In This Edition:

- Fond farewells to County staff, supervisor
- Holiday fun around the County

SPECIAL REPORT

Supervisors Luis Alejo (l) and Mary Adams (c) sign their names to the Simon Salinas Day poster created in honor of retiring Supervisor Simon Salinas (r).

County Notes

- Up your holiday food know how with these safety tips so you serve up only good times this season.

A Day of Farewells: Retirements, Resolutions

Tuesday was a day filled with celebration, laughter, tears and fond farewells to some long-serving county employees including a retiring county supervisor.

In honor of retiring Supervisor Simón Salinas, the Board of Supervisors
declared December 11, 2018 as Simón Salinas Day; colleagues, community and family gave the longtime local representative a festive send off, complete with a mariachi band which surprised the crowd by strolling in to end the many speeches made in honor of Salinas and his life’s work and achievements.

While many know Salinas for his many years as a supervisor for District 3, they don’t know he was a Salinas Councilmember (1989), a County Supervisor (1993), elected to the State Assembly (2000) then returned to be a supervisor again (2007). When he was elected supervisor in 1993, Salinas became the first Mexican-American to serve on the board in more than 100 years.

His accomplishments during these terms and his unique ability to work with diverse groups and listen to the needs of his community have endeared him to many, as evidenced by the long line of organizations and civic leaders who presented him with plaques and their heartfelt thanks for his years of service.

Salinas also was thanked by his colleagues on the board, his staff and his son Julian who attended the public farewell and gave all in attendance another view of the supervisor: that of a father. He shared with the large crowd his observations as a child watching his father take the time to listen to those who needed him and yet still keep his role as parent his number one priority.

If you’d like to hear Supervisor Salinas’ personal reflections about his many years in public office, check out this interview available on the Monterey County Government Channel YouTube Channel.

Before Salinas ventured into politics, he was an elementary school teacher in Salinas and taught at Hartnell College. He says one of the first things he plans to do in retirement is to sit down and read a book, uninterrupted.

Happy reading Simón!

Others were honored Tuesday as they retired or announced plans to leave the County.
District Attorney Dean Flippo is retiring after a successful 43-year career as a prosecutor in Monterey County, 28 as District Attorney. His tenure was long, so is his list of accomplishments.

Over the years, he expanded his office to include many special units to better serve and support victims in Monterey County. One of those special programs, Truancy Abatement, remains near and dear to him.

Flippo says he plans to remain active in the many organizations for which he volunteers. He reflects on his long career, from his start as an Army prosecutor and military judge to his 30 years teaching law and government in this wide-ranging interview.

Bob Roach is retiring from the Agricultural Commissioner’s Office after 31 years of service, working his way up from Agricultural Inspector to Assistant Agricultural Commissioner. He also took the helm of this office from July 2017 to March 2018.

During his tenure, Roach became well-known for his extensive knowledge of issues facing Monterey County growers and the county’s number one industry: agriculture. He was considered the ‘go to’ person with a wide range of expertise, including agricultural land use and most recently, the evolving cannabis industry.

Also heading into retirement, Deputy Probation Officer III Leonel Oliveira.

Probation Chief Marcia Parsons presented a resolution to Oliveira which marked his many accomplishments during 30 years of public service. She noted his remarkable ability to motivate challenging clientele and his work as Court Officer for the Adult Mental Health Court program, Creating New Choices, forging strong collaborative relationships with Behavioral Health, the Courts and the other agencies in the criminal justice system.
While County Library Director Jayanti Addleman is not retiring, she is leaving the County after 14 years, 11 as director.

Addleman is leaving to lead library services in the City of Hayward, but her accomplishments here are many and she leaves behind an invigorated library system filled with innovative programs, well-positioned in serving its many diverse communities.

Staff and colleagues say they will miss her vision and passionate leadership. During her tenure, she has been honored many times for her ‘not your grandmother’s library’ approach. Recognitions include the California Library Association’s Outstanding Librarian in Support of Literacy; one of Monterey County’s 2015 Outstanding Women and the Child Abuse Prevention Council’s Front Line Award.

Addleman will begin her new duties next month so there is still time to stop by and say good luck!

County Departments Show Holiday Spirit

The holidays are here and county departments are sharing the joy and fun of the season.

Monterey County held its first tree lighting event on Friday, December 7th in the lobby of the Government Center Administration Building, coinciding with the Clerk of the Board’s annual holiday
contest and event. This year, it was an ugly sweater contest and the beautiful tree donated by Supervisor Luis Alejo and decorated by District 1 staff served as a festive backdrop for those vying for top ‘ugly’ honors. And there were plenty of hopefuls. You can check out some of those modeling their ‘worst’ holiday wear on Supervisor Alejo’s Facebook page.

Many departments are getting into the spirit of the season. We’ll have more photos and information about holiday activities next week.

Meanwhile, the Clerk of the Board was not the only department to get into the holiday spirit with questionable holiday fashions.

The District Attorney’s Office also held its own Ugly Sweater Day. It would have been hard to choose a winner with all the, shall we say, ‘cheesy’ stylings. We can only hope no one was hauled into court by the fashion police.

Check out those brave enough to show off their sweaters on the next page. Group #1 on the left includes Ashley Estrada, Ben Draeger, Berk Brannon, Blanca Rodriguez, Eileen Butorac and Janell Paulino.

Group #2 on the right includes Kristin Gebin, Lizette Vasquez, Sonia Buenrostro and Marlen Gaytan-Leon.
Besides the fun, the holidays are also about giving.

The Information Technology Department (ITD) gets into the holiday giving spirit each year with great results. Staff collected two bins of non-perishable food for the Food Bank of Monterey County and two bins of unwrapped toys for the Salvation Army.

ITD is also one of the departments that takes part in the Project Santa program each year. Employees helped purchase gifts for 25 Foster Children, gift cards for teen baskets and pajamas for children in need.