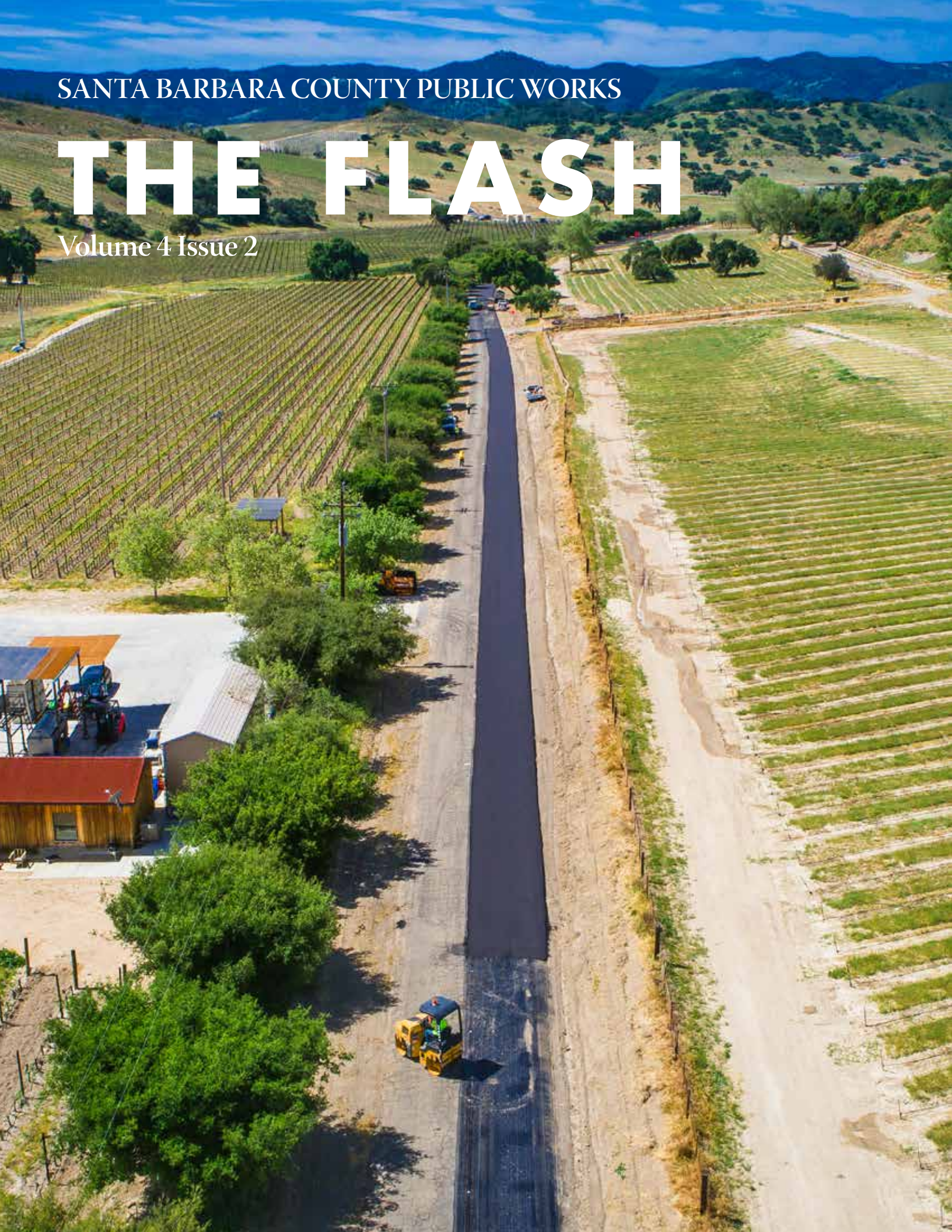


SANTA BARBARA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS

THE FLASH

Volume 4 Issue 2



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December 2019

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New hires, promotions, and retirements,
Employee of the Month

Photos by Lael Wageneck except as indicated.

*"Treat people as if they were what they ought to be, and you help them become what they are capable of being."
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*

Chief Notes

Celebrating a successful year and preparing for another



There is a lot to be proud of when you look back at the past year for our great Public Works department. We broke ground on the ReSource Center at the Tajiguas Landfill. We responded to storm activity below recent burn areas. Thanks to the SB1 state gas tax increase, we received an additional \$6.5 million in transportation funding for pavement preservation projects. We also continue to address public safety in Montecito with debris basin enhancements, plans for new basins, and the survey control network. This issue of The Flash highlights these programs and more, and the photos are a testament to your hard work and outstanding customer service to the communities we serve.

While the New Year is an excellent time to reflect on our accomplishments, it also brings opportunities to do things differently. In 2020, we will continue with our next batch of leadership classes to carry on our quest to grow leaders from within the department. Leadership 1.0 focused on rolling out our department's leadership commitments. These commitments are the code of conduct that all leaders and aspiring leaders within Public Works will live by. Leadership 2.0 looked at the colors and how to improve teamwork and communication. We also rolled out our department values and had numerous inspiring county leaders speak at our Public Works Leadership lunch last spring. This spring, Leadership 3.0 will address strategic decision-making, emotional intelligence, and ethics. I am so excited to see how our leadership within Public Works has excelled over the last few years. I can't wait to see where we will be five years from now!

Next year we will begin implementing something I am calling "Vision 5.0." In a strategic plan, an organization identifies its values, goals, and the objectives and tasks that help achieve those goals. While it is essential to be optimistic about achieving your objectives, things change, and you may need to adjust your course. Vision 5.0 is a rolling five-year plan that establishes future goals and provides flexibility for annual change. After one year ends in Vision 5.0, we review progress made and create a revised five-year plan based on the previous one. With Vision 5.0, we can both plan for the future and manage the realities of today.

Thank you for all that you do to make this county and department great. Most County facilities will be closed on Wednesday, December 25, 2019, and will reopen on Thursday, January 2, 2020. As you all know Public Works never sleeps so a special thanks goes out to our team members that will be available during this holiday break providing essential public services. I hope all of you have a wonderful Christmas and New Year, and I look forward to another great year of serving the community with you!

-Scott

Construction



Chris Doolittle



Chris Doolittle



Various projects near the Cold Springs Trailhead and East Mountain Drive in Montecito. Top and bottom center: Installation of the East Mountain Drive rockfall attenuator system. Right: Certified map of the area near the former low water crossing. Bottom left: Low water crossing bank repairs.



Morgan Jones



Chris Doolittle

Construction



Santa Barbara County Public Works began work on the Ashley Road Bridge replacement located between East Mountain Drive and Sycamore Canyon Road. Granite Construction started work on the project on July 22, 2019 and will tentatively finish by the end of the year.

The original bridge that was built in 1918 was severely damaged during the 1/9 Debris Flow.



In July, Santa Barbara County Public Works Department completed an innovative project to reconstruct a local road with recycled vehicle tires. The Ortega Ridge Road Slide Repair MS-TDA Wall Project uses tire derived aggregate as lightweight fill material to prevent the ground under the road from slipping.



Chris Doolittle



Construction



The ReSource Center broke ground in December 2018 and is anticipated to open in early 2021. This state-of-the-art waste management facility will increase our community's recycling rate, generate resources, and dramatically lower local greenhouse gas emissions.



Clockwise from top: ReSource Center construction site. Elected officials and Public Works staff at the groundbreaking ceremony in May. Santa Barbara City Councilmembers Eric Friedman and Kristen Sneddon pose with falconer David Roth. Elected officials and stakeholders at the groundbreaking ceremony.

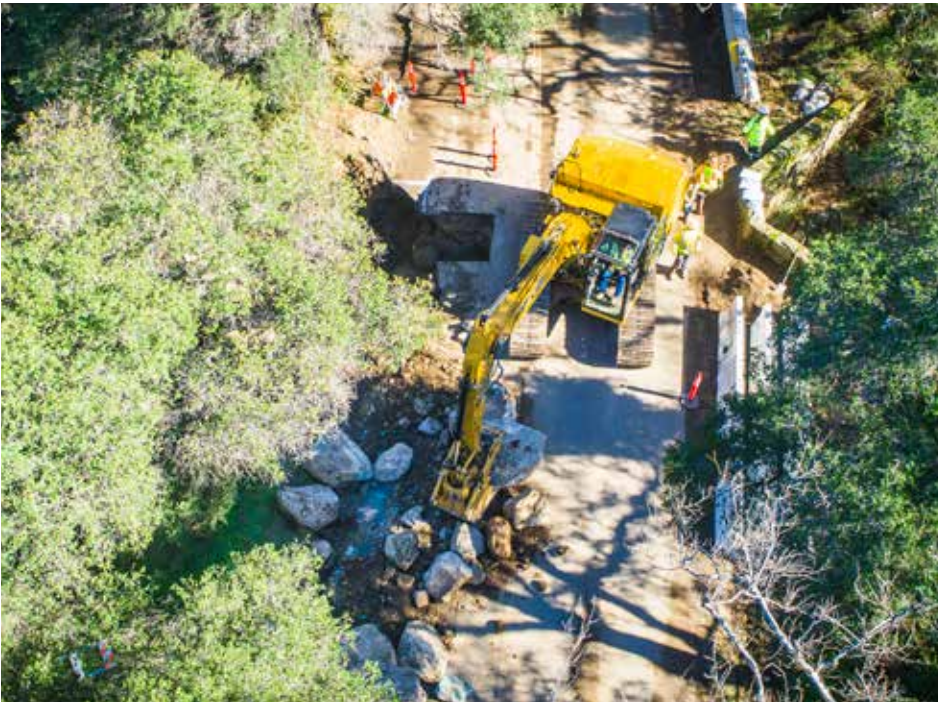


Maintenance and Disaster Response



Diana Estorga

Clockwise from top left: Vegetation clearing in Atascadero Creek. Walter Rubalcava in the rain on Paradise Road. Alex Doran demonstrates the flood control remote camera system. Romero Basin filled with rocks and boulders in February 2019. Work on the Paradise Road slipout.



Maintenance and Disaster Response



Anthony Lehman



Anthony Lehman



Anthony Lehman



Top left: Paving on Cat Canyon Road. Top right: Curb and gutter work on Ripley Street in the Second District. Middle: Work on the Romero Canyon retaining wall. Bottom: New ADA curb cuts and improvements in Isla Vista.

Maintenance and Disaster Response



Rick Tomasini



Andrew Raaf



During the Cave Fire and before a significant storm hit the South Coast, Public Works provided additional clearing in the basins and channels below the burn area. Clockwise from top left: San Roque Basin. San Antonio Basin. The cube at San Antonio Basin on December 4, 2019. The San Antonio Creek Watershed. Installing the debris rack near Tucker's Grove.



Leadership



Clerk of the Board



Clerk of the Board



Top: The Resource Recovery and Waste Management division received a Merit Award and the Transportation division received a Challenge Award from the California State Association of Counties. Second row: At the Board of Supervisors, staff received Green Business Certification and a resolution for Public Works Week. Third Row: Staff and elected officials at the annual Green Business Lunch in Buellton. Bottom: Bridge dedication for Brian McIntyre near Buellton.



Leadership



Matt Young



Diana Estorga

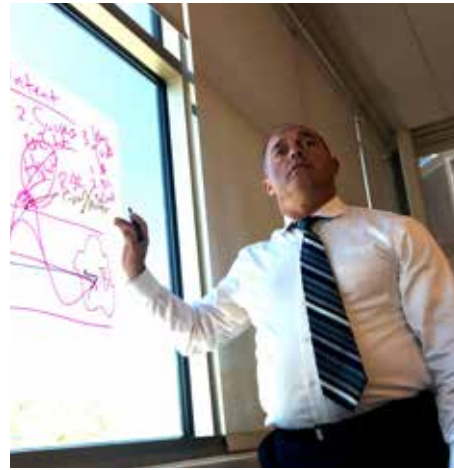


Diana Estorga



Clockwise from top left: RRWM volunteering at the Food Bank. Cathleen Garnand at Earth Day 2019. Cuyama Groundwater Sustainability Agency meeting. Arbor Day at Mary Buren Elementary in Guadalupe. Children's career fair at Vandenberg Air Force Base. North Jameson walking trail groundbreaking event.

Leadership



Leadership training class at UC Santa Barbara with Lt. Colonel (Ret.) Nate Sassaman.

County Executive Officer Mona Miyasato and Assistant CEO Matt Pontes spoke at this year's leadership lunch.



Following our PACE values (Pride, Alignment, Collaboration, and Effectiveness) is essential in public service, and it can also make the difference between a casual and a champion cornhole team.

The Back Pages

New hires

Ricardo Contreras – RRWM - Maintenance Worker Apprentice
Maria Carrillo – Water Resources – Engineering Tech II
Kim Frith – Roads – Engineering Tech Spec EXH
Tarlán Zolnour – RRWM - Engineering Tech I EXH
Spencer Barnett – Roads - Maint. Worker Apprentice EXH
Michael Wolfe – Roads - Maintenance Worker Apprentice EXH

Emilio Avalos-Cordova – Roads – Maintenance Worker II
Frank Moralez – Roads – Maintenance Worker Apprentice EXH
Lori Vandborg – Roads - Engineering Tech Spec EXH
Erik Velasco – RRWM - Refuse Checker
Elizabeth Simpson – RRWM (Transfer) - AOP-II

Promotions

Larry Lowman – Administration – IT Manager
Marika Ruh – RRWM - Accounting Supervisor
Anthony Howell – RRWM – Maintenance Worker II

Jesus Hernandez – Transportation – Civil Engineering Associate II
Michael Dougherty – Transportation - Maintenance Worker II

Retirements

Mario Almada – Transportation – Maintenance Worker II

Randall Deasee – Transportation – Maintenance Worker II

Employee of the Quarter - Joyce Tromp Martyniuk

When Joyce Tromp-Martyniuk learned she was the Public Works Winter Employee of the Quarter, she was shocked. “Kim had sent out a meeting request for the reception, I sent her an email back saying, “I think you made a mistake”, because it had all of the department heads in there and then my name’s in there.” Jon Frye may have forgotten to tell Joyce that she was the Employee of the Quarter, but he praised her for demonstration of the Public Works values. Jon said, “There’s a common expression “jack of all trades, master of none.” I’d argue that Joyce is a jack of all trades and master of many.”

Joyce moved to Santa Barbara from Long Beach, and started out in Water Resources in November 2000 as a senior engineering tech. When an opening became available, Joyce moved into the specialist position. “That’s kind of where I stayed from there on out, which is perfectly fine.”

Joyce’s favorite tasks are working with GIS and research. With GIS, she loves that it is interactive. “I love to figure things out, make the maps, and make them look attractive. I like the artistry of it and creating something that’s useful to people.” She likes the challenge of research and finding things that no one else can. “I like trying to think outside of the box as far as where would I find a piece of information. Or where could we find something that’s like what we need?” She laughs when I tell her that the announcement email said she had a “calm and steady demeanor.” “Maybe on the outside but certainly not on the inside. I try to not get too excited about stuff, but there are times when, you’re like, oh my gosh, hurry hurry hurry. You have to really focus and make sure that you do it right too, especially when it’s something that could be on public display or something for Tom or Jon. You want to make sure it’s done right.”

Joyce really likes working with her design group teammates, and they like working with her. Karen Sullivan said, “Ernst & Young’s Benefit Cost Analysis Specialist named her “the inimitable Joyce.” She is just that: impossible to duplicate. Joyce is a kind and wonderful person to work with, and the force behind the design team. If you are looking at a power-point presentation, it’s likely that you are seeing graphics, GIS exhibits and maps developed by Joyce. We are so grateful to have her on our team.”

Matt Griffin said, “We rely on Joyce for many CAD, GIS and other technical needs. She is always a pleasure to work with; often taking on challenging tasks without a complaint. Joyce’s GIS and mapping abilities is paramount to Flood Control’s emergency responses.” Jon Frye emphasized her work during the Cave Fire as one of many reasons she is so important to Water Resources. “Flood Control bases its response on where the fire is located and what percentages of watershed are burned. Because of Joyce’s abilities to network with other County GIS mapping technicians, including those at County Fire and County OEM, we were able to zero in on exactly where we needed to focus our efforts. This is real time work that other operational departments have come to rely upon from Flood Control.” When she is not at work, Joyce likes reading and knitting. “I like murder mysteries and there’s a whole series of historical novels I like. I don’t have a favorite, there are too many to choose from.”

Joyce emphasized how much she likes working with the people in water resources. “I think everyone here is great. It’s a good group of people to work with. Jon is an amazing boss and it’s just a good feeling when everyone is so responsive. You’re never sitting here wondering if anyone is going to help out. Everybody is always working together and making a difference.”



The Back Pages

Sunrise photos

