Awareness Walk and Health Fair, which was held on August 2nd at the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) office on Alisal Street in Salinas.



Attendees enjoy booths, activities and farmers market shopping at the Breastfeeding Awareness Walk and Health Fair.

With more than 300 participants, this impressive walk goes around the building and into the nearby neighborhood – all to call attention to the importance of breastfeeding and show support for families.

Besides the walk, there were lots of activities including the Wheelie Mobilee Interactive Kids Museum, art projects by Hijos del Sol and the Alisal Certified Farmers Market.

More than 20 local health and social service agencies were present, including

information booths offering breastfeeding support services from WIC, Natividad Medical Center, Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System, La Leche League and the Global Big Latch On.

This is the events tenth year and this year's theme is 'Breastfeeding: A Key to Sustainable Development.'

"According to the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action, recognizing that breastfeeding is a key to sustainable development will help us value our wellbeing from the start of life, respect each other, and care for the world we share," says Janet Vaughan, Monterey County WIC/Breastfeeding Coordinator.

Did you know that Monterey County is one of only a handful of counties in California with a lactation in the workplace policy that provides employees with breastfeeding resources and support that exceed state and federal requirements? For more information on the policy and breastfeeding services available in the county, please visit the [County Lactation webpage](#).



Youngsters enjoy some hands-on art projects while parents browse information booths.

Employee Giving 2016 Set to Begin, Concours Winner Named



Are you ready to 'bee charitable?' The fun of the combined giving program and the joy of giving get underway August 15th.

Kicking off this campaign is the announcement of the winner of two passes to next weekend's Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance event, part of the epic Car Week on the Monterey Peninsula.

And the winner is...Melanie Tetreault from DSS. Congratulations and thanks to all who bought tickets to get a jump start on fundraising efforts.

Want to know more about the Employee Giving Program and stay tapped into information about the campaign? Check out the [campaign webpage on the county infonet](#). It has all the information you need about the giving program, how to give and links to groups who benefit from your donation.

The week of August 15th will offer some opportunities to hear directly from those organizations as you make your giving selections. On Tuesday, August 16th, there will be two sessions in the Board of Supervisors Chambers where organizations who receive employee donations will talk about how those dollars work in the community. On Wednesday, organizations will be at the NMC Farmers Market to 'meet and greet.'



And don't forget, mark your calendars for September 11th for Picnic in the Park – a fun day for all at Toro Park to wrap up the campaign. More details to come about the picnic!



Hospital Names New Chief Medical Officer

A familiar face is stepping into a key role at Natividad Medical Center. Craig A. Walls, M.D., Ph.D. has been appointed chief Medical Officer.

Since 2006, Dr. Walls has served in several roles at NMC including Medical Director of the Emergency Department, attending emergency physician and vice-chief of the medical staff.



Dr. Craig A. Walls.

“I am deeply committed to Natividad’s 131-year mission of improving the health of all people, including the vulnerable, and know the best is still to come,” said Dr. Walls. “To participate in the hospital’s history going forward as CMO is the crowning privilege of my career.”

Prior to joining NMC, Dr. Walls worked as an emergency physician at Dominican Hospital in Santa Cruz, MacNeal Hospital in Chicago, Illinois, and St. Mary Medical Center in Hobart, Indiana. He has extensive experience in academia, which includes teaching and research while serving as an Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of California, San Francisco and visiting Assistant Professor of Community Health at the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign.

Congratulations Craig!