Kristi Markey Sparks Interest, Use of Electric Vehicles

Most know Kristi Markey in her capacity as Chief of Staff for Supervisor Jane Parker. But did you know she is dedicated to the promotion of electric cars to decrease pollution and reduce our dependence on oil?

Markey is the co-founder of the organization MBEVA, Monterey Bay Electric Vehicles Alliance, an alliance of government, business and non-profits working together to promote electric vehicles. Using a grass roots-style effort, she has led the organization to some amazing accomplishments including...
securing a grant for 40 charging stations now installed in our tri-county area, including two charging stations at the county buildings. These charging stations go a long way in making people more comfortable in choosing electric vehicles by reducing ‘range anxiety,’ assuring drivers there will be a place to charge up.

It is for those accomplishments and many others that Markey received a Clean Air Leaders Award for Greenhouse Emission Reduction from the Monterey Bay Air Resources District.

“I’m excited that the electric car is here to stay and will play a tremendous role in reducing our greenhouse gas emissions,” says Markey.

If you’ve ever wondered if an electric car is right for you, Markey is inviting everyone to see for themselves at our area’s first ever National Electric Care Day event this Saturday, September 17th at Del Monte Center in Monterey.

It will be a bonanza of electric vehicles with information, dozens of electric vehicles on display, car owners on hand to talk about their experiences - you can even get behind the wheel of an electric vehicle for a test drives. Kids not so interested car browsing will enjoy the model electric car parade being put on by local students who built toy cars powered with solar strips.

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**It’s a Wrap for 2016 Giving Campaign**

The 2016 Employee Giving Campaign has come to an end, but the good works from employee donor dollars are just beginning!

The 2016 Monterey County Employee Giving Campaign Executive Committee is sending a huge THANK YOU to everyone involved in this year’s campaign. There are many people to acknowledge - from the innovative and energetic Department Coordinators who planned and executed so many wonderful events, sold so many Concourse Raffle tickets and publicized our campaign, to the
fabulously creative team of Gerardo Perez, Gabe Cortez and Eddie Urena who designed and added the magic to the campaign web site, on-line pledge forms and the first ever on-line auction. And of course the campaign wouldn’t get off the ground without all of the employees who bought, ate, bid and otherwise supported local non-profits, the core behind the campaign theme, “Working Together Towards a Stronger Community”, bee-ing charitable. Thank you!

Donations are still being tabulated by United Way and will be announced as soon as there is a final figure. In the meantime, give a big shout out to those department coordinators who helped keep staff energized and the fun events coming.

Karla Tinajero, Ag Commissioner
Lourdez Vigil-Ramirez, Ag Commissioner
Marcela Ramirez, Assessor
Alejandra Estey, Auditor-Controller
Sally Kidalov, Clerk of the Board
Rosemary Soto, Administration
Dawn Yonemitsu, Child Support Services
Shelly Gales, Child Support Services
Michelle Bacon, District Attorney
Brenda Cuevas, Social Services
Arlene Boyd, Social Services
Debby Bradshaw, Economic Development
Patricia Eddings, Emergency Communication
Susie McKee, Health
Anna Marie Olds, Human Resources

Mike Gross, Information Technology
Debbie Gray, NMC
Chrissy Garza, NMC
Teresa Meister, Office of Emergency Services
Alma McHoney-Avila, Employment & Training
Rhonda Stevens, Parks
Elizabeth Balcazar, Probation
Rebecca Avila, Public Defender
Wendi Reed, RMA
Julie Aulenta, RMA
Mynra Morales, Sheriff
Jackie Goetz, Treasurer-Tax Collector
Joy Willett, Treasurer-Tax Collector
Kris Hamlet-Esler, Water Resources

Even though the campaign is over, there is one more chance to support the cause. The Clerk of the Board’s Office is still selling tickets for their big drawing for an LED Smart TV - an amazing opportunity. That drawing will take place Monday, September 19th.

County Makes Safety Fun for Families

Some of the county departments involved in public safety were on hand for the 4th annual CIG Community Safety Saturday event September 10th at the fairgrounds in Monterey.

Monterey County Administrative Office
Staff from the Sheriff’s Office and Office of Emergency Services took part and showed how they help the community stay safe. This annual event coincides with National Preparedness Month (September) and always has a large attendance as it provides an opportunity for kids to learn more about safety and about the agencies that help in an emergency in a fun way.

Youngsters had a great time at the Sheriff’s booth, trying on equipment, meeting deputies and getting to know the county’s newest K9, Harry the bomb detection dog. It was Harry’s first event and he did a demonstration for the crowd.

Over at the Office of Emergency Services table, families learned how to make up their own emergency kit, listened to a real weather radio and learned about tsunamis. With the Soberanes Fire still burning, emergency staff says they had the chance to talk to residents about signing up for the emergency alert system Alert Monterey County and were pleased to hear so many people had registered their cell phones in the system.