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The saying goes, “April showers bring May flowers,” but this year may prove to be the exception as February brought the County — and California as a whole — some of the wettest days seen in years, with experts calling the conditions ripe for a super bloom.

Those wet days sent staff from many departments, including OC Public Works, the Emergency Operations Center and OC Parks, into action, working tirelessly to keep safe the 3.2 million people who call Orange County home. We’d like to thank these departments for keeping Orange County residents safe during these storm events. You can also find out more about how County employees are kept safe each day, rain or shine, thanks to the efforts of staff like Javier Perales, who handles physical security, including the ID badge we all wear and use to access our workspaces, in this month’s Employee Profile on Page 4. Javier is so passionate about the County’s mission that he’s pursuing a Master’s in Social Work as he interns with the OC Health Care Agency, providing services to resident in crisis.

Rainfall isn’t the only record breaking happening here. OC Animal Care broke its organization record for dog and cat save rates. The new facility in Tustin, which opened on March 24, 2018, new director Mike Kaviani, who joined the County in August, and the wonderful programs staff and volunteers manage have all contributed to more pets finding “fur-ever homes.” Be sure to check out their infographic on Page 7 and then head down to the Tustin shelter to visit and possibly adopt a new pet.

Finally, I’d like to invite you all to join me on the first Fitness with Frank in 2019 at Yorba Regional Park on Saturday, March 16. Make sure to RSVP so we can enjoy the natural surroundings made green by all the rain.
JAVIER PERALES

JOB TITLE: Information Technologist II
YEARS WITH THE COUNTY: 3
DEPARTMENT: OC Public Works
BEST PART OF YOUR JOB: Learning new technologies and making a change in the lives of people in crisis.

PLEASE SEND PROFILE SUBJECTS FOR COUNTY CONNECTION!
Do you know someone who would make a good employee profile? We’re looking for staff-level employees who love their job and carry the flag with enthusiasm both for their agency and the County as a whole.

Send submissions to ceocom@ocgov.com

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF CEO COMMUNICATIONS
Javier Perales’ passion pulls him in two completely different directions. For 10 hours each day Monday through Thursday he focuses on the physical security of County employees. For eight hours on Friday and Saturday he handles the well-being of individuals who struggle with psychiatric crisis.

Javier administers the physical security application software, develops security designs and system specifications, manages contractor performance, and troubleshoots software and hardware components for approximately 2,100 controlled doors, over 20,000 badge cardholders, and Windows-based servers and workstations as part of a dynamic and innovative team. During the 2018 Flood Control Channel project, he was part of the team creating County IDs on site for members of the public in coordination with the Social Services Agency and Health Care Agency (HCA).

Javier received a degree in computational mathematics from Arizona State University, which allowed him to get into Information Technology. He interned with IBM, Notre Dame University and Weyerhaeuser Company. He worked at Weyerhaeuser in Seattle for a couple years before moving over to Microsoft for 11 years.

Eventually he felt the need to go back to his Southwest roots and moved to Southern California. He knew he wanted to do something different so got a job in an access control software company where he provided technical support and professional services to end customers.

Javier wanted to get more involved in the community and looked into public service, a passion he has held since high school. Of his job at OCPW, he says it’s a great opportunity and more rewarding than his work in the private sector. “In the Physical Security Services team I work with an energetic group of individuals whose primary goal is to provide high-quality support and innovative systems to County employees.”

But still he wanted to do more public service. Finding that his IT experience didn’t translate enough to social work, he decided to pursue a master’s degree at California State University, Fullerton. The program requires him to have experience with the community he would serve as preparation for his degree. Javier knew he wanted to contribute to the County’s mission of public service and bettering our communities, which he was already so passionate about. “With the support from HCA and OCPW, an opportunity came up with the HCA Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU)” that started last fall, he says.

His OCPW supervisor, Ray O’Grady, agreed to let Javier change his work schedule while his HCA clinical supervisor, Natalie Nguyen, agreed to let him intern Fridays and Saturdays. “I am so grateful to Ray and Natalie for allowing me to grow in both IT and social work,” Javier says. The flexibility they afforded him were the answer to whether or not he would continue with the Master’s in Social Work program.

In his internship, he is part of a team of licensed clinical social workers, mental health specialists, comprehensive care nurses and psychiatrists that provide crisis stabilization services to individuals who are in behavioral health crises and cannot wait for a regularly scheduled appointment. One of the team’s goals is to assist the person in de-escalating their crisis and then work with the individual in developing short and long-term goals. Javier serves as a case manager, finding and linking clients to internal and external resources in the community as appropriate. Javier also provides individual and group therapy to clients during their stay at the CSU. “At the CSU, it is a very rewarding experience knowing that we are contributing to the recovery and providing hope to County citizens struggling with psychiatric emergencies,” Javier says.

“People ask me how I manage the busy schedule, but it’s two different fields,” he says of switching from his job at OCPW to his classes at night Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. “Once I change my ‘hats,’ I change my focus from working with technology to being of service to the community.” He’s also found the second semester to be easier because he’s adapted to the hectic schedule.

In addition to the flexibility of his schedule, Javier is grateful for the County’s tuition reimbursement program, which reimburses up to $3,000 per fiscal year. All full-time regular, part-time regular, limited term and probationary employees performing their jobs satisfactorily are eligible for the Educational and Professional Reimbursement Program. For more information, email hrslod@ocgov.com.

“As County employees we shouldn’t limit ourselves,” Javier says. “Follow your passions. I questioned mine a bit but then I realized a good work-life balance depends on following your passions.”
OC Animal Care broke its organizational record in 2018 by achieving a combined save rate of 81.74 percent for dogs and cats, almost 10 percent higher than in 2017.

OC Animal Care achieved progress in 2018 though the implementation of the strategic plan approved by the OC Board of Supervisors in May 2018. This plan brought about new programs, changes in procedures and increased adoptions among other improvements.

“The OC Animal Care team excelled in 2018 – from completing a successful transition to the new facility in Tustin, to implementing elements of its strategic plan, to now celebrating its highest dog and cat save rate ever,” said Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Lisa Bartlett, Fifth District Supervisor. “These are the kind of accomplishments and care our animals deserve.”

As a result, staff at OC Animal Care was able to save 93.28 percent of dogs and 73.19 percent of cats of the 13,709 total animals that entered the shelter system in 2018. This was an improvement to the 72.08 percent combined save rate in 2017, when the facility took in 14,903 dogs and cats from the community.

Support from the community also played a large part in the success. Community members joined the growing foster program in large numbers to help save animals such as orphaned kittens, often the hardest to save in any shelter facility. This led to over 1,600 animals entering into the foster program, over 80 percent more than the year before.

“OC Animal Care’s progress over the last year demonstrates our County’s commitment to working with community partners to innovate and improve our ability to deliver services,” said Supervisor Andrew Do, First District.

“I’m proud to be joining the Board of Supervisors during this exciting time for animals in our county. Our OC Animal Care team is setting the standard for humane, compassionate and transparent care,” said Supervisor Doug Chaffee, Fourth District.

2018 was a year of many changes for the organization. OC Animal Care relocated to a new state-of-the-art facility in Tustin in March after 77 years at its previous facility, and new Director Mike Kaviani, an industry expert, took the helm of OC Animal Care in August to help guide the organization’s progress.

“2018 was a historic year for OC Animal Care, and I am extremely proud and excited to be part of such a hard-working, dedicated team,” Kaviani said. “We are looking forward to building off of the great work we achieved together in 2018 to make 2019 even more successful.”

OC Animal Care is located at 1630 Victory Road, Tustin 92782. Don’t miss the opportunity to visit today and provide a forever or foster home for an animal in need.
Cats 45%
Dogs 33%
Other 10%
Bird 9%
Rabbits 2.7%
TOTAL 17,481

2018 Intake

Cat/Dog Save Rate (%)
2017 vs. 2018

DOGS
93.27% (+2.72%)

CATS
73.26% (+16.76)

TOTAL
81.77% (+9.70%)

Cat/Dog Live Outcome Types

1486 Transferred
2369 Returned to Owner
5621 Adopted

Monthly Save Rate - Cats/Dogs

A 90% Save Rate is an industry standard for top-tier municipal shelters across the nation.

ON SITE
1,630 pets went to foster
215 Registered Rescue Partners
1,549 shelter pets went to Rescue
1,463 Cruelty Investigations

COMMUNITY
14 service cities
60 community events
43,718 Field Actions
1,404 cats returned to field

New Vision
Director Mike Kaviani was hired to implement the Board adopted, visionary strategic plan

New Facility
This year OCAC moved out of the 77-year-old facility into a new state-of-the-art resource center

OC Animal Care was awarded $115,000 in grants focused on the effort to save underage kittens.

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Dignitaries, staff and residents welcomed the OC Clerk-Recorder to Anaheim during a grand opening at the new office at 222 S. Harbor Blvd. Suite 110.

The process to move from Fullerton started about a year ago.

“We looked at 40 locations. I didn't like any of them, but we found this location. It’s a beautiful area,” said Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen.

The new location provides ample parking and is also bigger, allowing for expanded services, such as passports and two ceremony rooms for those getting married. The Clerk-Recorder’s Office hopes to add an additional document examiner in the near future.

Assemblymember Phillip Chen, Orange County Supervisor Doug Chaffee, Fourth District, and Anaheim Mayor Harry Sidhu praised Hugh and his staff for providing a gold standard of service to residents.

“I've met many of your staff,” Supervisor Chaffee said to Clerk-Recorder Nguyen, “They are well trained and eager to serve. If you had a middle name it would be Service.”

Welcoming the Clerk-Recorder’s Office to his city, Mayor Sidhu said, “You’re right in the heart of Anaheim. People who get married here can go ice skating then head to the Packing House for drinks!”

In attendance were representatives from the offices of U.S. Rep. Lou Correa, state Sen. Ling Ling Chang and Sen. Tom Umberg, and Assemblymembers Sharon Quirk-Silva and Tom Daly, and the Yorba Linda Chamber of Commerce.

Los Alamitos City Councilman Dean Grose said he was honored to be there to recognize all the Clerk-Recorder’s Office does for residents. Representatives from the Small Business Development Center said while most small business owners are intimidated by government process, they are in good hands with the OC Clerk-Recorder’s Office.
Join CEO Frank Kim at 8 a.m. Saturday, March 16 at Yorba Regional Park for the first Fitness with Frank of 2019. Attendees will complete a level and relaxed 3-mile walk from one end of the park to the other. We will observe numerous water fowl in the park lakes and view the Santa Ana River habitat on the walk back. At the end of the walk, you and your family will be parked next to the park’s boat and bicycle concession, where rentals can be obtained for a small fee.

Yorba Regional Park opened to public use on Dec. 16, 1976, as the United States bicentennial year drew to a close. The park is adjacent to the Santa Ana River, which influenced the park’s design as a water park, containing four lakes, bridges and meandering park streams connecting each lake. Families, including dogs, are welcome on this hike. Dogs must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet at all times.

To attend, please email rsvp@ocparks.com with “Yorba Regional Park” in the subject line. The hike starts promptly at 8 a.m., so please arrive no later than 7:45 a.m. The exact meeting location will be sent prior to the hike as part of your registration confirmation.
As several County departments prepare to move to County Administration South (CAS), formerly known as Building 16, later this year, the County will have plenty of surplus.

When the new tenants of CAS move in, they will find their workplace fully furnished with new furniture. This means that these departments will be leaving behind their old furniture. The departments that are backfilling the spaces left behind will have the option of using the existing furniture or moving their own furniture. This is ultimately going to result in quite a bit of surplus furniture to process.

The No. 1 priority of the County Surplus Program is to reallocate our surplus back for County use. That is an optimum way to show our stewardship of taxpayer funds and get the best return on our investment.

The County Surplus Program is assisting each department with this enormous task. Typically, surplus is advertised for several days on the County Surplus Website and is available to be claimed by County departments. However, due to the sheer size of the CAS project, the Surplus Program will be handling this in a non-standard manner. We intend to hold several “open house” style of viewings. This will allow County departments to walk through and claim any available surplus. As such, there will be plenty of upcoming opportunities for you to claim items for your department.

The County Surplus Program intends to send out several email blasts announcing the times and dates of these open house viewings. If you would like to have your name added to the open house invitation list or if you have any questions about the process, please contact Neil Jessen, County Surplus Program Manager. He can be reached via email at neil.jessen@ocgov.com or by calling (714) 567-7341.
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Meet the New Executive Team at the OCDA

With the new year comes a new team. District Attorney Todd Spitzer is joined by his new executive staff, some from the Orange County Board of Supervisors, as they prepare to lead the office. These appointments were effective January 7.

Shawn Nelson, formerly the Orange County Supervisor for the Fourth District, will now serve as the Chief Assistant District Attorney. Nelson built a litigation firm and was elected to three terms as City Councilman and Mayor of Fullerton before he served on the Board of Supervisors for eight years.

Chief Paul Walters joined the OCDA after a long career in government, law enforcement and the military. He served as Chief of Staff to Orange County Supervisor Lisa Bartlett of the Fifth District, the Chief of Police for the City of Santa Ana from 1988 to 2012, and worked as interim City Manager from 2011 to 2013. Chief Walters is a veteran of the United States Air Force and attained the rank of staff sergeant, during which time he was nominated by the Commanding Officer for the Airman of the Year Award.

Melanie Eustice, who was District Attorney Spitzer's Supervisorial Chief of Staff, is now the Chief of Administration and Public Affairs. Eustice has worked directly for more than 20 elected officials at the state and local levels of government. She has extensive government affairs experience holding the positions of Budget Analyst, Public Information Officer, Campaign Manager and Assistant to the City Manager. Eustice ran for a non-political office and was elected to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Western Placer Unified School District.

Patrick Dixon is a former Los Angeles County Assistant District Attorney and now holds the title of Special Counsel. Dixon was a prosecutor and trial attorney for 37 years. He served as an Assistant District Attorney for two years and supervised more than 370 deputy district attorneys while managing 16 trial divisions that handled complex, high-profile and capital cases. Dixon had 10 to 12 capital cases convictions, five of which had a death row sentence.

From left to right: Chief of Administration and Public Affairs Melanie Eustice, Chief Assistant District Attorney Shawn Nelson, District Attorney Todd Spitzer, Chief Paul Walters and Special Counsel Patrick Dixon.
February turned out to be a big month for the Whole Person Care (WPC) program as it looks to expand WPC Connect to every hospital and community clinic in Orange County. About half of Orange County’s 24 hospitals have signed on to WPC Connect and the others are in various stages of signing up, says Melissa Tober-Beers, Strategic Project Manager. Twenty-three community clinic operators, some with multiple locations, are also signing up.

Under WPC Connect, a homeless person who qualifies for Medi-Cal can receive a wide range of wraparound services — including recuperative care, connection to mental health or substance treatment, and housing — and a personal care plan, which is available to multiple OC Health Care Agency (HCA) programs as well as programs from outside partners, including shelters and hospitals.

“It’s the first multi-agency care plan that people can access, so they truly are working with the whole person and everybody can see what’s going on with that person,” Melissa says.

Recently, members of the WPC Connect team, from frontline staff to executive managers, spent a day answering questions from evaluators sent by the State of California, which is assessing WPC programs in each county. And while the state’s report is not expected until the end of the year, the evaluators acknowledged Orange County’s WPC Connect for being the only one of its kind in California.

WPC Connect is also being looked at as a model for hospitals to provide services to all homeless people as required under a new state law, SB-1152, going into effect July 1. The law mandates that all hospitals have a written discharge plan in place, which coordinates care with the county health agency and other service providers. “In Orange County, WPC Connect places our hospitals one step ahead and gives our system some sustainability past the life of the WPC grant,” Melissa says.

In an effort to find long-term resident dogs a forever companion, OC Animal Care hosted an adoption event for members of the Lonely Hearts Club throughout February 9 and 10. During the weekend, all dogs who had been available to adopt for more than two weeks had a free adoption fee. The event was a huge success. The public made colorful Valentine’s cards for the shelter pets, which are on display in the lobby, and 15 long-term resident dogs found their new forever homes.

Cleve, both a staff and volunteer favorite, was a longstanding member of the Lonely Hearts Club, arriving at OC Animal Care in July of 2018. On the first day of the event, Cleve had a heart-to-heart connection with one of the event attendees and was adopted by a loving family. Cleve’s new owner plans on giving him lots of love and taking him for long runs through the park.
OC Public Libraries hosted Gloria Steinem at the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana on February 19. A sold out crowd of over 650 attendees heard Gloria discuss her life and work, asked her questions, and had the opportunity to meet her at a book signing afterward.

OC Public Libraries offered Fine Free Library Days to welcome back patrons who may have avoided the library because of their fines. From February 14 – 24, any items with overdue fines or items that had been marked as lost could be returned and related fines and fees waived. In the first week of the program, over 30,000 overdue or lost items were returned to the system.

OC Public Libraries hosted Gloria Steinem at the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana on February 19. A sold out crowd of over 650 attendees heard Gloria discuss her life and work, asked her questions, and had the opportunity to meet her at a book signing afterward.

Have you ever found yourself asking what to do with all those old batteries laying around the house? Good news, batteries can and should be recycled! Recycling all batteries not only helps the environment but can also help keep local workers safe by preventing fires at landfills and other recycling facilities. If not properly disposed, some batteries like those made out of lithium can be extremely volatile. In 2017, 65% of fires at waste facilities were the direct result of improper lithium battery disposal.

Although batteries can be recycled, they should not be placed in the recycling bin at home. Instead, here’s some great alternatives:

• Orange County residents can drop off their batteries off at any of our four Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection centers for free. Each center is open from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

• When dropping off batteries at the collection center, be sure to pick up a free battery bucket to safely store any used batteries in your home until your next visit.

• Most residents also live within 10 miles of a Call2Recycle site including local retail stores. Find one near you!

Want to learn more? Test your knowledge on battery recycling with this quiz from earth911.com.
The Public Defender’s office has been named the 2018 Law Firm of the Year by the Constitutional Rights Foundation of Orange County (CRF-OC) for their dedication to coaching and scorekeeping for the annual high school Mock Trial competition.

CRF-OC’s empowers Orange County youth to participate in interactive, civic- and law-related education programs, including Mock Trial. The program challenges high school students, who work in teams from their respective high schools, to analyze the facts of a hypothetical criminal court case and then perform a mock trial before actual judges and attorneys who serve as scorekeepers. Students play attorneys, witnesses, bailiffs and courtroom clerks, learning to effectively question witnesses, make objections and present legal arguments. Teams at the county level compete in November and December, with the winner advancing to the California state tournament, which is held in March.

“We would not have been able to provide a meaningful competition without the support of [Orange County Public Defender’s office] volunteers,” CRF-OC said.

Thirty-nine attorneys volunteered this year — more than any other law firm in Orange County. Ten volunteers coached the Rio Fischer Juvenile Hall Mock Trial team and had an incredible influence on the students, some of whom went on to enroll in college. CRF-OC honored one student as being an Outstanding Attorney in the competition, one of 20 students county-wide to gain that honor. Another Public Defender attorney helped coach the Santa Ana High School Mock Trial Team. Every attorney coach volunteered many hours to help ensure the teams’ success. Twenty-eight of the attorney volunteers served as attorney scorekeepers for the competitive rounds in the Santa Ana courthouse.

“I want to thank each of the volunteers,” said Sharon Petrosino, Orange County’s Public Defender. “Some coached, some kept score, but each embodies the essence of what it means to be a public defender and give back to the community. From the bottom of my heart, thank you to each of you!”


Attorney scorekeepers: Nuha Abusamra, Isabel Apkarian, Alex Bartel, Michele Bell, Elliott Blair, Robyn Butler, Dan Cook, Jacob Degrave, Olga Giller, James Harrington, Jose Hernandez, Brian Holbrook, Sarah Jones, Scott Kawamoto, Daniel Kim, Omar Kurdi, Shawn McDonald, Jay Moorhead, Alexandra Ngo, Sylvia Pham, Amber Poston, Ricky Reneer, Sara Ross, Dana Sherman, Vu Tran, Nicholas Valk, Bobby Waltman and Kim Williams
A stunning photo of the snow-covered mountains from the top of the Olinda Alpha Landfill in Brea.

Submit photos to Travis.Lariviere@OCgov.com

RAYMOND ELLIOTT
OC Waste & Recycling
THE IRVINE RANCH: THE SECOND GENERATION

The Irvine family, circa 1912: (From left to right) Myford, Jase, Katherine and J.I. (Photo courtesy First American Corp)

The Irvine Ranch cattle brand as filed with the County of Orange on a piece of leather in 1892. (Courtesy Orange County Archives)

Irvine Ranch: Tenant farmers haul beans on the Irvine Ranch in the 1920s. (Photo courtesy Orange County Archives)
San Francisco’s James Harvey Irvine (a.k.a. James Irvine II, a.k.a. J.I.) officially inherited his late father's vast Irvine Ranch on his 25th birthday in 1892. The property was an 8-mile-wide swath from the base of the Balboa Peninsula to the mouth of Laguna Canyon that extended 22 miles inland to today's Santa Ana Canyon.

That same year, J.I. married socialite Frances Anita Plum. They would have three children, James Jr. (known as Jase), Myford and Katherine.

In 1894, J.I. incorporated all his holdings under the name The Irvine Company. J.I. improved irrigation on the ranch and began transitioning from sheep to beans, barley and other crops. Both the ranch and the young County of Orange were on the rise. A few years later, J.I. donated the long-popular “picnic grounds” on Santiago Creek as the first County park, now called Irvine Park. And around the turn of the century, the first dedicated schoolhouse was built on the ranch. The town of Irvine (now called Old Town Irvine) even grew large enough to have its own post office.

J.I. was tending to ranch business in Southern California when the great San Francisco earthquake of 1906 struck. He rushed back to San Francisco and found his family well, but was convinced they should not be separated again. He decided they would all move down to the ranch. The site of the home they built on the ranch is now the Katie Wheeler Branch Library, which was built to look just like the old Irvine Mansion. The library is surrounded by many original ranch buildings in Irvine Ranch Historic Park.

Having survived a massive quake and a move south, Frances Irvine died of a heart attack in 1909. Much as his father had once done, J.I. dealt with his tremendous grief by immersing himself in his work. He redoubled his focus on the ranch, expanding operations and adding a sugar beet refinery along Dyer Road. By 1912, Irvine even had its own general store.

Agriculture on Irvine’s prosperous ranch ramped up even more during World War I. And this progress continued in the post-War years. More efficient mechanized farming equipment came into use; the Swamp of the Frogs was drained to make way for row crops; and lines of eucalyptus — some still visible today — were planted as wind-breaks between the orange groves. In 1918, Irvine donated seven miles for the construction of Coast Highway.

The 1920s began with heartbreak for the Irvines, with the death of Katherine Irvine Lillard after giving birth. However, the baby, Katie, proved a breath of fresh air in the Irvine mansion, where she was raised.

J.I. “ran his ranch like a sea captain,” writes historian Ellen Bell, “making sure that each leased farm was maintained in shipshape condition. He dictated what crops to grow and how to grow them.” He loved fishing, hunting, and his dogs, and was an excellent marksman. He was frugal with his money and never touched alcohol or tobacco.

Based on the words of those who knew J.I., historian Jim Sleeper writes that he “drove a hard bargain, but once struck, he never reneged.” While coming across as brusque and hard-headed, Irvine was “a rather shy, sensitive man, whose personality was deeply etched by tragedy — the loss of a wife and two of his three children.” (Jase died in 1935.)

In 1923, local aviation pioneer Eddie Martin began using an unused piece of the ranch above Upper Newport Bay as a spot to take off and land. He thought he might set up Orange County’s first airport there and he eventually got around to telling the Irvines what he was doing and arranging a lease agreement.

High technology came to the ranch again in 1927, when physicist Albert A. Michelson built a mile-long vacuum tube across part of the ranch to measure the speed of light. His experiment helped substantiate Einstein’s theory of relativity. Today, Michelson Drive commemorates his accomplishment.

Like most of the nation, the 1920s were prosperous years for the Irvine Ranch. In 1929 a new school was built to serve the ranch’s growing population, and the Irvine Valencia Growers, the third citrus association on the ranch, built a new packing house.

J.I.’s laser-like focus on the success and growth of his ranch would lay the groundwork for a bright future, when the ranch would successfully weather the Great Depression, build on its reputation for remarkable agricultural production, and become home to two military bases, a university, and a massive innovative experiment in planned community development.

CHRIS JEPSEN is the Assistant Archivist at the Orange County Archives, a function under the office of Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen.

Reach him at Chris.Jepsen@rec.ocgov.com or 714-834-4771 if you have questions about the Archives.
Protecting Yourself from Tax and Payroll Scams

Tax season is a prime time for identity theft. Cyber criminals are looking for different methods to steal your personal identity. They may send fraudulent e-mail messages that may look like legitimate tax communications or you may receive a call from someone claiming to be an IRS official. According to the IRS, in 2017, 16.7 million victims of identity theft were defrauded of $16.8 billion. It is common for cyber criminals to attempt to divert direct deposit checks into fraudulent accounts or ask you to pay with gift cards. We want to provide you with tips to help you at work, but also in your home.

**ALERT TIPS:**
- Any communications — mail, emails, phone calls, voice mails or text messages — requesting W-2, banking or other financial information
- Messages that look like they are from trusted sources or executive management requesting copies of employee W-2s
- Emails that contain links, asks for passwords, etc.

Note: The IRS will NEVER contact you via phone, email or through social media.

**HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF:**
- When accessing your financial accounts, always type in the hyperlink of your financial institution. Never click on any links in an email or text message.
- Never give out your personal information via phone, mail or internet unless you initiated the contact and are sure of the recipient. Cyber criminals typically use scare tactics to get you to provide the information.

Stay calm and research or ask someone.
- If you no longer need documents that contain your personal information, make sure to use a crosscut shredder.
- File your tax forms on a secure HTTPS site only. Do not use any links from emails to get to the IRS site, open up a browser and type in the IRS’ URL address.
- Monitor your credit each year. There is an offer for a free annual report each year.
- Do not reply to emails asking for personal information such as passwords, date of birth, W-2, driver’s license number, banking information or Social Security number.
- If you want to email your W-2 or other personal documents to your home, make sure to encrypt the email by typing in [secure] on the subject line.

If you have any questions, please email securityadmin@ocit.ocgov.com.
March 17-24 is National Poison Prevention Week

Poison Prevention Week, held during the third week of March, reminds us that some of the deadliest and most dangerous items in our homes are hiding in plain sight. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), an average of 87 people die every day from unintentional poisoning. The Poison Prevention Week Council reports that the nation’s 57 poison control centers receive more than 2 million reported poisonings each year, and 90 percent of poisonings occur in the home. Poisonings are one of the leading causes of death among adults, and the majority of non-fatal poisonings occur in children under age 6.

Everyday items in your home, such as household cleaners and medicines, can be poisonous to children as well. Medication dosing mistakes and unsupervised ingestions are common ways that children are poisoned. Active, curious children will often investigate — and sometimes try to eat or drink — anything that they can get into.

KEY PREVENTION TIPS

- **Read the label.**
  Follow label directions carefully and read all warnings when giving medicines to children.

- **Lock them up and away.**
  Keep medicines and toxic products, such cleaning solutions and detergent pods, in their original packaging where children can’t see or get them.

- **Don’t keep it if you don’t need it.**
  Safely dispose of unused, unneeded or expired prescription drugs and over the counter drugs, vitamins and supplements. To dispose of medicines, mix them with coffee grounds or kitty litter and throw them away. You can also turn them in at a local take-back program or during National Drug Take-Back events.

- **Know the number.**
  Put the nationwide poison control center phone number, 1-800-222-1222, on or near every telephone in your home and program it into your cell phone. Call the poison control center if you think a child has been poisoned but they are awake and alert; they can be reached 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Call 911 if you have a poison emergency and your child has collapsed or is not breathing.
Recognizing our long-serving employees and their years of dedication to the County of Orange

40 YEARS
SHERIFF-CORONER
SINGER, DONALD G

35 YEARS
HEALTH CARE AGENCY
ONTIVEROS, SUSANA R

SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY
CORTÉZ NAJARES, RACHEL R LE, LIEU N

30 YEARS
ASSESSOR
MC MANUS, EARL R

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES
SANCHEZ, PATRICIA M

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LINDSEY, CARLTON L

DISTRICT ATTORNEY
ARMSTRONG, RAYMOND S

HEALTH CARE AGENCY
AMEZCUA, ELSA R MALIS, LANCE VERGARA, ASUNCION

OC COMMUNITY RESOURCES
KATANY, MANSOUR

OC PUBLIC WORKS
HARDWICK, ROBERT B MARCIAL, RAYMOND A

OC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT
MERIDA, TOISHE

SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY
CORTÉZ, KATHY E HOLLAND, KIMBERLY M MONTALVO, LUCINA I PHAM, LIEN SLOMANSON, JEANNE VLONGB, SYLVIA L WILLIAMS, SHERRILL E

25 YEARS
CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES
AGUILAR, JOSE F MURILLO, DELIA MURPHY, MARIA R

CLERK-RECORDER
GUERRA, ALICIA M PUA, CHERIE T

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE
BRAGANZA, ENRIQUE VLAD, GEORGETTA

HEALTH CARE AGENCY
CORRAI, EUGENE U

PROBATION
BLAND, DAMON A GODINEZ, DAVID L MCKNIGHT, EDGAR E WHITE, IVY S

SHERIFF-CORONER
CHILECKI, DANA D FRYE, WENDELL W KENNEDY, MIHAELA M PRESCOTT-ONODERA, TUPOU M

SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY
CANTU, ROSA M CORONA, SANDRA L GARCIA, ANA M GOMEZ, JOSE PARDO, SILVIA

20 YEARS
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER
LACERNA, EFREN L

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES
COLE, MICHAEL V DANG, KHA D LOPEZ, SANDRA A

HEALTH CARE AGENCY
AVED, KIERRA A COLE, KATHRYN A JACKSON, JANET J NGUYEN, MAI-TRAM T WALES, LISA A

OC COMMUNITY RESOURCES
SERRATO, DAVID S

PROBATION
ARMSTRONG, VERONICA CHAUDHRY, FAISAL M CONTRERAS, CAROLINA DE RAMOS, ENRICO D HONG, JAMES W PARKER, ANDREW W RAMIREZ, RUBEN R SMITH, RORY C SOTO, JAVIER

SHERIFF-CORONER
BACON, ALEX S CORDERO, EMMANUEL D CORDOVA, BENJAMIN J CUADRAS, JAIME H DEMELIO, JOHN T GOLDMARK, CHRISTINE A IVINS, JASON R LOPEZ, LEONOR MARSHALL, KASEY V MAXWELL, THOMAS J ORTIZ, GUADALUPE PIERCE, RYAN C SMITH, GUY T ZWIRNER, MARK A

SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY
BREFFLE, STACY A CASTRO, ERNESTO CHADBOURNE, DRAWIN FISKUM, KRISTI GRANT, CAMILLE A HAGEN, KELLY J HILTRUNN, VICKY L JIMENEZ, PAUL A MARTIN, DEBRA OJEDA, ALICIA OTANI-UARADA, TRACY L PAGANO, ANGELA PEREZ, VICTOR R RAMOS, ZEFERINO T RIVIERA, SONIA URE, MEGAN VARGAS, CHRISTINA M VILLANUEVA, ALFonso T WILSON, CARMELA E WOOD, RUENA

If you would like to have your name not printed in the Service Awards section, email CEOcom@ocgov.com. If you believe there has been an error or omission in reporting your years of service, please email Jeanette.Munsey@ocgov.com.

To view the March list in its entirety, which also includes recipients of 5-, 10-, 15-year Service Awards, please click here.
CAREER PAGES
AVAILABLE JOB OPPORTUNITIES
AT THE COUNTY OF ORANGE

See below for this month’s highlighted career opportunities with the County. Please check out the County’s website at www.oegov.com/jobs for details on all current opportunities or follow us on social media.

Dates included below refer to closing deadlines as of publication date. Please refer to the job announcement for specific details.

OPPORTUNITY AWAITS
Don’t miss these career opportunities

OPEN NOW

Human Resources Manager - ASAP
Enterprise Information Security Risk Manager – ASAP
Sr. IT Applications Developer (Data Analytics) - ASAP
Sheriff’s Facilities Mechanic – ASAP
Sr. Research Analyst - ASAP
Forensic Assistant I - ASAP
Sr. IT Business Analyst - ASAP
Sheriff’s Correctional Services Assistant Trainee – 3/29/19
Research Analyst III - ASAP
Archeology Paleontology Manager - ASAP

PROMOTIONAL

Sr. Law Office Supervisor – 3/08/19

Be sure to check the website often for any career opportunities that may be listed!
Check out these County events scheduled for February and for details on these and other events, visit the OC Events Calendar online!

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Animal Care Night at Honda Center

OC Animal Care

Mental Health Steering Committee

Health Care Agency

Mental Health Steering Committee

Health Care Agency

County Connection
Families and Communities Together (FaCT) is a public-private partnership program supported by the County of Orange Social Services.

Each of us experiences the world in a different way.

Join us at the 2019 FaCT Conference for a robust discussion that will challenge us to “reframe” our thinking about how and why we serve.

**Breakout Sessions**

- **The Journey Home:**
  *Seeking Shelter in Orange County*

- **Trauma:**
  *Yours, Mine, and Ours*

- **Head Above Water:**
  *Navigating the Mental Health System While Struggling with Illness*

- **Out of Place:**
  *Existing as a Foster Youth*

- **Divergence:**
  *Rethinking the Justice System*

- **The Sacrifices of Service:**
  *The Unique Experiences of Military Members and their families*

**Registration:** $110
Register at FaCTOC.org/FaCTConference

Thursday, May 16, 2019
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Great Wolf Lodge
12681 Harbor Blvd.
Garden Grove, CA 92840

Families and Communities Together (FaCT) is a public-private partnership program supported by the County of Orange Social Services.
MISSION STATEMENT

MAKING ORANGE COUNTY A
safe, healthy, and fulfilling place to
LIVE, WORK, AND PLAY,
TODAY AND FOR GENERATIONS TO COME,
by providing outstanding, cost-effective
REGIONAL PUBLIC SERVICES.

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