

From Your Placer County Supervisor

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Supervisor District 1

I was honored to serve as chairman of the Board of Supervisors during 2009, and pleased at how much Placer County accomplished despite the many obstacles standing in its way.

Board members worked well as a team, and the board and county management team did a good job handling obstacles as they appeared.

The most challenging was the county budget.

The nation's economic downturn and stale budget crisis have taken a heavy toll on the finances of local governments throughout California.

Placer County is no exception, but we are in better shape than most. We built up our reserves when times were good, were quick to cut spending when bad times appeared and have constantly been looking for ways to save money ever since.

In December, the board received relatively good news during an update on the 2009-10 budget: generally revenue is on a pace to meet budget projections. The major exception is sales tax revenue, which is lagging behind expectations.

The 2010-11 fiscal year also promises to be challenging, but I am convinced we are up to the challenge.

Placer County had some important achievements while I was chairman.

One of the most exciting was the Dec.



16 dedication ceremony for a memorial to Japanese-American soldiers from Placer County who served in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team during World War II. For its size and length of service, the 442nd is the most decorated unit in the history of the U.S. Military.

The memorial is at the county's Bill Santucci Justice Center in Roseville. I encourage you to visit the memorial, and read about the 442nd's remarkable record.

I also am pleased to report that the Placer County Veterans Services Office is working hard to make sure local veterans receive the benefits they deserve. For more information, call 916-780-3290 or visit www.placer.ca.gov/Departments/Veteran.aspx.