



**fyi**

Fairs Year-round Information

#### After the Flood

### California Construction Authority Helps Napa Valley Expo Clean Up and Get Back to Business

2005's holiday season was definitely wet and wild. The proof? By Friday December 30, rivers and creeks throughout Northern California were cresting and overflowing.

Unfortunately, Napa Valley Expo, home of the Napa Town and Country Fair, was caught in the deluge when the Napa River overflowed its banks and sent more than 30 inches of water, mud and debris throughout the entire fairground. With help from the Division of Fairs and Expositions (F&E) and the California Construction Authority (CCA), however, the fairground was quickly back in operation.

#### The Story Behind the Story

The Expo was notified by local authorities late Friday, December 30, of the nearby river's potential for flooding. Fairground staff sprang into action opening gates (to help disperse and not dam up the water) and sandbagging buildings. Once the floodwaters receded staff discovered that most of the buildings had sustained some water damage, primarily to flooring, cabinets and contents. Materials and school supplies in

Continued on other side...

#### A Look at F&E FUNDing Programs for 2006

By Lisa Drury, Division of Fairs and Expositions Asset Manager

*"This year there's a surprise windfall of \$80 million in funding for California's fairs. Fairs will receive a little over \$1 million apiece to use however they like. Each fair will receive a box of cash in the mail ASAP; please let F&E know what denominations you would prefer. Fairs requesting their funding in coins, please be aware that freight costs will be deducted."*

"I wish the above scenario was true, but the funding programs we have for you in 2006 are pretty much the same as always (if it ain't broke, don't fix it). What is new and improved, however, is the process you'll go through to collect your money. It's a great deal simpler and we've eliminated as much of the red tape and as many of the forms as possible.

"There will be up to five funding programs in all. Some of the names have been changed, but they're basically the same programs as offered last year:

**1) Flex Capital** replaces Millennium Flex (I think we all agree that after five years the millennium is old news). All Flex Cap funds will be held in account at CCA. There's no Category 1 or Category 2 this year, just a pot of money waiting there for

Continued on other side...

#### Planning to Promote a Rodeo or Motorized Racing Event this Year? Buy Your Liability Coverage through CFSA

Charlie Mitchell, CFSA's risk manager, reminds all fairs that when planning a fair-promoted rodeo, horse show or motorized event, such as racing or a demolition derby, you're required to purchase additional general liability coverage, just as would be required of an outside event promoter. The

Continued on other side...

#### Sign Up Now!

### WFA Consumer Protection Workshops Focus on E. Coli Awareness

Due to increased awareness of E. coli outbreaks connected to fairs, fairs could ultimately lose or be restricted in their ability to provide the public with opportunities to interact with livestock and farm animals because of actions taken by insurers, health departments and legislators. In light of this, Western Fairs Association (WFA), with support from the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and its Division of Fairs and Expositions, is presenting a series of workshops focusing on this very hot topic.

Continued on other side...

### Low on Special Events Receipts? Restock Today

Cailee DeFoe, CFSA's risk analyst, is your contact for Special Events receipt forms. Make sure you have an ample supply by stocking up now. Simply fax or phone your request to Cailee at 916/263-6159 (fax) or 916/263-6145 (phone).

### 2006 Employee "Rights to Know" Posters are Available from CFSA

Choose from English and Spanish versions, each featuring all of the required posters conveniently consolidated onto one large poster. To order, contact Karen Gallay, CFSA's purchasing agent, at 916/263-6191.

### President's Day Agency Office Hours

CCA and F&E are closed Mondays, February 13th and February 20th.

CARF, CFSA and WFA are all closed Monday, February 20th.

"Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen."  
~ Winston Churchill



**fyi**

February 10, 2006  
Issue 1, Volume 16

Let's hear from you!  
Contact fyi at:  
916/263-6163  
Fax: 916/646-1238  
mthurber@cfssa.org  
Visit our Web site:  
www.cfssa.org  
© 2006 CFSA

Fewer things are harder to put up with than the annoyance of a good example. ~ Mark Twain

*fyi*

February 10, 2006  
Issue 1, Volume 16

© 2006 CFSA

#### ***A Look at F&E FUNding Programs, continued***

you to use. Fairs are only required to send F&E a brief memo outlining how they plan to use the money.

**2) The Accessibility Upgrade Fund** replaces the ADA Program.

**3) The Revenue Generating Grant Program** is the same as always – ‘Will pay cash for projects.’ The program committee meets twice a year and has \$800,000 it can’t wait to give away. If you have an idea for a project, send it to F&E.

**4) The Urgent Needs Fund** replaces the Emergency Fund. There was a lot of debate about what constitutes an ‘emergency,’ so we neutralized the problem by changing the program’s criteria. Now we can help fairs financially when they need the help.

**5) Fair Installment Loan Fund.** This is the fifth program. We’re watching the reserve recoup itself at a pretty good clip and F&E is hoping to bring this loan program back in Spring 2006.

“You’ll find details on all of these programs in the program package you received from F&E last September (2005) or on the California Department of Food and Agriculture’s Web site, [www.cdffa.ca.gov/fe](http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/fe). Happy funding!”

*For more information you can also contact Lisa at 916/263-2951 or [ldrury@cdffa.ca.gov](mailto:ldrury@cdffa.ca.gov).*

---

#### ***California Construction Authority, continued***

several buildings occupied by the Napa Unified School District were deemed a complete loss.

Expo management contacted F&E on Saturday, requesting aid from CCA to help assess the damage and to assist with cleanup. CCA responded immediately sending an inspector to evaluate the situation and a day labor crew to clean and inspect all main electrical switches to ensure electric power supplies were operating safely. Two additional day labor crews were also dispatched from other projects to assist in site cleanup and building repairs.

From the moment CCA’s crews arrived, they worked quickly and efficiently, proving instrumental in the timely restoration of the fair’s revenue-stream buildings and in meeting the local fire marshal’s requirements for reoccupancy of key buildings.

*CCA is a valuable resource for California’s fairs – one that goes far beyond simply construction and is able to provide immediate and knowledgeable assistance for both emergency and day-to-day facility safety situations. Want to know more about CCA’s services? Call 916/263-6100.*

---

#### ***Hazardous Special Event Coverage, continued***

reason is this: The fairs’ pooled liability program isn’t structured, or more crucially, funded, to provide primary coverage for these types of hazardous special events. When the event is commercially covered, CFSA is able to transfer the liability for any accidents to insurance carriers specializing in hazardous activities.

The group-purchased Hazardous Special Events coverage is offered to CFSA members and non-members alike, and is available for fairtime and interim events. The cost of the coverage is determined by the type of event planned. For a price quote, contact Charlie Mitchell at 916/263-6150.

#### ***WFA Workshop, continued***

Leading the workshops will be Stephen Neel, Ph.D., who, explained Stephen Chambers, WFA’s executive director, is fast becoming an invaluable resource to fairs experiencing E. coli outbreaks. Dr. Neel, Stephen continued, has developed a powerful proactive approach to site management that can minimize the possibility of cross-contamination.

The workshops will be held at five locations, three in California: February 15 in Del Mar, February 21 in Sacramento and February 23 in Yreka, and two in the state of Washington: February 27 in Yakima and February 28 in Ridgefield.

To take full advantage of these workshops, participants need to bring a facility site plan or an aerial site photo, along with specific layout plans for animal events including pens, waste storage and activity stations. Then, based on Neel’s approach to “zone” management and using their own facility and livestock barn site plans, participants will identify key areas and low to no cost methods of mitigation and public outreach.

By the end of each workshop, participants will have site-specific evaluation tools, example signage, manure management information, crisis response plans and sample sanitation plans applicable to their facilities.

**All California fairs have been mandated to attend the workshops.**

If you haven’t already registered, do it now! To sign up, visit [www.westernfairs.org](http://www.westernfairs.org).

For information on hotels and directions to workshop sites, please visit the WFA Web site or contact Liz Waxstein at 916/927-3100.

For more information on E. coli, visit [www.ecoliblog.com](http://www.ecoliblog.com) and search on “fairs.”