



# COUNTY OF MONTEREY CAO Weekly Report

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## SPECIALREPORT



*Supervisor Simon Salinas (center) meets with evacuees from the Bryson-Hesperia area of Monterey County at the evacuation center at the Lockwood Community Center.*

## County Notes

- > Lake San Antonio is open for the Labor Day Holiday for camping, day use and limited boating. Gate hours and other information is [here](#).

## County Monitors Chimney Fire, Assists South County Residents

**While the Soberanes Fire gained lots of attention for weeks – and still makes headlines - in mid-August, the Chimney Fire sparked in San Luis Obispo County and crossed the line into Monterey County.**

Monterey County Office of Emergency Services (OES) had been keeping an eye on the fire, relaying information to the south county CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) which is in place for quick action on behalf of residents who live in this rural area.

The fire had threatened Hearst Castle to the south and an area south of Lake Nacimiento at the north end of San Luis Obispo County. But those who live in the Monterey County area just north of the SLO border had been watching its advance as well. When the fire finally traveled far enough northward to cross the county line, residents who live in rural Bryson-Hesperia area were evacuated on August 20<sup>th</sup>. As in any evacuation, OES partners the Red Cross and SPCA were on hand to provide shelter for people and their pets. Evacuees spent more than a week at the Lockwood Community Center and Mission San Antonio.

Fortunately, no homes were lost in this area, but Supervisor Simón Salinas, who met with evacuees and whose staff has been staying up-to-date on the fire situation, says residents have had a difficult time being away from homes and businesses, wondering how far the fire would advance and waiting until it was safe to go home.



“The residents of the impacted south county areas demonstrated resilience and community spirit as they supported each other during the evacuation,” says Salinas.

Residents were able to return to their homes when evacuations were lifted August 29<sup>th</sup> and firefighters are close to full containment of this blaze.

The Office of Emergency Services has been working on a Disaster Resource Directory for residents that covers issues from rebuilding a home to how to re-enter a home after an evacuation. This directory is available [online](#).

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## Employee Campaign: Give, Bid, Fun!

Employees are rolling out the fun, fundraising ideas at a mad pace for the annual giving campaign. And generous bidders made the first giving campaign online auction a success!

The campaign’s first online bidding event was a huge success, with folks using their eBay skills to ‘win’ a wide variety of experiences. Check out the final bids [here](#) - the total earned from the auction was \$2,065.00!

A check of the [calendar of activities for the campaign](#) shows lots of options for ‘bee-ing charitable’ and having fun. These events are bringing in lots of money for charity - here are results from just a few:

Treasurer-Tax Collector Bake Sale: \$724.75  
RMA Bagel Fundraiser: \$296.00

Auditor-Controller Tostada Sale: \$509.30  
Clerk of the Board Sundae Sale: \$303.00



*Treats aren't just for humans! A bake sale customer checks out homemade dog biscuits (left), RMA drawing quilt on display (above) and one happy ice cream sundae customer (right).*



Checking the calendar lets you find the event you'd like to support nearest your workplace. For instance, Natividad Medical Center has a weekly Jamba Juice fundraiser - a location quite close to four county facilities.

Keep an eye out also for the variety of opportunity drawings for some amazing prizes. The Clerk of the Board's Office is selling tickets to win a 48" LED HD Smart TV. Or how about cuddling up with a work of folk art? You'll sleep comfortably under a handmade, queen-sized quilt if you win this drawing. See Julie Aulenta or Wendi Reed in RMA for tickets. For both drawings, tickets are \$5.00 each or five tickets for \$20.00.

If you are interested in meeting representatives from some of the deserving recipients of employee giving dollars, take your lunch break at the Department of Social Services on Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. That department will be having an Informational Health Benefits Fair on that day from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at their offices at 1000 S. Main Street in Salinas. Organizations involved in the giving programs will have representatives and information tables there to tell you about their work.



## Virtual Marathoners 'Go for the Gold'

There weren't names like Usain Bolt on the sign-up sheet, but county employees made history anyway this month by participating in the county's first virtual marathon.

Using the Rio Olympic Games as inspiration, the County Employee Wellness Program launched



Virtual Marathon 2016. The idea behind the program is for employees to run a marathon, but at their own pace. The virtual event ran during the two weeks of the Olympic events (August 5-21) and had a fantastic response, with 300 county employees signing up.

Those hardy 300 received a race bib, number and agreed to run 26.2 miles during the Olympics and to send in a photo of themselves with their bib and finishing time. While everyone who finished the marathon miles received a medal (from the Employee Wellness program not Olympic committee), those with the cleverest finishing photo will earn additional prizes. Congratulations to all the runners – check out the collage of marathon finishers!

