



# Change Is In The Air

## Elaine Freeman

As previously reported, the Assembly and Senate, after a record 100-days, on October 8<sup>th</sup>, finally passed the state budget and necessary trailer bills. The Assembly concluded at approximately 6a.m.; with the Senate concluding at approximately 8:30a.m.

While nothing to write home about, the state budget as passed, relies on overly optimistic state revenue assumptions, including, but not limited to, \$5 billion from the federal government. These assumptions clearly place before the next Governor and Legislature continuing multi-billion dollar deficits for next year and probably the next 2 to 3 years.

Prior to signing the budget bill the evening of October 8<sup>th</sup>, the Governor line-item vetoed \$965 million in spending, mostly from health and human services programs, to attain his desired \$1 billion budget reserve. Needless



to securitize the total amount they are owed for state mandates in a similar fashion to the manner in which local governments were able to securitize money borrowed via Proposition 1A. Therefore, local governments will have the option to receive the money owed up-front or over time, with interest.

3. Senate Bill 856 establishes a new state mandated "re-determination" process that authorizes

to say, Democrats are not pleased with these vetoes.

The budget contains some pension "reforms" for new state employees, rolling back current benefits and pension contribution rates and ends so-called "spiking," requiring new state employees to utilize a 3-year final compensation method for calculating benefit levels for new state employees who are not already under this calculation method.

Also, the Governor and Legislature agreed to the Governor's long-sought goal of a "rainy day fund," and approved a constitutional amendment that will appear on the 2012 ballot containing specific language.

For local governments, the following items are of



local governments or the State to file a request with the Commission on State Mandates to adopt a new "test claim" decision to replace a previously adopted decision. Thus, if new circumstances arise, such as passage of an initiative or statute that affects an existing reimbursement to local governments, local agencies or the State may file for a new decision from the Commission.

4. While one of the trailer

interest:

1. The State will no longer reimburse local agencies for criminal background checks for volunteers/specific employees, but will allow local agency's to charge the applicant a fee to cover the local agencies costs for the criminal background checks (Senate Bill 856);

2. Senate Bill 866 requires the State Controller to create a list of approximately \$930 million in state mandated reimbursements owed to local agencies and imposes a schedule by which the State will be required to pay those costs. Additionally, SB 866 permits local agen-



bills proposed to repeal the agenda posting requirements under the Brown Act, that provision was ultimately deleted, due to substantial opposition from numerous legislators and the press corps.

We get to start this all over again on December 6<sup>th</sup>, with the commencement of the 2011-12 Legislative Session.

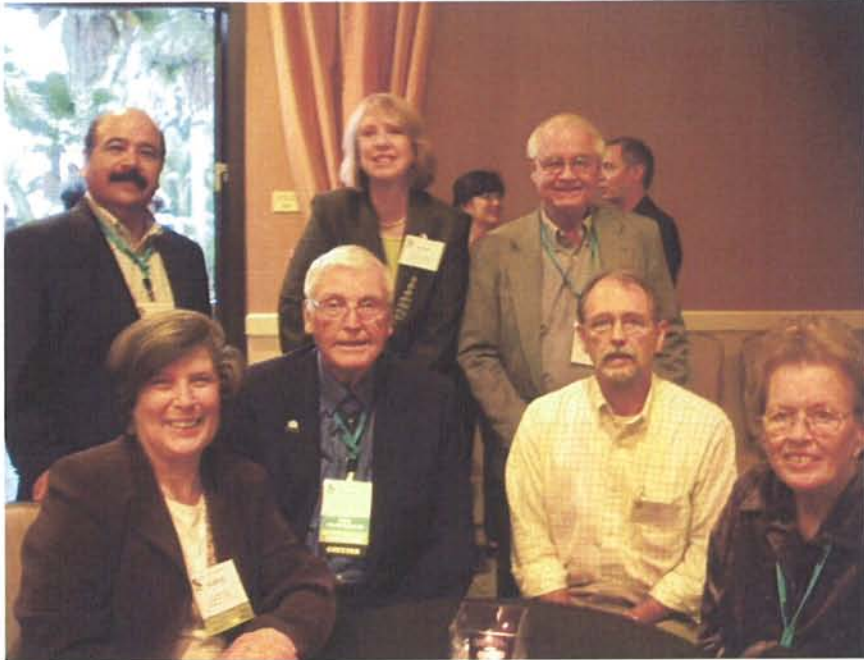
Stay Tuned!

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# California Special Districts Association Annual Conference

Vice President Susan Craig reported from the CSDA Conference held at the Newport Beach Marriott on September 20—23, 2010, there was good representation from members of VCSDA at the conference, which was attended by over 500 leaders from special districts from all over



*Good VCSDA representation at the CSDA Annual Conference*

*Standing Jim Acosta, Susan Craig, George Lange, sitting Judy Cofer, Jack Curtis, John Correa and Nancy Acosta*

the state. There were several keynote speakers. Among them, former NFL quarterback Tom Flick who gave an inspiring keynote address entitled “At the Heart of Leadership” John Naber, a former Olympic swimming champion and world record holder in the 100 meter backstroke in the 1976 Olympics and torch bearer for the US team at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles, presented his nine step approach to “The

The “Breakout Sessions” were well done and covered many topics. To name a few: Brown Act Compliance, Board Member Liability and the always popular Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB), The Latest in Compliance and Funding Issues:

The Chapter Round Table Meeting was attended by six members of VCSDA



*I can almost smell the turkey now—mmmmm—needs more sage!*



Left, our own Vice President Susan Craig with Olympian John Naber

Right, Jack Curtis, Judy Cofer and Travis Willis of CSDA



**Find the words in the word search and bring to the December 7, 2010 Meeting for extra Raffle Ticket**

**Santa Trip**



BELLS	DANCER	PRANCER
BLITZEN	DASHER	RUDDOLPH
CHIMNEY	DONDER	SLEIGH
COMET	NIGHT	STOCKING
COOKIES	PACK	TOYS
CUPID	PIPE	VIXEN



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<http://www.thepotters.com/puzzles.html>

## A Call For Nominations

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### CALL FOR ANNUAL AWARD NOMINATIONS!!!!

The Ventura County Special Districts Association's Annual Dinner is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 1, 2011**. This is a very special event you will not want to miss!

At the Annual Dinner meeting, awards will be presented for:

2010 Director of the Year

2010 General Manager of the Year

Shirley Turner Award (The Award may be presented for exceptional service to special districts)

Please submit your nomination for an award to the Nominations Committee (George Lange, Elaine Freeman and Susan Craig) **no later than 5 pm** on Wednesday, **January 5, 2011** to:

**Elaine Freeman**

**P.O. Box 941210**

**Simi Valley, CA 93094**

Or email to [freemanelf@aol.com](mailto:freemanelf@aol.com)



Yams ✓ Stuffing ✓ Cranberry ✓  
What am I forgetting?

Describe the person's **accomplishments, activities, contributions to VCSDA and the participating agency** as well as additional reasons the nominee deserves to be honored. Please include your email address so that an acknowledgment that the nomination was successfully received can be sent. If you don't get an acknowledgment email, please call **(805) 320-8615**

This is your opportunity to let the VCSDA membership know the worthy efforts of the people who contribute to the success of your district and all special districts. Don't let this opportunity pass you by!

# Complete and Bring to the December 7th Meeting for Extra Raffle Tickets

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1. In the 1988 film *Scrooged*, the character played by Bill Murray is:
  - a) a cold-hearted banker
  - b) a cold-hearted TV executive
  - c) a cold-hearted police officer
  - d) a cold-hearted politician
2. What's the name of George Bailey's guardian angel in *It's a Wonderful Life*?
  - a) Ariel
  - b) Henry
  - c) Clarence
  - d) Frank
3. In *It's a Wonderful Life*, George Bailey as a boy suffers an injury to:
  - a) his foot
  - b) his arm
  - c) his eyes
  - d) his ear
4. *The Nightmare Before Christmas* was written by:
  - a) Tim Burton
  - b) Martin Scorsese
  - c) Jimmy Stewart
  - d) Danny DeVito
5. *White Christmas* is set in
  - a) Colorado
  - b) Montana
  - c) New Hampshire
  - d) Vermont
6. Who plays Bing Crosby's Army buddy in *White Christmas*?
  - a) Jimmy Stewart
  - b) Dean Martin
  - c) Danny Kaye
  - d) Bob Hope
7. The little girl who's skeptical about Santa Clause in *Miracle on 34th Street* is played by:
  - a) Natalie Wood
  - b) Audrey Hepburn
  - c) Anne Bancroft
  - d) Sharon Stone
8. *Miracle on 34th Street* revolves around which department store?
  - a) Bloomingdales
  - b) Macys
  - c) Parisian
  - d) Neiman Marcus



# Kudos & Congrats



*Merci*

**George Lange** received two awards at the CALAFCo Conference:

1. "Outstanding Commissioner 2010" for his extraordinary efforts as CALAFCo Board member.
2. "Certificate of Recognition" acknowledging his time and effort on the board and specifically for serving as the 2010 Conference Chair.



Kudos Wholeheartedly to

**Jim Hensley**

**Channel Islands Beach Community Service District for his dedicated service and commitment. We wish you much luck in your future endeavors!**

*Köszönettel*

## New Year—New Dates—New Board

December 7, 2010—Bi Monthly VCSDA Dinner Meeting. Dinner served at 5:30 meeting begins at 6:00. This is the last program under the current Board. Let's make it a fun meeting and end the year on a "high" note. Get your reservations into Robin By December 3, 2010

February 1, 2011—VCSDA Annual Awards Dinner and Installation of 2011-2013 Officers

