



County of  
**Solano**

**Historically Rooted, Locally Committed and Nationally Recognized**

**2006  
Annual Report**

## Contributions of Board Members to State and National Advisory Commissions and Organizations

**Barbara R. Kondylis** serves on the California State Association of Counties Governing Board (CSAC) and as co-chair of the Family Violence Task Force in addition to the Association of Bay Area Governments Legislative and Government Subcommittees, San Francisco Estuary Project Implementation Committee and the Housing Methodology Committee.



*Barbara R. Kondylis*

**Barbara R. Kondylis**  
District 1

**John F. Silva** is a member of the National Association of Counties (NACo) Justice Policy Steering Committee and the chair of the CSAC Administration of Justice Policy Committee. Both committees deal with reviewing the current policies pertaining to public safety and the administration of justice within counties and make recommendations for legislative changes.



*John F. Silva*

**John F. Silva**  
District 2

**Duane K. Kromm** testified before the Senate Indian Affairs Committee in Washington on behalf of CSAC regarding the federal government's legislative reform on reservation shopping by Indian tribes hoping to find possible casino sites. He also chairs a task force for the Partnership Health Plan of California to recommend a revised governance structure as the Partnership expands into four more counties in Northern California during the next three years.



*Duane Kromm*

**Duane K. Kromm**  
District 3

**John M. Vasquez** serves on the National Association of Latino Elected Officials California Health Leadership Program. He is currently leading a year-long statewide analysis of health issues, with an emphasis on childhood obesity. Supervisor Vasquez also sits as the chair of the California Fairs Financing Authority Board that reviews capital project financing for fair sites throughout California.



*John M. Vasquez*

**John M. Vasquez**  
District 4

**Michael J. Reagan** serves on the executive committee of the Delta Long Term Management Strategy for Dredged Material in the Delta, a combination of state and federal organizations, and the State Delta Protection Commission. He is also a member of the CSAC Economic Development Committee, Government Finance and Operations Committee, the Housing, Land Use & Transportation Committee and the Water and Flood Control Task Force.



*Michael J. Reagan*

**Michael J. Reagan**  
District 5

# From the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors



To the Citizens of Solano County,

It is with great pride that we present the 2006 Annual Report. During the past year, Solano County government has worked to provide the best possible service to its constituents. In doing so, we have sought to raise our County to a new level of achievement and recognition in the state and the nation.

## **Solano County's**

### **Mission:**

To serve the people and to provide a safe and healthy place to live, learn, work and play.

## **Solano County's**

### **Vision:**

The County of Solano will be locally and nationally recognized for its partnerships and leadership in providing innovative, effective and fiscally responsive services that result in the highest quality of life for its residents.

While continuing our efforts in the framework of the County's vision and strategic plan, this year's report emphasizes that our County's accomplishments are: **Historically Rooted, Locally Committed and Nationally Recognized.**

From our early roots as one of California's original counties, we have maintained our commitment to provide our citizens with a wide array of services and programs. The 2006 Annual Report highlights the past year's accomplishments and looks to where we have come from, for it is in our history that our County's character and future are formed.

Our achievements are due to the dedication and hard work of our County employees and the assistance of hundreds of volunteers on County boards and commissions. The public's participation and feedback on what services are most important has been invaluable.

We are here to serve you. Together, we can make Solano County a model County for others to emulate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John M. Vasquez". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

John M. Vasquez, Chairman  
Board of Supervisors

# County of Solano Organizational Chart



..... Budget Controls Only

# From the County Administrator



To the Citizens of Solano County:

The 2006 Annual Report touches on the many accomplishments of Solano County government this past year, including those that received national recognition.

Our service is driven by a mission to serve the people and to provide a safe and healthy place to live, learn, work and play. Our County government is focused on four major areas:

- Improving the health and well-being of those who live and work here
- Ensuring responsible and sustainable land use
- Maintaining a safe community
- Investing in and for the future

We maintain a watchful eye on our overall financial position, enabling us to provide necessary programs and services to meet your needs. Because of our positive financial position, Solano County has been able to support ongoing programs while enhancing others.

This positive financial environment is due to a well-organized team led by a proactive Board of Supervisors working with the administration and department heads. The Board provides the personal connection and promotes feedback from our citizens that drives programs and in some cases generates new ones. The administration ensures the County has available resources that allow the departments to provide programs and services.

On behalf of all the County employees, our volunteers, and community partners, I want to thank the citizens of Solano County for your continued support. We look forward to providing quality service and continuing this momentum into 2007.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael D. Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael D. Johnson  
County Administrator

## Manager's Principles

We are leaders; we are personally and professionally accountable for our actions; our chief function is to serve the best interest of those who reside and work in Solano County; we value teamwork and take pride in working for the County of Solano.

## Solano County's Core Values

### Integrity

Be open and honest, ethical and fair

### Dignity

Treat all persons with respect

### Excellence

Provide quality, integrated, sustainable and innovative public services

### Accountability

Take ownership, be fiscally responsible and result-driven

### Leadership

Be personally responsible and a positive example for others

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**HISTORICALLY ROOTED:**

# Growing a Prosperous Future from Our Proud Heritage



**HISTORICALLY ROOTED:  
HERITAGE**

Solano County is deeply rooted in the foundation of this great state as one of its 27 original counties. During the formative years of California as a state, the Golden Bear Republic looked to Solano County as a central location for state government. Both Vallejo and Benicia served as state capitals, in 1852 and 1853 respectively, before the California Legislature decided on Sacramento. Solano County continues to be a central location for government, military and commerce.

Militarily, the United States established its first Pacific naval installation on Mare Island at Vallejo in 1854. Soon after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941, the United States turned to Solano County to house an air base to serve the Pacific theater.

That military connection continues today with the presence of Travis Air Force Base serving as the largest base under the U.S. Air Force Mobility Command. In the summer of 2006, the Air Force honored Solano County with the unveiling of their newest aircraft, the C-17, named Spirit of Solano.

In the mid 1800s, the County's rich soils provided crops for the rapidly growing city of San Francisco and for those who ventured into the gold fields of the Sierra Nevada. Along with produce came early signs of today's wine industry with the first planting of grapes in Green Valley in 1856. By 1880, wineries were established in both Green Valley and Cordelia and large-scale fruit-drying yards began operation in Vacaville. Solano County agriculture gained international stature in 1894, winning a trophy for the Best Exhibit of County Products during the California Midwinter International Exposition in San Francisco.

Agricultural products have brought much recognition to Solano County. In 2006, Solano County garnered eight awards at the California State Fair, including a Golden Bear statue for Best of Show among all county displays, and gold ribbons for Best Experience (interactive), Best Use of Produce, Products and Artifacts, Counties Exhibits, People's Choice Award for County Exhibits, People's Choice Award for Most Fun, People's Choice Award for Most Educational, and the Manager's Award.

This year's display was an agricultural setting of three silos and farm products. It received accolades from the opening day of the State Fair on August 11 to its close on September 4 as nearly 750,000 visitors toured the County pavilion. The exhibit featured a memorial to members of the military from WWI to present who gave their lives for our country. In addition, it recognized peace officers who have fallen in the line of duty and citizens significant to the history of Solano County.

Solano County's central location, significant military connection and long agricultural history continue to serve as a cornerstone in its foundation and its future. Together, the County will continue to grow and prosper with a commitment to continually seek ways to improve the lives of our citizens.

County agriculture gained international stature in 1894, winning a trophy ... during the California Midwinter International Exposition.

**Top to bottom: C-17 Spirit of Solano arrives at Travis Air Force Base; 1943 Travis Air Force Base first air control tower; County exhibit at the State Fair; "Best of Show" Golden Bear 2006 California State Fair; the Bassford peach orchard, 1870s.**



Photos: Vacaville Heritage Council, Curtis Design

**LOCALLY COMMITTED:**

# Improve the Health and Well-being of Those Who Live and Work Here



## Healthy Lifestyles and Reducing Youth Obesity

Concerned with the growing national and local problem of obesity among our youth, Solano County, in collaboration with other governmental entities, conducted a Youth Obesity Prevention Summit and a Public Health community workshop to confront the issue. Bringing together government, school and health officials, attendees heard from health experts and city planners as they worked to develop a countywide strategy to address childhood obesity.

Thousands of school children and adults attended lifestyle workshops including: Eat Smart, Be Active, Feel Well, and Fish Connection which offered both nutrition and cooking instructions; Smart Moves, a physical activity workshop; Walk to School, a walk to school day event; and Children and Weight Coalition, a program to reduce obesity among children.



## Senior Coalition Advocates for Elderly

In May, the Board of Supervisors created the Senior Coalition as an advisory board. The Coalition's mission is to advocate for and support efforts that improve and enrich the lives of seniors living and working here. By the year 2050, Solano County's senior population is expected to increase from the current 94,555 to more than 250,000, or one-third of the projected County population.

## Baby First Solano Serves Pregnant and Parenting Women

The Solano County Public Health Department kicked off Baby First Solano, which focuses on pregnant and parenting women. The collaborative program of healthcare providers and services helps women make healthy choices. A goal of the program is to educate expecting mothers of the dangers of smoking and the use of alcohol and drugs during pregnancy.

Top to bottom: Students attend a healthy foods workshops; Baby Micah kicks off Baby First Solano; models at the breastfeeding fashion show.

## Program Encouraging Breastfeeding a Huge Success

Solano County Women, Infant, and Children received a Best Practice Award from the California Department of Health Services for promoting and supporting breastfeeding. The Breastfeeding Coalition of Solano County organized a fashion show for breastfeeding and pregnant mothers, after which all the pregnant models went on to breastfeed and those who were breastfeeding continued to do so for an additional six months.



About the background photo: The Matsura family gathered around their tractor in the orchard.

Courtesy of the Vacaville Museum.



## Family Violence Prevention Resource Guide

The Family Violence Intervention Team partnered with local family resource centers to distribute a comprehensive guide addressing family violence. The Resource Guide for Domestic Violence Victims provides information regarding batterer intervention to local bench officers. The Office of Family Violence Prevention also developed a volunteer training program to train advocates to assist domestic violence victims in obtaining restraining orders.

## County Libraries Help Our Children Read

Reading and literacy are the underpinnings of a public library. The Library offers a variety of reading programs for children of all ages. More than 4,100 children participated in the annual summer reading program Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales.

The Vacaville Town Square Library piloted PAWS for Reading, in which children with reading difficulties read to therapy dogs, who were specially trained to earn their Reading Education Assistance Dogs (R.E.A.D) certificate. Dogs are good listeners and the program offers reluctant readers a chance to improve their reading skills before a nonjudgmental audience. Shy children blossom and become uninhibited when reading to a dog.

Partnering with the Vaca Jazz Society, the Library was awarded one of seven statewide Cultural Crossroads grants by the California State Library. An innovative program entitled Be Bop to Hip Hop: All That Jazz provided educational and cultural programming for all ages to promote and preserve the unique heritage of America's musical jazz tradition. A Jazz Camp for musicians ages 12 to 18, which spanned two weeks, was also a component of the program.

## State Funding For New Mental Health Programs

The Health and Social Services (H&SS) Department, with \$3.5 million from the Mental Health Services Act (Proposition 63), implemented four new mental health programs. The programs, such as mobile crisis services and wellness recovery services, are designed to increase the adverse consequences of untreated mental illness. The programs are developed to provide assistance to the individual and family members.

## Project Studies Vets in Long-Term Care Facilities

The Veterans Service Office was selected as one of five California veterans' offices to participate in a pilot project. The project will identify veterans or their survivors currently living in long-term care facilities who are eligible for benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to reduce County Medi-Cal program costs.

Shy children blossom and become uninhibited when reading to a dog.

Left: Young reader at PAWS for Reading program. Below: Library staff interacting with young readers.





### Nut Tree Airport Home to Air Ambulance Service

The Nut Tree Airport became home to the California Shock/Trauma Air Rescue (CALSTAR) which provides air ambulance services to the Solano County area from the airport. Operating out of the Nut Tree, CALSTAR will be able to shorten response time to County patients who require air ambulance services.

### Substance Abuse Services Produces Award-Winning Media Campaign

H&SS was recognized by the Greater San Francisco Ad Club with one silver and two bronze awards for a media campaign developed to educate parents and children about the dangers of underage drinking. The website won a Silver Addy Award, while the TV spots and the overall campaign each won a Bronze Addy. The campaign, sponsored by Reducing Rates of Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs, can be viewed at [www.nodrugs.info](http://www.nodrugs.info).

### Child Welfare Services Ranks High

The National Center on Youth Law ranked Solano County 12th among California's 58 counties for quality of services provided to abused children and their families. In 2005, Children Welfare Services responded to 4,600 referrals of suspected child abuse and neglect, which equals an average of 12.6 referrals a day. Adoptions jumped from 32 to 56, a 75% increase.

### Classroom Dental Disease Prevention Program Making a Difference

The Smile in Style dental prevention program served 4,000 children in local schools. The program provided dental education classroom visits which covered the importance of good dental hygiene, screened and referred children to dental care programs, and provided 614 sealants to prevent tooth decay. Toothbrushes, fluoride treatments and other dental supplies were distributed to encourage children to take care of their teeth.

The Smile in Style dental prevention program served 4,000 children.



Photo: Fairfield Daily Republic

Top to bottom: Air ambulance service stationed at Nut Tree Airport; award-winning substance abuse campaign literature; Smile in Style programs providing dental exam to student.



About the background photo: Earl Stratton riding on his grain harvester, Stratton Ranch, Montezuma Hills, 1900.

Courtesy of the Vacaville Museum.

**LOCALLY COMMITTED:**

# Ensure Responsible and Sustainable Land Use



LOCALLY COMMITTED:  
LAND

## Updating the County General Plan

The General Plan, currently being updated, will set the land use policy direction for the County for the next 20 years. It is the basis upon which many of the County's day-to-day land use decisions will be made. The plan will address concepts for promoting and protecting agriculture, providing affordable housing and conserving open spaces and natural resources. It will also consider business and rural residential land use needs. The Board of Supervisors appointed a 20-member Citizens Advisory Committee to oversee the update process.

## Agriculture Day Brings the Farm to Town

The annual Agriculture Day at the Solano County Fairgrounds was a resounding success. 2,100 third-graders spent a day in May watching, touching and participating in farm activities. The children watched sheep dog demonstrations, cattle roping and wool-spinning. They planted vegetables, practiced roping steer and learned the importance of eating fruits and vegetables. County employees raised \$9,496 to support this collaborative effort.

## Solano Crop and Livestock Production Set All Time Record

The annual Crop and Livestock Report revealed that County agricultural production reached \$238,689,600. The 2005 production surpassed the previous record set in 2003 by \$24,566,800.

### Top 10 Crops

	Dollar Value
1. NURSERY STOCK	50,018,000
2. CATTLE & CALVES	27,203,300
3. ALFALFA	26,602,600
4. TOMATOES	19,112,000
5. WALNUTS	16,467,400
6. MILK	12,558,000
7. GRAPES & WINE GRAPES	11,708,100
8. SUNFLOWER SEED	6,882,700
9. ALMONDS	5,262,400
10. SHEEP & LAMBS	4,992,400

## Studies Focus on Long-term Sustainability of Agriculture

Four significant agriculture-related studies have been initiated. The University of California at Davis, Agricultural Issues Center was retained to conduct a comprehensive countywide study on the long-term sustainability of the local agricultural industry. The American Farmland Trust is performing a similar study specific to the Suisun Valley. The UC Cooperative Extension is managing two additional studies. One is a needs assessment for livestock processing facilities in Northern California. The other study will develop information on alternative marketing, added value products and niche markets for local farmers.

## Protecting and Promoting Solano County Agriculture

The Agriculture Department's Pest Detection Program deployed and monitored traps to detect new introductions of exotic insects. In recent years the presence of the gypsy moth and glassy-winged sharpshooter has intensified the use of this program. With more than 900 traps dispersed, no new gypsy moths have been discovered during the past year. The glassy-winged sharpshooter continues to be monitored, and if no new finds are discovered, this insect could be declared eradicated in 2007.

## Strong County Agriculture Economy Draws Chinese Delegation

Solano County hosted a 25-member Chinese delegation interested in the County's agricultural policies and agricultural economic development. The group is exploring ways of alleviating poverty in China through agriculture and animal husbandry projects. The delegation visited a number of local agricultural and manufacturing operations in the County. This activity is a result of the international Sister City-County relationship developed with the city of Ji'an.

The plan will address concepts for promoting and protecting agriculture.



Top to bottom: Sunflower field near Dixon; Bill Schroeder inspecting nursery stock for exotic pests; children have fun watching cattle at Agriculture Day.

**LOCALLY COMMITTED:**

# Maintain a Safe Community



## Sheriff and District Attorney Expand Enforcement

The Sheriff and District Attorney's Offices have stepped up their focus on enforcement and prosecution activities. The Sheriff's expanded Narcotics Unit continues to seize property and currency from drug dealers to remove profits that would perpetuate this illegal trade. The team served more than 32 search warrants, which resulted in 216 arrests, 943 ounces of different drugs seized, 53 weapons taken off the street and \$75,000 in cash and property seized. More than 55,000 marijuana plants, with a street value of \$550,000 were eradicated.

## Sheriff's Marine Patrol Keeping Our Waterways Safe

The Sheriff's Marine Patrol Unit assisted the California Multi-Jurisdictional Methamphetamine Enforcement Team with numerous marijuana eradication missions in the delta. The unit, in conjunction with the California Department of Boating and Waterways, participated in a life jacket replacement program allowing the boating community to exchange older, ineffective life jackets for new ones. Several thousand citizens were provided boating safety and operation information at 13 community events.

## Tackling Drugs and Gangs

County departments teamed up with schools and cities to address methamphetamine and other drugs, alcohol and gang violence in multiple venues. The Public Defender alone made 50 presentations at local middle schools about the dangers of methamphetamine use.

H&SS, Probation, District Attorney and the Public Defender's Office worked with the Courts to promote Drug Courts and support intensive supervised substance abuse treatment programs for juveniles and adults. The intervention and treatment programs provide frequent monitoring, in-depth assessments, individual, family and group counseling, education and treatment services. The Sheriff's Gang Unit participated in several multiagency gang sweeps and in multiple activities to promote community awareness and prevention actions (trainings, conferences and workshops) in local communities.

## Alternative Efforts to Reduce Crime

The Sheriff worked with jail inmates on improving their education, job and life skills to help reduce recidivism. Programs provide inmates with necessary tools to become productive citizens when released from custody. The expanded programs addressed drug and alcohol treatment needs, general education requirements, parenting and anger management.

The Animal Foster Care Provider Program assists inmates in developing a sense of pride and accomplishment by caring for abandoned kittens until they reach an adoptable age. Supervised inmate work crews also cleaned



**Top to bottom: Sheriff's Marine Unit on marijuana eradication mission; automated fingerprint identification system; Sheriff's community-oriented policing bike patrol; Sheriff's K-9 demonstration by Deputy John Swafford and Basco.**



**About the background photo: Winters Band marching in the Dixon May Fair parade, 1911.**

Courtesy of the Vacaville Museum.

up weeds, trash and graffiti, as well as painted, washed and cleaned vehicles. Inmates also helped sandbag during flooding and grew fruits and vegetables for the Food Bank.

### **Disaster Preparedness Education Campaign**

The County, in collaboration with the seven cities and 95.3 KUIIC, embarked on a public education and awareness campaign to promote disaster preparedness in September. In conjunction with the National Disaster Preparedness Month, informational brochures were distributed and flyers were inserted in all local newspapers. Displays of disaster kits were promoted in multiple city and County venues. Information is also available at [www.SolanoCounty.com/oes](http://www.SolanoCounty.com/oes). The Office of Emergency Services in conjunction with Travis Air Force Base conducted a large-scale multiagency "aircraft down" exercise to better prepare emergency response crews from across the County in the event of such an accident.

### **Felony Diversion Program Initiated**

Probation Department and the District Attorney's Office partnered to launch a new assessment and early intervention program for minors who are awaiting their first involvement in the Juvenile Court System. In the first four months, the program provided collaborative screening of 67 cases, with 76% of them diverted from formal sentencing. This helped free up the Court calendar for more serious matters.

### **\$9.1 Million Recovered by Real Estate Fraud Unit**

The District Attorney's Real Estate Fraud Unit successfully recovered more than \$9 million in fraud losses involving 70 victims in the County. The Unit investigates real estate sales and loan fraud, foreclosure bailout scams, rental fraud and home equity theft.

### **New Technology Assisting with Recovery of Stolen Vehicles**

The District Attorney's Office recently implemented a new Automated License Plate Recognition System capable of reading up to 5,000 plates when normally an investigator can only check about 150 plates on patrol. Once read, a camera immediately transmits the plate numbers to a computer that instantaneously runs the plate against a nationwide database of stolen vehicles. The report is sent back to the Auto Theft Task Force which investigates any suspect vehicles with local law enforcement.

### **Safer Roads Mean Safer Communities**

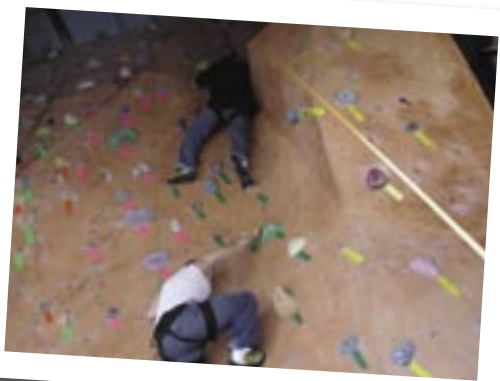
Resource Management's Road Operations Division worked on the reconstruction of Peaceful Glen Road, in the English Hills area outside the City of Vacaville, to improve visibility and safety for vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian traffic. Road crews also refurbished more than 21 miles of road throughout the County.

### **Special Investigations Bureau - a Statewide Leader in Fraud Review**

The H&SS Special Investigations Bureau has been selected by the State to identify cost-effective fraud best practices and to improve program integrity in the CalWorks and Food Stamp programs.



The County ... embarked on a public education and awareness campaign to promote disaster preparedness.



Top to bottom: Disaster Preparedness campaign display; juvenile drug court participants rock wall-climbing; monitoring drug court participants rock-climbing; reviewing referrals for Felony Diversion program.

**LOCALLY COMMITTED:**

# Invest In and For the Future



## **Future Site of North County Government Center Dedicated**

The County dedicated property on East Monte Vista Avenue, near the intersection with Brown Street in Vacaville, as part of the future site for the William J. Carroll Government Center. The facility was named in honor of the late Bill Carroll, who served more than 30 years as Vacaville councilman, mayor and County supervisor. The North County government campus will house primarily Health and Social Services offices serving Vacaville, Dixon and the unincorporated area residents.

## **County Hosts Tourism Summit**

The Board Committee on Tourism and Economic Development held the first Solano County tourism summit in March. The summit drew more than 50 organizations who identified the need to collaboratively market the County and its diverse tourism attractions, including arts, heritage and hospitality venues.

## **Registrar of Voters Office Works to Make Voting More Accessible**

The Department of Information Technology's Registrar of Voters Office (ROV) implemented two new programs to help voters with disabilities. ROV had all election materials contained in the sample ballot and voter information guide recorded in audio format. Voters who requested an audio version of election materials received them on a cassette tape or compact disc. In addition, the County implemented the AutoMark voting device which enabled voters with physical or visual impairments to use a touchscreen or an audio recording to vote.

## **Nut Tree Airport Receives \$3.4 Million**

The County purchased 15 acres adjacent to the Nut Tree Airport for future needs and secured \$3.4 million in federal, state and local funding. Work is underway rebuilding taxiways and parking for aircraft, perimeter fencing, gates, access roads and an aircraft wash rack. Completion is expected in 2007, improving the airport as a hub for air transportation and adding a boost to the local economy.

## **County Library System Grows with Public Needs**

The completion of the Fairfield Cordelia Library on Business Center Drive in Cordelia added 15,650 square feet of new library space. It offers a collection of almost 50,000 books, magazines, newspapers, movies, music, DVDs and CDs, 43 public computers and wireless connectivity. Three group study rooms, a college and career center, and a quiet study area are additional amenities.



Top to bottom: Dedication of future William J. Carroll Government Center by Supervisors Duane K. Kromm, John M. Vasquez, Michael J. Reagan, Vacaville Mayor Len Augustine and Council members Steve Hardy and Steve Wilkins; Nut Tree Airport improvements; County implements new voting machine; new Cordelia Library.



About the background photo: Crop-dusting bi-plane spraying orchard, 1958.

Courtesy of the Vacaville Museum.

Top Photo: Rick Roach of the Vacaville Reporter

## County Encourages Training

The Library offered a four-day training to improve customer service. The class taught staff how to present subjects, use the catalog, search online and resolve issues. More than 60% of staff participated.

The Office of Family Violence Prevention, in its continuing effort to reduce family violence, provided 17 training sessions to more than 275 individuals. Training was provided to public school teachers, Solano Community College Early Childhood Education students, parents, probation officers, day-care providers, preschool teachers, and professionals working with children and families. Additionally, Safe From the Start parent training was provided at school readiness sites throughout Solano County.

County Counsel held ethics training, mandated by AB 1234 for persons in elected office and other County office holders. The training covered criminal laws, conflict of interest under the Political Reform Act and common law conflicts. Participants discussed how to handle gifts and honoraria, use of public funds and mass mailing rules. The class covered governmental transparency laws including economic interest disclosures, the Brown Act, the Public Records Act and the laws related to fair political practices.

## Volunteers Honored by Board of Supervisors

More than 300 volunteers were honored at a reception during the Board of Supervisors meeting in April, in conjunction with National Volunteer Week. With 76 different boards and commissions, Solano County relies heavily on the generosity of such individuals, who contribute their time and expertise to the committees on which they serve. County officials showed their appreciation with a public acknowledgment followed by a brief social event.

## County Committed to Community Improvements

Solano County continued a multiyear program of making major capital improvements to the public works infrastructure in the Homeacres area of unincorporated Vallejo. Much of the water supply system for the area was replaced, including upsizing water lines to increase fire flows and the installation of 13 new fire hydrants. Several properties were connected to the existing sewer system and some roads were paved.

## Family Violence Prevention Program Host to Korean Students

The Office of Family Violence Prevention hosted a visit by four students from University of Seoul, Korea, recipients of the LG Global Challenge Award. The students are studying programs aimed at protecting children from abuse. They were chosen from more than 700 entries, allowing them to visit five model program sites throughout the United States. The Office of Family Violence Prevention was chosen for a site visit because of its collaborative work with Child Welfare Services, First 5 Solano, local law enforcement agencies, and other community-based organizations that work to reduce children's exposure to violence.



LOCALLY COMMITTED:  
FUTURE

More than three hundred volunteers were honored at a reception during the Board of Supervisors meeting in April, in conjunction with National Volunteer Week.



Top to bottom: Homeacres improvement project; County volunteers honored at reception; Library customer service training; Korean students visit First 5 Solano.

## LOCALLY COMMITTED:

# New Department Heads



**Marc Tonnesen**  
Assessor/Recorder

### **Marc Tonnesen Sworn In As Assessor/Recorder**

After winning election to the office in the June 6 primary, **Marc Tonnesen** was appointed by the Board to the unexpired term of Assessor/Recorder. He will assume his new term on January 1, 2007.

Tonnesen has more than 20 years of experience in both the private and public sectors specializing in real estate and management. He holds a General Appraiser certificate from the California Office of Real Estate Appraisers and a Property Tax Appraiser certificate issued by the State Board of Equalization. He also has a Senior Residential Appraiser designation conferred by the Appraisal Institute in Chicago.



**Pamela Posehn**  
Director of Child Support Services

### **Child Support Services Director Appointed**

Following a nationwide search, **Pamela Posehn** was selected to the position of Director of Child Support Services in July. Posehn served as the Director of the Division of Child Care and Development Services for more than nine years at the Humboldt Child Care Council. She is a member of the Child Support Directors Association and the Children's Alliance.



**Isabelle Voit**  
Chief Probation Officer

### **Chief Probation Officer Selected**

**Isabelle Voit** was selected as the new Chief Probation Officer in September after a joint review process of candidates by the Superior Court of California, County of Solano, and the Board of Supervisors.

She became a probation officer in 1988, working in both the Adult and Juvenile Divisions before becoming a supervisor in 1996, manager in 2000, and Chief Deputy in 2006. Voit was president of the California Association of Probation Services Administrators from August 2005 until her appointment as Chief Probation Officer.



**Donald Turko**  
Director of Human Resources

### **County Human Resources Has New Director**

**Donald Turko**, Director of the Human Resources Department, came to Solano County with more than 18 years of experience in public sector human resources. Prior to accepting this position in May, he served as Human Resources Director in both Butte and San Joaquin counties.

Donald is active in the California Public Employer Labor Relations Association. He also serves as treasurer of the County Personnel Administrators Association, an affiliate of the California State Association of Counties.



**About the background photo:**  
**Jones cherry orchard packing operation, 1911.**

Courtesy of the Vacaville Museum.



**RECOGNITION:**

# State and Regionally Recognized

## Mental Health Director Serves on State Mental Health Services Act Committee



**Fred Heacock**, Director of Mental Health Services, was selected to serve on the state Mental Health Services Act Oversight and Accountability Commission's Innovative Committee. Heacock will be participating in developing guidelines based on best practices and principles.

## Public Defender's Office Shares Expertise with Many Organizations



**Jeffrey Thoma**, Public Defender, has been appointed as an advisory committee member to the statewide Little Hoover Commission. The watchdog agency is currently involved in reviewing sentencing and prison policies. The goal of the advisory committee is to provide insight and expertise to the Commission as it examines California's correctional sentencing policies.

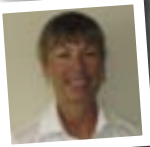
Thoma made two presentations at the Annual National Association of Drug Court Professionals in June. Topics were Confidentiality and Ethics in Drug Court.



**Michael Ogul**, Chief Deputy Public Defender, **Thomas Maas**, Deputy Conflict Defender, and Jeffrey Thoma currently serve on the Board of Governors of California Attorneys for Criminal Justice.



**Susan Kauffman**, Chief Deputy Public Defender, Michael Ogul and Thomas Maas, also served as faculty members for the 2006 prestigious Death Penalty Defense College at Santa Clara University School of Law. The Defense College provides instruction to attorneys handling death penalty cases.



## County Architect Elected President of Statewide Architects Association



**Kanon R. Artiche**, AIA, Solano County Architect, was elected president of the California Counties Architects and Engineers Association (CCAEA). CCAEA is responsible for delivering capital projects that house County programs and services, promoting the best practices in public sector design and construction.

## Governor Assigns Deputy Director of Older and Disabled Adult Services to State Committee



**Linda Watts**, Deputy Director for Older and Disabled Adult Services, was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger to the Olmstead Advisory Committee based on her expertise in county operation of the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program. She provides a county perspective to the California Health and Human Services Agency as to what IHSS can provide to disabled adults and elders.

## Public Health Officer Wears Many Hats



**Dr. Ron Chapman**, Public Health Officer, serves on the California Health Executives Association Executive Committee, the California Conference of Local Health Officers, and the California Academy of Family Physicians.

RECOGNITION:  
STATE AND  
REGIONAL



## RECOGNITION:

# Nationally Recognized

### Youth Focus Praised at Western Region Forum

A team of community and business partners, led by Chairman John M. Vasquez, received recognition as one of the 100 Best Communities in America for Young People at this year's America's Promise: Alliance for Youth's Western Region Forum. The forum brought together several recipients who described the efforts in their communities that enabled them to earn the prestigious 100 Best Communities for Young People for 2005 recognition.

### County's Care for Kids Award

The multidisciplinary Integrated Family Support Initiative (IFSI) received the Counties Care for Kids award, a national recognition by the National Association of Counties, for their exemplary support of children and families. The award highlights the critical role that the County plays in early childhood development, child protection and school readiness.

IFSI provides seamless support services to families with children up to age five who are at risk of child abuse and neglect. Since 2000, 4,000 families representing more than 9,000 children have been served by the collaborative efforts of H&SS, the Children's Network of Solano County, First 5 Solano, the Family Resource Network of Solano and more than 20 other partners.

The IFSI program also received statewide recognition in May at the First 5 California Annual Conference held in San Diego.

### Richard Robinson Award for Excellence

The Library's Literacy Program and its manager, Wyntress Smith, won the Richard Robinson Award for Excellence from the National Reach Out and Read Foundation. This award was given for her coordination and leadership of eight Reach Out and Read programs, which the Library conducts in partnership with health clinics in the County. Reach Out and Read is a pediatric literacy program directed at children between the ages of six months and five years and their parents.

### Government Center Awards

Since its opening in 2005, the Solano County Government Center in Fairfield continues to draw national attention for its unique design and influence on local development and the economy. In March, Solano County was awarded the 2005-2006 Center for Sustainable Community Award from National Association of Counties. This national recognition highlights the County's commitment to providing quality services and facilities to its residents.

In April, the Government Center received recognition as the 2005 Best Project Award by the Northern California Chapter of the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA). This award is a special honor because it comes from an organization composed of project



Top to bottom: Children enjoying a day at Child Start; Wyntress Smith, coordinator of "Reach Out and Read" program.



About the background photo: Benicia Chamber of Commerce reorganization and expansion campaign.

Courtesy of the Vacaville Museum.

and construction managers, architects and other professionals. CMAA's mission is to promote professionalism and excellence in the management of the construction process.

The CMAA paid national tribute to the Government Center in October with a 2006 CMAA Project Achievement Award as a winner in the category of Buildings: New Construction Under \$100 Million.

The City of Fairfield recognized the Government Center project in October by awarding the facility its biannual Design Award. The project catalyzed private investment and enhanced the business climate in the downtown area.

### Government Finance Officer's Association Award

The Government Finance Officer's Association awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the County and the Auditor/Controller's Office for the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year 2005. This national award is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting. This is the fourth consecutive year the County has received this distinguished award. The Office also received the State Controller's Award for Achieving Excellence in Financial Reporting.



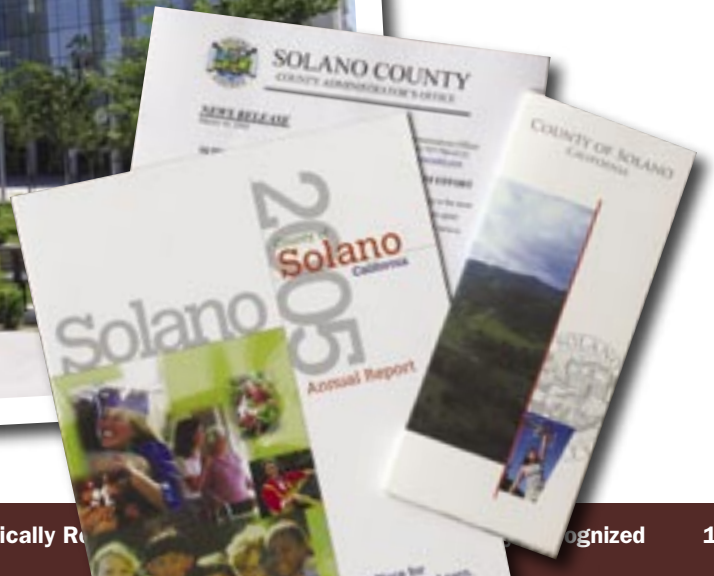
RECOGNITION:  
NATIONAL

### County Publications Garner National Awards

The National Association of County Information Officers recognized Solano County with three awards for public information in its 2006 Awards of Excellence Competition. The Solano County 2005 Annual Report and the Solano County Information Packet each received an Award of Excellence in the annual reports magazine format. The County press release on tourism received a Meritorious Award for news release writing. The national competition received more

The CMAA paid national tribute to the Government Center in October with a 2006 CMAA Project Achievement Award.

Top to bottom: (left to right) Simona Padilla-Scholten, Ray Catapang, Phyllis Taynton and Sheila Turgo display national finance award; award-winning Solano County Government Center in Fairfield; County publications win awards.





### County Administrator Johnson Elected Vice-president of NACA Western Region



**Michael D. Johnson** is currently serving as vice-president, Western Region, of the National Association of County Administrators and chair of the County Administrative Officers' Association of California (CAOAC). He served as president of the California Chapter of the

International City/County Management Association, CAOAC liaison with the City Managers Department of the League of California Cities and as a member of the CSAC Finance Corporation Board of Directors.

### County Library Director Elected to National Association



**Ann Cousineau**, Director of the Solano County Library, is serving a three-year term as an elected board member of the National Public Library Association. This is a prestigious assignment dealing with issues affecting public libraries throughout the country such as the changing nature of public libraries, methods of providing service and the impact of technology.

### H&SS Director Selected to National Health Steering Committee

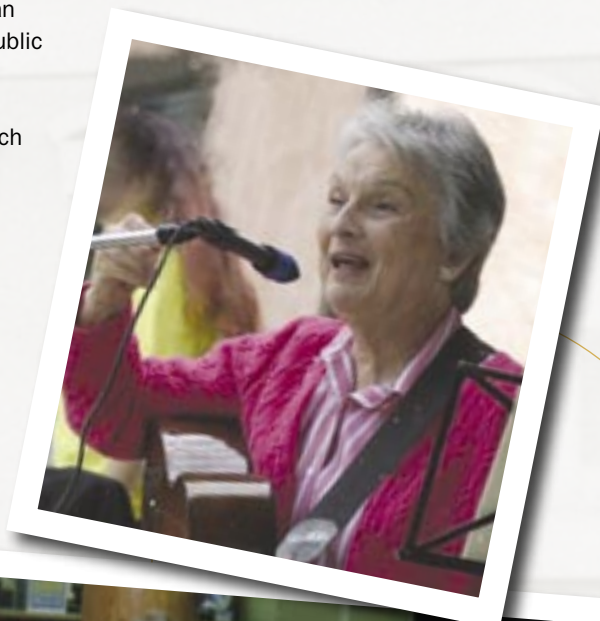


**Patrick Duterte**, Director of H&SS, has been appointed to the NACo Health Steering Committee. The Committee establishes priorities in healthcare delivery and financing issues. Duterte will focus on County

concerns of aging out of foster care and disparities in healthcare for the underserved ethnic populations.

Ann Cousineau, Director of the Solano County Library, is serving a three-year term as an elected board member of the Public Library Association.

Top to bottom: Marge Carroll accepting flowers from Michael D. Johnson at dedication of future William J. Carroll Government Center; volunteer entertaining at the Springtown Library; librarian assisting customer at computer.



About the background photo: Solano County Courthouse and Hall of Records, 1880.

Courtesy of the Vacaville Museum.

**FINANCE:**

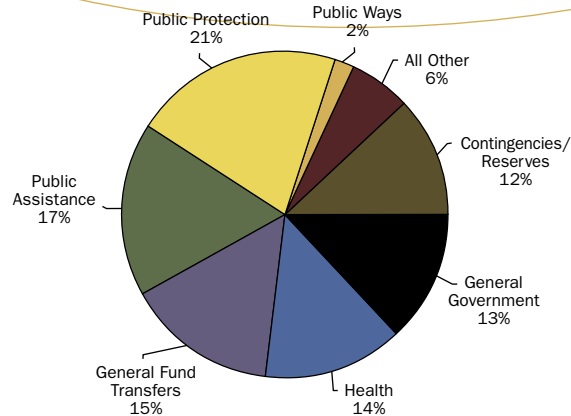
# Financial Summary

The FY2006/07 Budget was built on the following guiding principles:

- **Service**
- **Strategy**
- **Sustainability**
- **Savings**

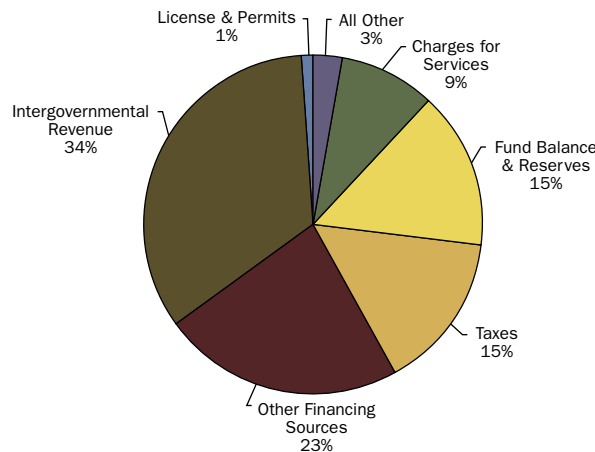
The **Spending Plan by Function** chart indicates the percentage of the total budget for each of the functional areas required within the County Budget. As shown, Public Protection represents the single largest category of County expenditures at 21%. Public Assistance, the second largest, represents 17% of the total.

**Spending Plan by Function**  
Total \$878 Million



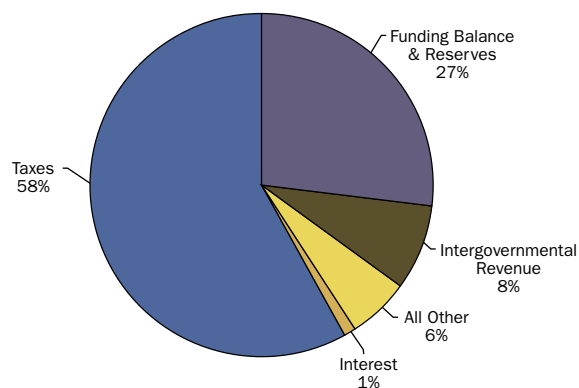
The **Revenues by Source** chart indicates the sources of funding to finance the Budget. The County Budget's single largest revenue source is Intergovernmental Revenue from state and federal agencies. The County receives these revenues from state and federal agencies, generally with specific requirements for the funds' expenditures. Intergovernmental Revenue represents 34% of the total.

**Revenues by Source**  
Total \$878 Million



The **Sources of Discretionary Revenue** chart provides information concerning General Fund financing for County operations. Discretionary revenues are not collected in direct response to services provided. This includes countywide property taxes as well as Intergovernmental Revenue that comes to the County without restrictions. These nonprogram revenues are reflected in the General Revenue budget.

**Sources of Discretionary Revenue**  
Total \$198 Million



## Budget Strategy

### General Budget policy:

- Build reserves during economic expansion; apply reserves to stabilize spending during fiscal distress
- Avoid back-filling reductions in state and federal funds with County discretionary dollars, to the extent possible
- Use one-time revenue for one-time costs instead of ongoing operational expenses

FINANCE:  
SUMMARY

“Economy has nothing to do with the amount of money being spent, but with the wisdom used in spending it.”

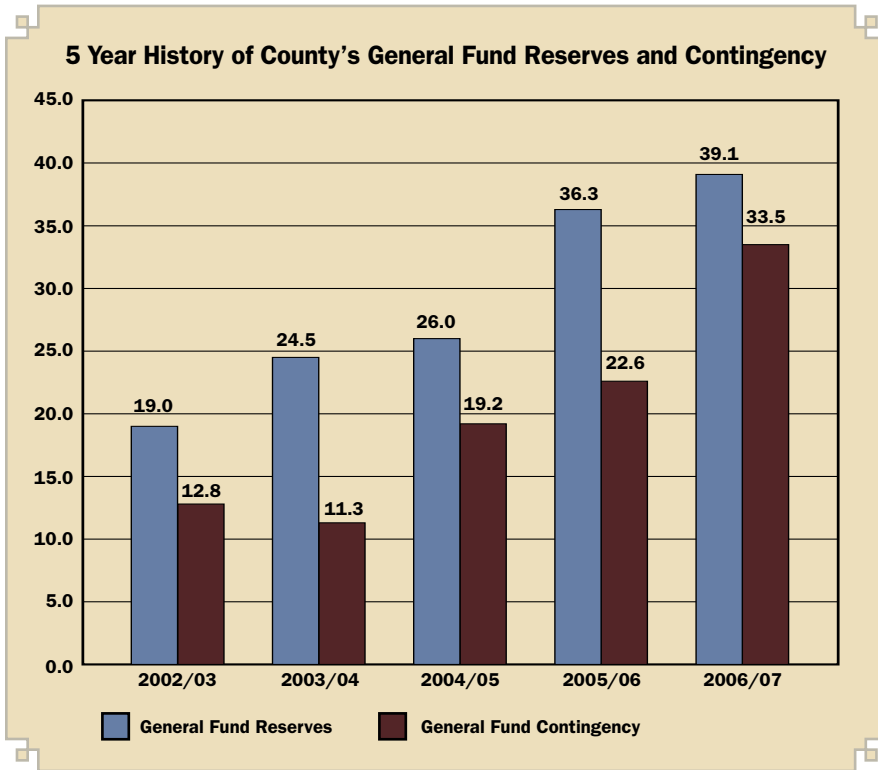
—Henry Ford

**Reserves:**

- Allow the County to normalize County Budget during periods of fiscal distress
- Target is 5% of total County Budget
- Are used as the last resort in balancing the County Budget
- Maintain a minimum Reserve balance of \$10 million at all times
- A maximum spend-down of \$4 million per year
- Provides designations for Accrued Leave payoffs and deferred capital projects to mitigate future liability

**Contingency:**

- Mitigates the impact of potential risks to the General Fund



**Pension Obligation Bonds (POBs):**

- A tool the County uses to manage retirement costs
- POBs allow the County to enhance the predictability and stability of the contribution rates to meet pension costs
- The issuance of POBs in 2004 and 2005 are estimated to save the County over \$3 million a year and more than \$40 million over the next twenty years

**Investment:**

Investment principles:

- Safety – to minimize risk
- Liquidity – ensures adequate cash available if needed
- Yield – maximize rate of return

**Service + Strategy + Sustainability + Savings = Success**



## **County of Solano Management Team**

### **County Administrator's Office**

Michael D. Johnson—County Administrator  
Quang T. Ho—Assistant County Administrator  
Veronica Ferguson—Assistant County Administrator

### **Public Protection**

David W. Paulson—District Attorney  
Gary Stanton—Sheriff  
Jeffrey Thoma—Public Defender  
Isabelle Voit—Chief Probation Officer

### **Health & Public Assistance**

Patrick Duterte—Health and Social Services Director  
Pamela Posehn—Child Support Services Director  
William Reardon—Veterans Services Officer

### **Land Use, Agriculture & Transportation**

Birgitta Corsello—Resource Management Director  
Jearl Howard—Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of  
Weights and Measures

### **Education**

Ann Cousineau—Library Services Director  
Carole Paterson—Cooperative Extension Director

### **General Government & Support Services**

Charles Lomeli—Treasurer/Tax Collector/County Clerk  
Simona Padilla-Scholtens—Auditor-Controller  
Marc C. Tonnesen—Assessor-Recorder  
Dennis Bunting—County Counsel  
Ira Rosenthal—IT Director/Registrar of Voters  
John Taylor—Acting General Services Director  
Donald Turko—Human Resources Director

Top and background photo: Suisun Marsh.



**County Administrator's Office**

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**[www.co.solano.ca.us](http://www.co.solano.ca.us)**

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