

# PEOPLE/

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commissioned by the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

## Franchisee Corina DuBois honored by Stroller Strides

Stroller Strides LLC has named Corina DuBois, Monterey County franchisee, as one of the top three women in the international stroller fitness company.

DuBois was recognized from among more than 200 franchisees as a leader in marketing, business growth, community development and fitness knowledge.

She is a Navy wife and will be relocating to Maryland with her family in December after her husband graduates from the Naval Postgraduate School.

## Casey named employee of month at Monterey-Salinas Transit

The Monterey-Salinas Transit board recognized Grace Casey as its Employee of the Month for October at its Oct. 16 meeting.

Casey, a coach operator, was recognized as an above-standard employee and promoted to line instructor and behind the wheel trainer shortly after being hired.

She was recently selected to become a certified Department of Transportation trainer.

In July she received the MST Safety Award for "11 years of safe driving."

This year, she was instrumental in training drivers and implementing the new Line 55 Express to San Jose.

## Jacque Booth joins SeneGence International as distributor

Jacque Booth of Salinas has joined SeneGence International as a distributor for the direct-seller of cosmetics and skin care products.

SeneGence International, founded in 1999, has nearly 5,000 independent distributors all over the world and more than 250,000 customers in the U.S., Canada and Australia.

Contact Booth at 375-9403 or [prontoburro@netzero.net](mailto:prontoburro@netzero.net).

## Rabobank names Rick Cauley to post at the Monterey office

Rabobank has appointed Rick Cauley as vice president/relationship team leader



Rick Cauley

for the bank's Monterey office at 439 Alvarado St.

Cauley, who has more than 15 years experience in commercial banking, will handle business development, relationship management and commercial credit for small, medium and large entities in the Monterey Peninsula area.

# Business enjoys mixed results with lawmakers

By JAKE HENSHAW

The Salinas Californian Capitol Bureau

SACRAMENTO — Business won some and lost some in the Capitol this year, with Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger contributing to both results.

The governor and lawmakers agreed on measures to increase the minimum wage and address global warming, both opposed by business.

But the governor vetoed bills opposed by business to create a state-run universal health care system and restore some workers' compensation benefits to permanently disabled workers that were affected by recent program revisions.

The final version of the minimum wage bill signed into law was also more palatable to business than the original proposal. Thanks to pressure from the governor, a provision to tie future increases automatically to inflation was dropped.

"This was a good year for California employers," said Vince Sollitto, spokesman for the California Chamber of Commerce.

There were no traditional tax increases and, on balance, lawmakers killed about three-fourths of the bills that business opposed, he said.

Small business also won enactment of bills to study the cost of regulations on their operations and to appoint some liaisons for them in the primary state agencies affecting their operations.

But lawmakers also failed to pass bills that business wanted, such as measures to allow the four-day work week and to block local restrictions on the use of genetically-modified seeds.

"We think there needs to be uniformity from one county to the next, and the state is in the best position to understand what can be done and what is safe," said George Gomes of the California Farm Bureau, which favored the bill.

For agriculture and many businesses, one of the major setbacks of the year

## DETAILS

The following list shows bills supported or opposed by various business groups, but not necessarily by all groups, in 2005-06.

### BILLS FAVORED BY BUSINESS:

■ **Small businesses:** AB 2330, Assemblyman Juan Arambula, D-Fresno: Requires the state to study the cost of regulations on small businesses. Signed into law.

SB 1436, Sen. Liz Figueroa, D-Sunol: Requires small business liaisons in agencies with significant roles in regulating small businesses. Signed into law.

■ **Agriculture:** SB 1056, Sen. Dean Florez, D-Shafter: Would have ensured a statewide standard for genetically modified seeds. Failed to pass the legislature.

■ **Four-day workweek:** SB 1254, Sen. Ackerman, R-Irvine; and AB 2217, Assemblyman Mike Villines, R-Clovis: Would have authorized a four-day workweek with 10-hour days upon the agreement of individual workers and the employer without requirement for overtime pay after eight hours a day. Failed to pass the legislature.

### BILLS OPPOSED BY BUSINESS:

■ **Minimum wage:** AB 1835, Assemblywoman Sally Lieber, D-Mountain View: Increases the minimum wage from today's \$6.75 to \$8 in two steps by Jan. 1, 2008. Signed into law.

■ **Air quality:** AB 32, Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, D-Los Angeles and Assemblywoman Fran Pavley, D-Agoura Hills: Requires state monitoring of greenhouse gases and a 25 percent emissions reduction by 2020. Signed into law.

■ **Workers compensation:** SB 815, Senate leader Don Perata, D-Oakland: Would have increased benefits for permanently disabled workers. Vetoed.

■ **Health:** SB 840, Sen. Sheila Kuehl, D-Santa Monica: Would have laid the groundwork for a state-run health plan covering all Californians to replace existing health insurance and other coverage. Vetoed.

■ **Health:** SB 1414, Sen. Carole Migden, D-San Francisco: Would have required companies with 10,000 or more workers to spend an amount equal to eight percent of their payroll on health insurance or pay that amount to Medi-Cal. Vetoed.

■ **Water:** SB 646, Sen. Sheila Kuehl, D-Santa Monica: Would have tightened procedures for farm and timber companies to get waivers for discharging into public water. Failed to pass the legislature.

■ **Water:** SB 1640, Kuehl: Would have created a state groundwater monitoring program and require agricultural water suppliers to prepare water management plans. Failed to pass the legislature.

was enactment of a bill calling for a reduction in the emission of greenhouse gases by 25 percent by 2020. They argued it could drive up energy costs and make California business less competitive, but now are focused on how it actually will be carried out.

"Now it is the law of the land, and we now have to work to minimize risks to the economy while maximiz-

ing any possible benefits to our environments," Sollitto said.

In their Capitol efforts, businesses encountered opponents who argued that global warming is a threat to the economy, that health care costs and coverage are in crisis and that the four-day work week exploits workers, who were long overdue for a minimum wage increase.

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