



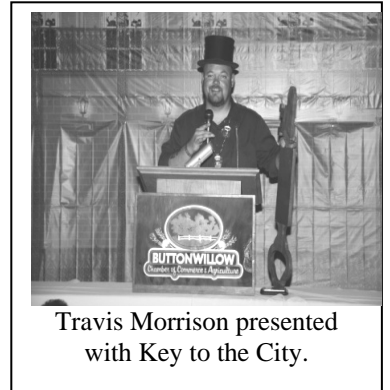
NEWSLETTER

April 30, 2010

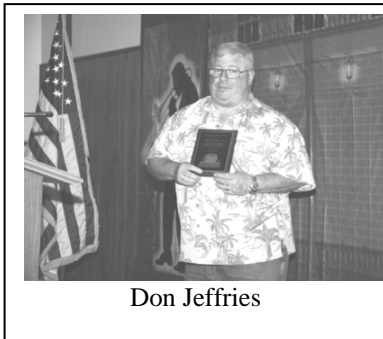
2010 Honorary Mayor's Race

We announced **Travis Morrison** as our **59th Honorary Mayor** at the annual membership meeting and Mayor's Race dinner held at St. Mary's Church Hall on Saturday, March 20. Travis Morrison and challenger Christina Lucas, raised \$36,266.

The Chamber honored **Jeffries Bros.** as our **2010 Member of the Year**. Dick and Howard Jeffries started their business in Buttonwillow in 1946. Along with the successful gas and diesel filling facilities, they also own the Brookside Deli Market & Catering services in Wasco and Bakersfield and the Shafter Express Oil Service. The success of their work and dedication continued when Don joined his father and uncle. Grandsons, Matt & Jeremy Jeffries have now joined the family business demonstrating to be as involved as the first and second generation.



Travis Morrison presented with Key to the City.

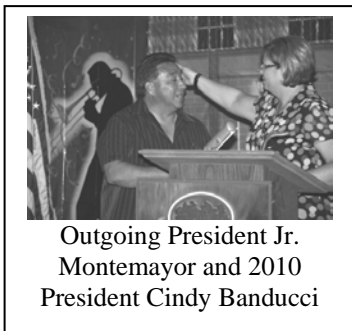


Don Jeffries

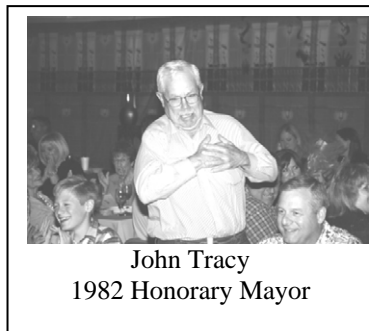
Their commitment to this community has been evident in their support of this Chamber and other community organizations. Howard Jeffries was Lions Club President in 1952 and Chamber President in 1960. Don Jeffries was our 1996 Honorary Mayor. Their generosity is apparent and was shown this past year as the Jeffries family donated the property at the corner of Highway 58 and Miller Avenue for the newest pocket park.

Congratulations and thank you **Jeffries Bros.**, our 2010 Member of the Year.

Recognition was also given to past Chamber Presidents and Honorary Mayors that were present. Our sincerest appreciation to everyone who helped make this event a success.



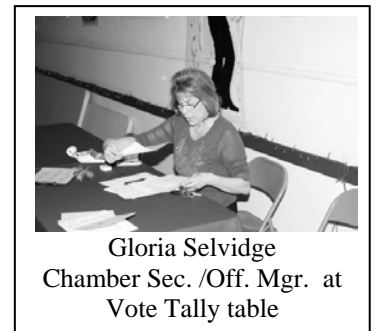
Outgoing President Jr. Montemayor and 2010 President Cindy Banducci



John Tracy
1982 Honorary Mayor



Presentation to outgoing Director Richard Garcia



Gloria Selvidge
Chamber Sec. /Off. Mgr. at
Vote Tally table



Various dinner guests enjoying festivities!

Christina Lucas

Photos courtesy of Chamblee's Photography

Randy Chamblee
Project Manager
817-6306



Presentation to 2009 Honorary Mayor Mark Ballengee



Buttonwillow Union School District

42600 Highway 58
Buttonwillow, CA 93206
Telephone: 661-764-5166
Fax: 661-764-5165

Dr. James D. Murphy, Superintendent

NEWS FROM BUTTONWILLOW SCHOOL

The new building that houses our computer lab, library, and community meeting room is still “under construction” on the interior. Our Principal, Mrs. Caulfield, has been working diligently to get all our library books entered into the electronic check out system, and Mr. Basham is completing the technology work required to get our computer lab ready for start up. One of Murphy’s Laws holds that *everything takes longer than first anticipated*. We also abide by the old saw that *all good things are worth waiting for*.

Speaking of the new library, we send our deep appreciation to the Buttonwillow Chamber for their recent donation of \$1,000 to our library fund. On behalf of our children, staff and all Roadrunners, thank you Buttonwillow Chamber.

On a more somber note, our school was identified as a low achieving school by the California Department of Education last month. I can assure everyone in our community that our teachers, support staff, and administration takes this matter seriously and we will continue in our tireless efforts to provide a standards-based instructional program for the success of all of our students, and for improved standardized test scores. With the understanding of the community that many of our students face the daunting task of achieving at grade level while struggling to be proficient in the English language, and with the support of our parents in seeing that their children come to school every day ready to learn, I am hopeful that we can work our way out of program improvement. Currently, we are laser focused on preparing for the STAR assessments which our students will take April 26-30.

I am so pleased to announce that Mrs. Stephanie Lopez was selected by the faculty as our Teacher of the Year, and Mrs. Patsy Guzman was selected by staff as our Classified Employee of the Year. Both Stephanie and Patsy are well deserving because both have demonstrated their unwavering dedication to our children, our school, and our community. **BIG CHEERS FOR THEM!!!**

Recent and Upcoming Events

April 20	Parent Night-6:00 p.m. in the Gym
April 26-30	STAR Testing-Perfect Attendance Required
May 6	Open House-6:00 p.m. in classrooms
May 7	Lions Club Hamburger Feed (Thank you Lions)
May 27	Kindergarten Celebration in Gym
May 31	Memorial Day
June 3	Last day of school
	Eighth grade graduation-7:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

Jim Murphy

Jim Murphy, Superintendent

SHAFTER HIGH SCHOOL

- May 20 Scholarship & Award Assembly 6:30 pm
- June 2 Graduation 7:30 pm



CHAMBER NEWS

Our **Scholarship Committee** will be meeting soon to determine the recipients of our scholarship awards. Each year, the committee grants \$6000 to local high school graduates. To qualify, an applicant must be a high school senior residing in the 93206 zip code area or attended a minimum of three years at Buttonwillow Union School, who plans to continue their education by attending an accredited vocational and specialized training facility, private college or a two or four year public college or university the following year. The scholarship is available to graduating seniors only. The completed application along with the required essay, an official copy of the applicant's transcripts and two personal confidential statements from high school teachers or administrators, is reviewed by the committee.



The **Buttonwillow Raceway Park** also funds and grants scholarships to deserving individuals pursuing a career in the automotive industry. The **Vintage Auto Racing Association (VARA)** will host their 15th Annual British Extravaganza at the **Buttonwillow Raceway Park** on May 1-2, 2010. The Chamber will be coordinating the Tri-tip BBQ dinner for their event on Saturday evening, **May 1**. The money received from VARA funds our annual scholarship program.

COMMUNITY NEWS

The **Buttonwillow Branch** of the **Kern County Library** will sponsor their annual summer reading program. Catherine Edgecombe, Branch Supervisor, is excited about this year's event titled "Make a Splash". The Chamber has donated \$400 to the library for their event.

The program will begin the week of June 7th with a drop-in activity that has several story stations with a puzzle piece to put together from each station. On Fridays (6/26 thru 7/16) at 11:30 a.m. the library will have Summer Story Time with simple activities. The program will include two performances paid for by the Kern County Friends of the Library, one on June 18th at 11:30 a.m. where the Omnipresent Puppet Theater will present "The Fisherman's Wife" and another on July 23rd, the Magic of Christopher Lopez.

A portion of these funds are being used to purchase a small area carpet for the library. This would be large enough for a class to sit on or for kids to use for puzzles or games, in addition to being a welcoming influence at the library. The carpet is called *Peaceful Sun*, inspired by children's illustrator Susan Guevara, featuring an original poem by Pat Mora. This carpet design captures the Hispanic influence of our area and would add warmth to our branch.



The **Buttonwillow Lions Club** presents their 26th Annual Dinner & Dance Benefit on Saturday, **May 15, 2010** at Vince Crop Dusting hangar (located 2 miles north of Hwy. 58 on Buttonwillow Drive, then west 1 mile on Snow Road). The reverse drawing & dinner will begin with cocktails at 5:30 pm with dinner served at 6:30 pm. Please contact President Jack Gonzales at 864-8678 for information and tickets.

The **Buttonwillow Substance Awareness and Family Education (B-SAFE)** coalition coordinated thru the **Buttonwillow Community Resource Center**, will be hosting an assembly at Buttonwillow School on Tuesday, May 11 at 9:00am. The assembly by *Academic Entertainment* will be focusing on positive choices. The B-SAFE committee invites parents to attend the assembly and stay for a meeting (immediately following) to connect and establish the next step regarding the issues concerning underage alcohol drinking. For more information call Lucette Garcia at 764-9405.



Buttonwillow Recreation and Park District Events and Programs

Our Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by Buttonwillow Lions was well attended. Special thanks to the Buttonwillow Lions Club for the donation of candy and prizes. Currently we are offering Pee Wee Tee B all for ages 3 - 5 (as of April 30). We are looking for Adult Softball Teams, so come in today and sign your team up.

Our next special event is our 3rd Annual Firework Show on Saturday, July 3rd at the Buttonwillow School Football Field. This year we are using a new company that we are excited about and are sure to provide us with a great show.

As you have probably seen, the Multi Purpose Facility at the park is going up quickly. Our expected completion date is August 23, 2010. Watch for the Ribbon Cutting announcement and be sure to come. We appreciate the surrounding neighbors for being patient during the construction.

Our summer programs will be at our site on First Street. Pool Opens Monday June 7th. Swim Lessons are available. Summer Programs include Day Camp, Movie in the Park, Adult Softball Leagues and of course our aquatic area is available for private rentals.

For more information please call 661-764-5205.

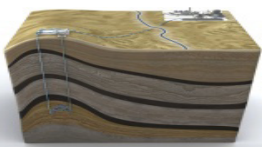
Marie Parsons, Office Manager



Hydrogen Energy California continues the permitting process

Hydrogen Energy California (HECA), a joint venture between BP and Rio Tinto, has proposed a new hydrogen-powered electricity generating facility in West Kern County that would capture and sequester 90% of its carbon emissions. This facility will transform solid fossil fuels into hydrogen that will be used to generate electricity for over 150,000 Californian homes. The HECA process will capture over 2 million tons of CO₂ per year and sequester it deep underground. By injecting the CO₂ into partially depleted Elk Hills Oil fields the project will enhance the recovery of additional oil which improves US energy security.

HECA is continuing its permitting process with the California Energy Commission (CEC). Recently the project completed its second data response workshop with the CEC staff at a public meeting in Tupman. Also, the Department of Energy conducted a public Environmental Impact Study scoping meeting in Bakersfield. At the public meetings the Buena Vista Water Storage District, the Mayor of Bakersfield and several other members of the Kern County community spoke in support of HECA. Their comments were centered around the 1500 new construction and then 100 operational jobs that could be created starting in January 2012 if the permitting process is successfully completed. Discussion also centered on the project's use of brackish water which will support the Buena Vista Storage Districts Brackish Water Remediation Program.



HECA plant would transform solid fuels to Hydrogen to generate electricity. The CO₂ will be captured and transported via pipeline to an Elk Hills Oil field where it will be permanently stored underground and will enhance the recovery of additional oil.

The new information center located at 189 E. Front Street in Buttonwillow is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5 pm and by appointment on Saturday. For more information call 661-764-6442 or visit their web site at www.hydrogenenergycalifornia.com



Thank You



2010 Golf Tournament Hole Sponsors

A & W Farms LLC, A. Rodriguez & Son Harvesting, Ag Center of Buttonwillow, Arthur & Eleanor Ghilarducci Farms, Ballengee Bros., Banducci & Son, Billie Houchin, Bookland Farms, Brookside Deli, Buttonwillow Land & Cattle Co., Buttonwillow Tire Service, BW Implement Co., Buttonwillow Raceway, Buttonwillow Warehouse Co., Calcot, Ltd., Cauzza Bros., Chicca Bros. /Twin Farms, Chilled & Grilled, Circle M Hay Co., Clean Harbors, Clem's Tire & Road Service, Country Auto & Truck, Dale DeShane – Supervised Control Services, Inc., Darlena & Joe Alvidrez dba Country Clutter, Don Pollard Hay Services, Inc., Energy Link, Farley Machine, Farm Credit West, ACA, Farmers Cooperative Gin, Inc., Fraver Company Machine Shop, Fred Palla Farms, H & S Hose and Supply, Inc., Half A Dozen Ranch, Hearnco, Inc., Helena Chemical Company, Hitchcock Auto Parts, Holmes Specialty Company, Hydrogen Energy CA, I-5 Oasis, James Tazioli Farming, Jeffries Bros., Jerry Slough Farming Co., Jess Smith & Sons Cotton, Joe Livingston Welding, John Kimberger Welding, John Romanini & Sons, Julian Pierucci & Son, Laree Snow, Mauricio's Grill & Cantina, Maverick Petroleum, Inc., Michael Giannini Farms, Mike & Annie's McKittrick Hotel Penny Bar & Café, Norman Shepherd Farm, Pacific Irrigation, Parsons Farms, Personal Ag Management, Peters Funeral Home, Pioneer Equipment Co., Richland Chevrolet Co., S. A. Camp Pump & Drilling Company, Salvador Perez Farm Equipment Repair, San Joaquin Tractor, Shafter Express Oil Service, Snyder's Pool Service, Syndex Ready Mix, LLC, The MAN from Buttonwillow, Tita's Pupuseria Restaurant, Toretta Farms, Tracy Ranch, Trav's Trucking, United Security Bank, Valley Feed & Party Corral, Vince Crop Dusters, Inc., WAY Farms, Wells Fargo Bank, Westside Waste Management Co., Inc., White Gold Cotton, LLC

Auction Item – Donors

2nd Amendment Sports, Angela Clark, Betty Chicca, BW Raceway Park, BW Warehouse, Cauzza Bros., Cindy Banducci, Crop Production Services, Cynthia Liza Productions, Kern Machinery, Inc., KUZZ – Buck Owens Productions Co., Inc., NAPA Buttonwillow, Pioneer Equipment, Pismo Beach Hotel, Ray Hardy, SA Camp, Sandra Torigiani, Syndex Ready Mix, Tim Dobbs, Victor Rodriguez, Willow Ranch Restaurant

Auction Item – Buyers

Ballengee Bros., Frankie Villalovos, Jackie Hedrick, Jess Smith & Sons Cotton, John Blair, Keith Gardner, Laree Snow, Michael Giannini, Peggy Tazioli, Personal Ag Management, Regina Houchin, Robert Morris, Sandra Torigiani, Sheryl Artz, Ted & Sharon Page



Did you answer your **2010 U. S. Census** questionnaire? Please convey the importance of completing the census, including those isolated by language or geography to your family, friends and employees. Census takers will soon visit households that did not return a Questionnaire by mail. In December 2010, the Census Bureau will deliver the population count to President Obama. For more information, please go to www.census.gov/2010census.

As incoming 2010 Chamber President, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to Jr. Montemayor for the hard work and commitment he gave to the Chamber as President the past two years. I am very excited about being president of a board of directors that works hard to make sure Buttonwillow receives the recognition it deserves and is generous in meeting the needs of the community.

The 2010 Mayor's Race was very successful due to the hard work of candidates Christina Lucas and Travis Morrison. The funds they raised will allow the Chamber to support many organizations, continue offering scholarships and provide for the day to day operation of the Chamber. Thanks to both of you for your hard work! Travis Morrison was named 2010 Honorary Mayor and I look forward to having him on the board and working with him in the coming year.

In closing, please remember that the Chamber of Commerce is here to serve and is always open to new ideas, requests for projects and meeting the needs of the community. Thank you for your generosity and continued support.

Cindy Banducci

2010-2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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1st Vice President – Andrew Houchin

2nd Vice President – Russ Patterson

Louie Andreotti

Mark Ballengee

Mike Burleson

Jennifer Giannini

Chon Hernandez

Christina Lucas

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Michael Torigiani

2010 Honorary Mayor – Travis Morrison

Secretary/Office Manager - Gloria Selvidge

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**P. O. Box 251
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