Well, here we are. Our first newsletter in the new fiscal year. While not without our challenges, the County of Ventura is on very solid financial footing and benefits from strong leadership from our Board of Supervisors. As a County, we implemented the 50/50 cost share objective for retirement contributions 4 years ahead of the mandate outlined under the Public Employees’ Pension Reform Act (PEPRA) – demonstrating the County’s commitment to its fiscal stability. As a result of our Board’s request for a determination, the ballot initiative proposed to eliminate the defined benefit program for new hires, was deemed illegal and won’t appear on the ballot. Contract negotiations have been completed representing about 90% of all County employees, and as you are well aware resulted in the first net pay increase for us since 2007. There’s much to be proud of and thankful for but we all know that this success is the product of the work done each and every day to innovate, improve service delivery, and to enhance and develop collaborative relationships with our partners.

One of this organization’s key objectives is to promote and recognize the superb work of our members through our Annual Awards Program. By way of reminder, we’ve moved this event to January, so as to avoid conflict with the busy holiday season. We’ve also decided to make this a luncheon celebration in an effort to increase participation among our membership, believing that the change will be more convenient. Although January may seem like it’s a long way away, it’s never too early to start thinking about those persons who deserve recognition for extraordinary contributions. Of course there will be more specific information about these changes, when and how to submit nominations in the future, but you are encouraged to think about this throughout the year.

Another objective is to provide timely, interesting educational opportunities as well. As such, it is hoped that you’ve been able to take advantage of some of the recent offerings, including The Morning of Happiness with Brad Montgomery. Our next event, this one with Jim Cathcart, will be held on the morning of October 15, so mark your calendars now – you won’t want to miss it.

Finally, the Council offers opportunities for socialize with your peers and we have a few tickets left for the event at Four Brix Winery. Although initially envisioned as a ‘Speed Mentoring’ event, the venue won’t be conducive to this type of activity, so your Council presents this as an opportunity to network in a relaxed setting. While there will be wine tasting available, you’ll also be able to buy it by the glass.

Last but certainly not least, I’d like to personally welcome our newest members of our Board of Directors, Cynthia Elliott and Greg Bergman. They bring some fresh perspectives and ideas to our organization. If you are interested in being involved, you can contact us via e-mail at management.council@ventura.org or feel free to contact any member of our Board. The list can be found on our website at www.vcmanagementcouncil.org where you’ll also find a wealth of additional information including our mission statement, links to our Things You Should Know series, handouts from previous educational programs, and much more.
The Aviation/SAR Unit (Unit) responds everywhere to perform most any lifesaving mission in the unincorporated areas of the county, from the wilds of the Sespe to the Channel Islands to deal with any life-threatening emergency. The Unit, working out of a hangar at the Camarillo Airport, is fully staffed from 0800 to 1800 hours, and have crews available on call between 1800 and 0800. There are 4 medium sized helicopters that are normally staffed with a pilot, 2 crew chiefs, and a medic. Fire mission copters are staffed by 2 (a pilot and a crew chief) plus a fire hand crew. The helicopters are also equipped for NVG (night vision goggle) work, so all nighttime work is done with NVG.

The unit is supported by Sheriff and Fire personnel, 175 Search and Rescue members and 30 Medical (medics, doctors, nurses & EMTs) volunteers. The Unit performs multiple missions such as:

**Law enforcement** - suspect searches, car chases, command and control, evacuations, photo flights, SWAT operations, homeland security, marijuana eradication, surveillance, public education,

**Fire** - water drops, fire crew transport, Advanced Life Support (medevac) calls, command and control fire intelligence, training missions, cooperative deployment,

**Search and Rescue** - missing/lost persons, technical rescues (hoist, long line), mountain rescue, swift water/ocean/lake and snow rescue.

The Unit missions amount to about 673 flights per year with 81 being night time call outs. There are an average of 147 hoist and medevac rescues, hundreds of thousands of marijuana plants identified for eradication and 44 criminal capture/air unit assist missions per year.
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL AWARDS

Please help your Management Council in recognizing and celebrating the wonderful work and extra effort you’ve seen people do whom either worked for or around you this year. Celebrating an employee’s achievement and efforts is beneficial for several reasons, for instance, it communicates to other employees the behaviors and attitudes you value, it provides an example for others to follow, and may boost morale and productivity. The award categories include:

- Integrity
- Superior Customer Service
- Mentoring
- Innovation
- Best Kept Secret

An announcement is forthcoming that will provide additional details and award criteria. Nominations will be accepted through Survey Monkey beginning November 3rd and will end on December 12th. Like last year there is a 1200 Character (not word) limit and that the actions described must have occurred during 2014.

As many of you may recall, last year was our last dinner and entertainment award event. This year we are trying something new with the thought in mind of increasing attendance, which enhances our networking opportunities. SAVE THE DATE: This year the event is a luncheon and will be held at the Serra Center in Camarillo on January 22, 2015.

WELCOME NEW MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MEMBERS!

Supporting
Victoria Bradley – HCA
Renee Ferguson – Sheriff
Jennifer Harkey – HSA
Deborah Robertson – HCA

Sustaining
Tracy Chapman – HCA
Shontaia Dixon – HCA
Cynthia Elliott – ITS
Michael Paylok – HSA
Amanda Pyper – HCA
WELCOME NEW MANAGEMENT COUNCIL BOARD MEMBERS!!!

Cynthia Elliott

Cynthia joined the Ventura County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services in 2007, where she was responsible for Public Information Planning and Program Management. In 2013, she accepted a position as a Project Manager with the Ventura County Information Technology Services Department. Cynthia’s current responsibilities include account management and project management, as well as developing and supervising staff.

Cynthia is a life-long resident of Ventura County and a graduate of the California State University, Northridge.

Cynthia’s desire to serve on the Board of Directors is based on the positive influence that leaders at the County have had on her career. She is honored to be a member and looks forward to contributing to the continued success of the Management Council.

Greg Bergman

Greg received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from California State University, Fresno and earned his CPA license a few years later after relocating to Ventura. He began his career at the County of Ventura in August 2002 as the GSA Fiscal Manager and was promoted to GSA Deputy Director in November 2009. Greg has oversight of Procurement, GSA Fiscal, GSA HR and several other areas for which GSA has responsibility.

Greg is continuing his quest to be an effective leader at the County and within his agency and feels that the Management Council can play an integral role in that endeavor.

Greg looks forward to serving the members and hopes to see you at the educational and networking events.
Did you know there was a Management Council website that anyone can access to learn about the Board of Directors, the Council bylaws, and membership opportunities? On our website you will also find current and past Newsletters, a link to the latest State of the County address from CEO Mike Powers, as well as, information on the benefits of membership and enrollment forms found in the “Membership” tab.
To access our website go to: http://www.vcmanagementcouncil.org/index.htm.

**NETWORKING & WINE TASTING EVENT**

Join fellow managers and unrepresented employees for an evening of networking and camaraderie. Wine tasting ($10) and food will be available for purchase via a local food truck or pizza vendor. Stop by, say hi, and connect with folks you don't get to see very often!

The event will be held at Four Brix Winery in Ventura on September 17, 2014. The winery is located at 2290 Eastman Ave, Ventura, CA 93003.

The wine tasting is $10 for 5 varieties of wine. The venue only allows for 50 people so sign up early.
OUR MISSION

The Ventura County Management Council promotes excellence among its members by providing opportunities for professional growth through education, networking, exchanging information, celebrating success and developing future leaders.

To this end, the Council will work to host, create, develop, fund, market and evaluate events and resources that support its members to become active and effective participants in the governance of Ventura County.

E-mail: Management.council@ventura.org

Important Dates

9/1—Labor Day
9/3—TYSK: Library Services READ Program—Carol Chapman
9/11—Patriot Day
9/17—Networking & Wine Tasting at Fort Brix Winery
10/1—TYSK: VC Agricultural Dept.—Henry Gonzales
10/15—Jim Cathcart: “The Acorn Principle” @ VC Office of Education, Camarillo
11/03—Management Council Award Nominations Begin
11/05—TYSK: Risk Management/Loss Prevention—Chuck Pode
12/03—TYSK: Veterans’ Services—Mike McManus
12/12—LAST DAY to submit Management Council Award Nominees

“THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW “ (TYSK) presentations are located in the Board room at 4 p.m.