Welcome 2015! What an amazing year we have in store. Our committees are busy organizing and scheduling exciting opportunities for socializing, learning, competing (as in Corporate Games, of course) and recognizing those who help to make the County of Ventura such a wonderful place to work and live. Relative to most other counties in the Golden State, we rank high in many measures. For example, Ventura County ranks 5th in the top 10 counties to raise a family, get educated and build a great life according to Movoto (see http://bit.ly/1Br4VuA). When it comes to overall County health rankings, Ventura County ranks 14th out of the 58 counties in the State (see http://bit.ly/1gXUra7). Further, when it comes to providing exemplary service to our customers, we continue to improve the way we do business and improve the ease with which residents can access those services. Many of the individuals who contribute to that success will be recognized at our upcoming Luncheon Awards Program on January 22nd at the Serra Center in Camarillo. The list of nominees is included elsewhere in this newsletter. You can make your reservations for the event here: http://bit.ly/1vC7OEz.

As we reflect on the programs and services provided by the Council in 2014, the depth and breadth of offerings is impressive. Our TYSK (Things You Should Know) series included RMA – Shocking Truth about Photovoltaic, HCA's Dr. Clark discussed Health Life-styles, HSA covered Adoptions, Foster Care, Adult Protective Services and Veteran’s Services, CEO discussed Risk Management/Loss Prevention and Homelessness in Ventura County, Library Services explained the READ program, we had a presentation from the Agricultural Department, and the Sheriff treated participants to a field visit of their Air Unit. Many of these presentations are archived here: http://bit.ly/1An69sK. For our ongoing education series, in January Sarita Maybin told us “How to Stay Positive in Uncertain Times”. In June, Brad Montgomery provided “A Morning of Happiness” and in October Jim Cathcart presented “The Acorn Principle”. We also continued our regular State of the County engagements with the CEO and provided both a general membership meeting in January and a member BBQ in June. Finally, the Management Council again sponsored countywide participation in the Corporate Games and coordinated the t-shirt/sweatshirt purchases and closing ceremonies feast.

All in all it was a very successful year, but in keeping with our organization’s desire to provide the best possible services and programs to its members, we’re lining up an impressive array of events and activities for the coming year. Stay tuned for the regular suspects (TYSK series, Corporate Games, State the County and member BBQ) and look for some new training and social events – including a Casino night – as well. We welcome your ideas, suggestions, and participation so feel free to contact any member of the Board, or send us a message at management.council@ventura.org and we’ll get back to you as quickly as we can. Thank you for your support, and we look forward to another amazing year!
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL AWARDS NOMINEES

Superior Customer Service
Cynthia Elliott—IT Services
Kelli Fitzgerald — County HR
Dustin Gardner—Fire
Jackie Griffin — Library Services
Norm Plott—Fire

Best Kept Secret
Barry Blunk—IT Services, Fire
Leonie Macaraeg—Air Pollution Control
Kevin McGowen—Sheriff’s Office
Sarah Melgoza — HCA-Emergency Room
Bob Michels—Fire
Kelly White—Fire Protection
Derrick Wilson—Water & Sanitation

Mentoring
Roger Boross—Watershed
Rod Kodman—Public Defender’s Office
John Mc Niel—Fire
Kaye Mand — CEO
Rodney Perez — PWA-Transportation
Leonardo Selvaggi — Risk Management

Integrity
Melissa Livingston—HSA
Kevin McGowen—Sheriff’s Office
Michael Schwartz—District Attorney’s Office

Innovation
Ben Emami—PWA-Transportation
Katharine Raley—Area Agency on Aging
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL NETWORKING EVENT

with your fellow County Management Council Members.

Where: 2290 Eastman Ave. #109, Ventura
When: Feb 19, 2015, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.
What: Wine sold by the glass or bottle &
Food Vendor Truck on-site: Scratch

Here is a sampling of some of Scratch’s items:

- Scratch Burger $8
- Smoked Pork PBJ $8
- Veggie Grilled cheese $7
- Hand-cut fries $4
- Fried Brussels Sprouts $4

Watch for the Eventbrite announcement coming soon.

Space is limited so be sure to register early!

By Melissa Livingston

TYSK: Special thank you to Mike McManus, VC Veterans Services Officer, Senior Master Sergeant, USAF (retired), and to Kim Evans, Executive Director of Ventura County Military Collaborative for a very informative presentation at the December 3rd TYSK. A great deal of valuable information was shared about the assistance, services, and benefits available to Veterans, their dependents and survivors. The presentation was so informative, that consideration is being given to bringing Mike and Kim back for a repeat performance in 2015. Look for future communications regarding the TYSK series for 2015. The TYSK series will be dark in January, but already slated for February will be a presentation from RMA highlighting Environmental Health Department Program, and in March a special presentation from Paul Grossgold that you will not want to miss.
TACKLING HUNGER/CANNED TREE EVENT

By Melissa Livingston

A special thank you to our entire county family for participating in the canned food drive during November and December 2014. The contributions made will go a long way in helping feed and support the over 75,000 individuals that are hungry in Ventura County. The canned drive was a success, and in coordination with the work and contributions of the Area Agency on Aging, the County was able to build 30 trees at the recent Canned Food Tree Team Build at River park Collection held December 5, 2014. The County of Ventura took first place in the competition for building the most trees. The competition included a number of other local businesses that came together to build in total 238 trees. This was the 3rd annual Canned Tree Team build, and the County was honored to have Mike Powers—our CEO—be Co-Chair of the Tackling Hunger/Canned Tree Campaign, and prime sponsor to our County Teams. Over 100 employees participated in the Team Build representing the following: CEO, HCA, HSA, AAA, Public Works, GSA, Board of Supervisors, Probation, Airports, Fire, ITSD, County Clerk Recorder, Agriculture Dept, and RMA.
WELCOME NEW MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MEMBERS!

Supporting
Tara Carruth—CEO
David Sasek – Public Works
Carrie Vrendenburgh—Probation

The We Generation

Ventura County Management Council’s continuous learning event on April 9, 2015 is at the Ventura County Office of Education in Camarillo.

Our keynote speaker is Lee Silber, a best selling author and award winning speaker. Lee has received rave reviews and has been described as "Awesome, Meaningful, Funny; Motivations, Energetic, Dynamic, Perfect, Loved, Fun, Interactive, and Fantastic".

You will not want to miss Lee as he talks about; "The We Generation", it is all about what makes Millennial’s go, and bridging the Generation Gaps through focusing on common goals. If you’d like to read more about Lee please go to: http://www.leesilber.com/biography.html.

TYSK Series

By Melissa Livingston

First I would like to thank you all for your continued participation and support of Management Council activities. As we gear up for the new year we are preparing our Things You Should Know series, and looking to make it more informative and valuable to our management team. This past year we highlighted a number of county programs and services, and even took a field trip out to visit the Sheriff to see the Search and Rescue operations. The field trip was well received and a nice change of pace. As we prepare for the 2015 series, would like to look for similar opportunities to get our management team out in the field to see first-hand the programs and services we offer.

The Things You Should Know (TYSK) Series runs 10 months out of the calendar year. We are dark in January and July, but the remaining months are available for you to secure an upcoming presentation. The TYSK events occur the first Wednesday of the month from 4:00-5:00pm. Typically we use the Board of Supervisors room for presentations, but we are certainly open to scheduling the presentations at a different site, if you are interested in highlighting a special program or service that would benefit from a tour or site visit.

Please contact me directly, or have your representative contact me if there is interest in setting up a presentation in the new year. Wishing you and your teams a very happy holiday season.
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.

A Big Welcome to Our New Management Council Executive Member

Barry Fisher is the Director of the Ventura County Health Care Agency, a role he assumed in March of 2014. Prior to his current position, Barry served as Chief Deputy Director for the Agency, appointed in December 2012, after serving in a multitude of increasingly responsible positions since he began with the agency in 2001. Initially hired as the Administrator of Emergency Medical Services, he oversaw all pre-hospital emergency care providers across the county. He was promoted to Division Manager of Public Health, and became Director of the Public Health Department in 2008.

Barry is a life-long resident of Ventura County and a graduate from California Lutheran University with a Master’s Degree in Public Policy and Administration. Barry looks forward to serving on the Board of Directors and helping to continue the great work of the Council Board.

Don’t worry if you will miss out on the Wine & Dine networking event at Four Brix because your Management Council board members are working on another event in March—you guessed it—CASINO NIGHT! Located at the Top of the Crowne Plaza you’ll be able to play your favorite game or learn a new one. Fun, Food, Mingling and Prizes!

More information will be coming out soon.
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

1/22—Management Council Awards Luncheon—Serra Center, Camarillo
2/19—Wine & Dine Networking Event—Four Brix Winery, Ventura
3/19—Casino Night Networking Event—Crowne Plaza
4/9—Educational Opportunity with Lee Silber—Office of Education, Camarillo
4/9—General Membership Board Meeting—Office of Education, Camarillo
5/21—Management Council BBQ—Freedom Center, Camarillo

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