



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
September 28, 2006

Contact: Brandi Welsh
209-525-6333

Stanislaus County Equal Rights Award to be presented at public ceremony on October 4. Award is part of Cultural Awareness Week.

Stanislaus County – Each year, the Stanislaus County Equal Rights Commission recognizes one or more Stanislaus County employees for their outstanding commitment or achievement in furthering the County's Equal Rights Program.

The Stanislaus County Equal Rights Commission will recognize Ms. Dorothy Butler from the Stanislaus County Auditor/Controller's Office and Supervisor Jim DeMartini, District 5, for their outstanding achievements in promoting the County's Equal Rights Program. **The award ceremony will take place in the Stanislaus County Board Chambers located in the basement of 1010 10th Street in Modesto on Wednesday, October 4, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. in conjunction with Cultural Awareness Week.**

Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors William O'Brien, District 1, will present Dorothy Butler and Supervisor Jim DeMartini with a Board Resolution recognizing them for their achievements in furthering the County's Equal Rights Program. Beverly Hatcher, Chairperson for the County Equal Rights Commission will present the 2005 Equal Rights Award to Dorothy Butler, a department Equal Rights Officer and Supervisor Jim DeMartini, District 5, County Board of Supervisors.

On September 19, 2006, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors (at the request of the Stanislaus County Equal Rights Commission) approved the week of October 1, 2006 - October 7, 2006 as Cultural Awareness Week in Stanislaus County. This is the third year the County has celebrated diversity in conjunction with other local activities and the Commission appreciates the Board formally recognizing this week. Departments throughout the County have organized activities and displays acknowledging and increasing awareness of the various diverse cultures that make Stanislaus County a wonderful place to live.

-MORE-

-CONTINUED-

These Countywide events will also help us to educate both our employees and the public. At 10th Street Place, the City of Modesto and Stanislaus County have partnered together to celebrate cultures representing the County's population. The four departments located at the Agricultural Center are hosting an event, "A Cultural Celebration of Harvest- the cultures in our community that have brought Agricultural to Stanislaus County." Public displays will be presented in the lobby by our employees related to the history and diversity of agricultural in our community.

The County's Equal Rights Commission is a seven-member Community-based body that is appointed by the Board of Supervisors. It serves as a resource to the Board of Supervisors and County staff for equal rights improvements in county service. The commission holds public meetings the third Wednesday of every other month at 3:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on December 20, 2006. The commission is currently comprised of Beverly Hatcher, Wendy Byrd, Leslie Beggs and Jeremiah Williams and Jonathan Rogers. There are currently two vacancies. If a member of the public is interested in becoming a Commission member please contact Suzi Seibert with the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors at 209-525-4494 or visit our website at www.co.stanislaus.ca.us and click on Board of Supervisors, Boards and Commissions for more information.

#####