

Speakers Emphasize “Connectivity”

14th Annual Leadership Conference

Engaging and thought-provoking presentations in the theme, “Connectivity to Productivity,” were the order of the day at the County’s 14th Annual Leadership Conference held May 26 at the Music Center. Commissioner Shawn Landres served as facilitator and Commissioner Rod Gibson, Chair, welcomed the attendees.

Assessor Jeffrey Prang set the tone with opening remarks on the importance and value of collaboration in government. “We want to provide the best public services to County residents,” he said. “I look forward to working with the Commission to identify best practices that will benefit our operations,” said the Assessor.

The capacity audience responded enthusiastically to the “human-centered approach to vision and planning” promoted by John Keisler, Long Beach Innovation Team Leader. In a thoughtful yet humorous presentation, Keisler encouraged the County leaders to “work your way up from people to policy” instead of the other way around.

Assistant Sheriff Richard Barrantes started the New Ideas Panel off with a walk-thru on activation of the Emergency Operations Center and how the Sheriff coordinates resources for cities and unincorporated areas within the County. Cynthia Harding, Acting Director of Public Health, discussed the inter-department efforts which took place in the case of the Ebola outbreak and Aliso Canyon gas leak.

Kurt Floren, Agricultural Commissioner, delivered an engaging talk on “the biggest little department in the County, and its role as a secondary responder, collaborating with Public Health and using its GIS Mapping to identify sensitive sites, track pesticide incidents and conduct illness investigations. Marcia Mayeda, Director of Animal Care and Control, provided valuable information on the Mutual Assistance Agreements used in an emergency, including protocols to evacuate animals and livestock, and to provide small animal sheltering.

A lively, historic presentation on the “First 100 Years of the Boeing Company” was given by Norma Clayton, Vice President, Learning, Training and Development. She traced the company’s footprint in California from 1910 to the present, pointing out the important roles played by McDonnell Douglas, Howard Hughes and the late Astronaut Sally Ride.

Also participating were Rabbi Noah Farkas of Valley Beth Shalom, who gave the invocation; Vietnam War Veteran Herb Lane, Jr., who led the Pledge of Allegiance; and Executive Officer Lori Glasgow, who wrapped up the conference.



Commissioners greet Rabbi Noah Farkas (left) and Assessor Jeffrey Prang (third from right).



Director of Personnel Lisa Garrett (left), Commissioner Nancy Harris, and Brig. Gen. (Ret) Ruth Wong.



The New Ideas Panel consisted of Richard Barrantes, Cynthia Harding, Marcia Mayeda, and Kurt Floren.