

V C S D A

# Ventura County Special Districts Association

APRIL, MAY 2012

## California Lutheran University Dinner and Tour

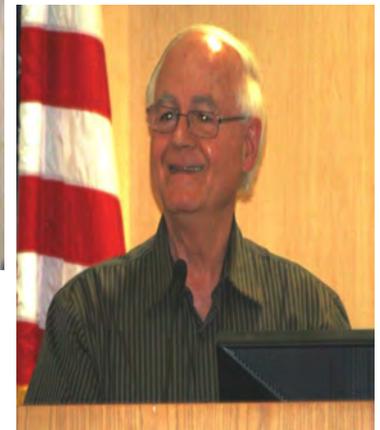


VCSDA's regular bi-monthly meeting on April 3, 2012 was held at California Lutheran University. A delicious dinner was served. We were given a history and updates on the university by President Chris Kimball. Two student ambassadors led a tour of the campus, including the new football stadium and fine arts gallery, the US Olympic sized pool facility and the George "Sparky" Anderson Baseball Field. We are thankful to have had the opportunity to expand our horizons.



**President Chris Kimball,  
California Lutheran University**

George Lange, VCSDA Past President, arranged this special experience for our meeting to be hosted by the University.



Susan Craig, VCSDA President

Elaine Freeman, VCSDA Vice-President and Legislative Analyst



Jack Curtis, VCSDA  
Treasurer



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*Serving special districts in  
Ventura County*



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS !!!**

**OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD**

**JUNE 5, 2012 with dinner at 5:30 PM**

**AT THE CAMARILLO HEALTH CARE DISTRICT**

**SPEAKER: SAUL ROSENBAUM**

**MANAGING DIRECTOR, PRAGER & CO**

**FINANCING OPPORTUNITIES**



Special thanks to our California Lutheran University student ambassadors.

Many districts were represented at the meeting and enjoyed the University tour.



Ventura County Special Districts – April 24, 2012

## STATE OF CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Provided by Elaine Freeman

**First I would like to remind everyone of the Special Districts Legislative Days scheduled for May 16 and 17 at the Sacramento Convention Center. You can register on line at [www.CSDA.org](http://www.CSDA.org).**

The Pension Conference Committee has been meeting to develop recommendations for changes. The Republicans has submitted bills supporting the Governor's proposal but those are not moving forward. Senator Steinberg is not considering the Governor's proposals in the Conference Committee but will come forward with a set of recommended changes. There is one more Conference Committee meeting scheduled in May and at that time, the proposals will be made.

The Governor's mid-year budget is due out on or about mid-May. It is not looking good with revenues below what was anticipated. The short-fall is estimated at 13 billion. Also, the LAO has estimated that the proposed tax increases by the Governor will still leave 6 billion below what was anticipated. The Governor is promoting his initiative which will be in competition with the initiative by Molly Munford which has all money going to schools. Going to be an interesting fight.

You may recall the discussion on SB 973 coming from a law suit out of San Diego over fireworks over the water and the need for environmental review for all local special events. There was a hearing this week which brought out environmentalist in favor and local chambers and other community groups in opposition. What the bill does is to require that all local special events, i.e. fireworks, parades, etc. would be subject to CEQA. It appears that the bill will be modified to just make sure local government has an administrative approval process for such events. The bill is still in committee so it is a wait and see how it will be re-written.

SB 1276 (Contract Restrictions) is being opposed strongly because of the affect on special districts. It would require the special district to defend allegations against the work of private companies rather than the burden being on the private company such as a contractor that may be hired by the special district. It indemnifies design professionals and puts the burden on the local government.

The next Legislative Committee meeting after Legislative Days will be on June 8, after the next June 5 Ventura County Special Districts meeting. However, by that time, the status of the budget, pension reform and other bills will be available for discussion at the VCSD meeting.