



# C O U N T Y C O N N E C T I O N

A digital magazine for and about County of Orange employees

NOVEMBER 2019



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COVER PHOTO - As you prepare dishes traditional and not this Thanksgiving, keep you and your loved ones safe. Turn to Page 12 for more tips.  
Photo Courtesy of Kaboompics.com



# FRANKLY SPEAKING

a message from CEO Frank Kim



**FRANK KIM**

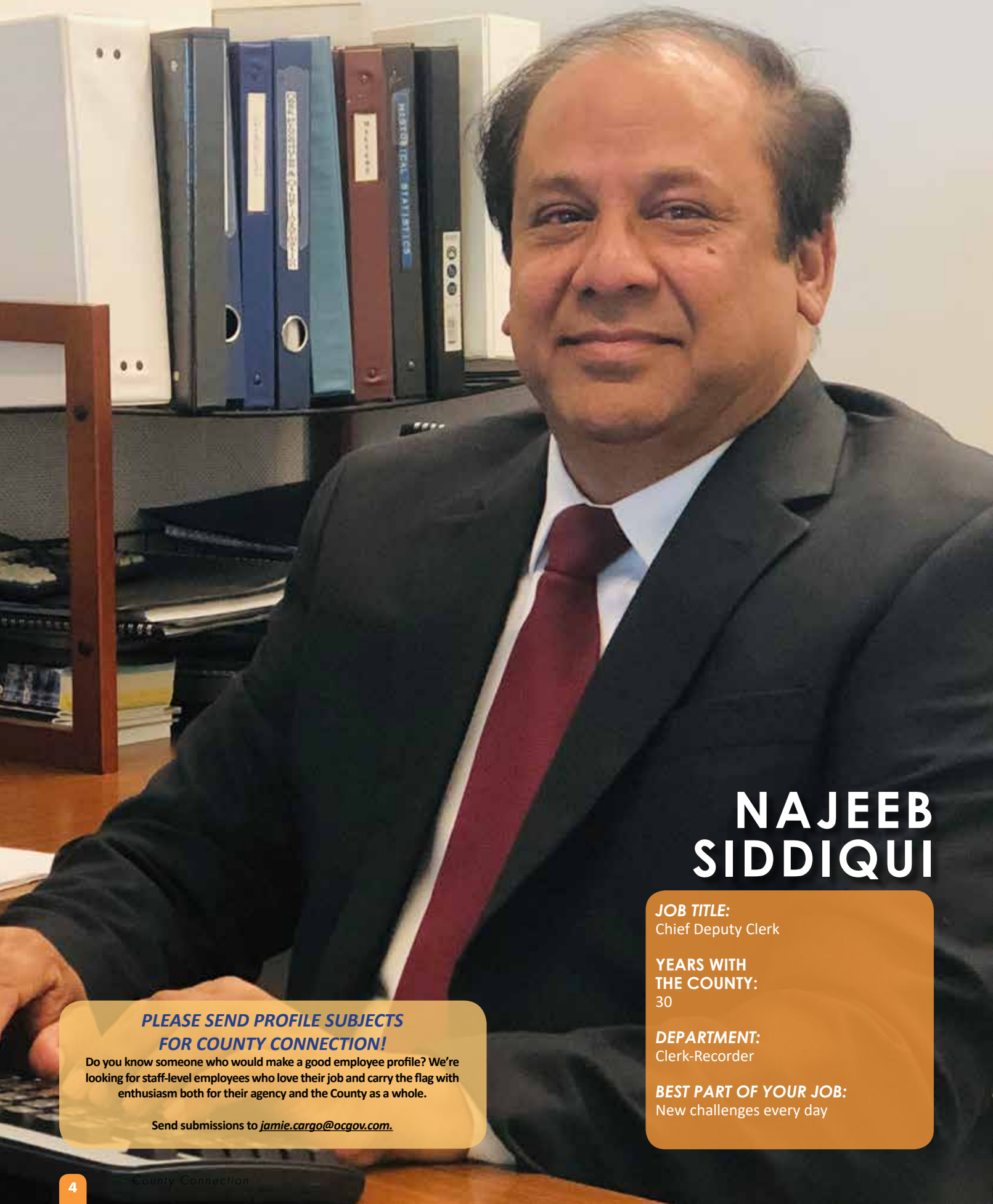
November is a time for gratitude. As we sit down with family, friends and loved ones later this month, we will reflect on all we have to be thankful for in this past year. I am grateful I get to work with all of you, serving Orange County residents through their own highs and lows. Many of us go above and beyond in our service donating time, money, food and toys. This holiday season, if you are looking for ways to give back, turn to [Page 6](#) to find programs from OC Animal Care and Social Services Agency. On [Page 10](#), you'll find the winners of the 2019-2020 United Way Campaign kick-off baskets and more information on how to sign up for deductions to United Way or another charitable option of your choosing.

Another opportunity to serve our community is coming up with the 2020 Census. The U.S. Census Bureau is hiring folks who want to make sure every resident is counted. Those numbers influence areas of everyday life from funding for grants serving specific populations to how many schools are built in an area. Recruitment is ongoing until February, with many job offers being made in January. For more information, turn to [Page 14](#).

How we interact with residents is vital to the County's reputation. The Clerk-Recorder Department makes customer service a high priority, ensuring the public has access to records quickly and easily. Chief Deputy Clerk Najeeb Siddiqui analyzes customer feedback to achieve that goal. His journey working for the County of Orange is on [Page 4](#).

Thank you for making Orange County one of the best places to live, work, and play.

A stylized, handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Frank". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.



# NAJEEB SIDDIQUI

**JOB TITLE:**  
Chief Deputy Clerk

**YEARS WITH  
THE COUNTY:**  
30

**DEPARTMENT:**  
Clerk-Recorder

**BEST PART OF YOUR JOB:**  
New challenges every day

**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 [jamie.cargo@ocgov.com](mailto:jamie.cargo@ocgov.com).

A fascination with microfilm led to a three-decade-plus-long career at the County of Orange for Chief Deputy Clerk Najeeb Siddiqui.

While working on a research project in college, he came across a vast amount of microfilm. "There were huge maps shrunk down to one inch and they could be blown back up without losing any information," he explains. This led to a part-time job as a micrographic technician while he continued his studies. After he graduated, he moved to Orange County and discovered the County was looking for an extra-help micrographic technician.

After a year, Najeeb was hired on full-time. Less than 18 months later, he took on a supervisory role, training staff on how to use the planetary and rotary cameras, film processors, and how to develop and maintain microfilm to ensure archival quality of records.

"We have records going back to 1889," he says of the Clerk-Recorder Department, which oversees the Orange County Archives. As technology changed, "we converted records to microfilm and later to electronic imaging."

After 17 years with the Clerk-Recorder, Najeeb joined the Clerk of the Board as a deputy purchasing agent where he assisted the Board of Supervisors and got to watch how policies were made. After seven years, he returned to the Clerk-Recorder Department where he was promoted to a management position as Chief Deputy Clerk. Today, Najeeb assists with the implementation of Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen's short and long term mission, vision, goals and objectives for the Clerk-Recorder Department. The department performs a wide range of services including real property transactions, issuing marriage licenses, performing marriage ceremonies, issuing birth, death and marriage certificates, and filing fictitious business statements as well as accepting passport applications. The main function for Najeeb, and his boss, Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen, is to provide all these services in a cost effective manner through the implementation of automated processes and digital technologies to make it easier for the public and the business community to access the public records.

Najeeb reads all customer feedback, whether it's a comment card or survey, or through Access OC, to see what his team of about 50 staff members can do to improve the process for providing essential services to customers. He is especially proud of the Clerk-Recorder's call center, which is staffed with dedicated full-time, knowledgeable employees ready to answer any question about the services the department offers. Most customers say the service received was excellent or exceeded their expectations.

"Our office is unique in that every county resident will use our services at least once during their lifetime," Najeeb says. He adds that most residents are pleasantly surprised at how easy and fast it is to obtain their records. They assumed the process would be a lot more difficult and time consuming. "But they are very surprised because the average service time is less than three minutes. We strive to make our records easily accessible to the public in the most efficient manner."

The department is one of the smaller agencies in the County. However, the department provides many services county-wide. Over the years, Najeeb has assisted the current and previous Clerk-Recorders with the implementation of systems that automate the



process to obtain or record documents. "You can submit a request for a record online at [OCRecorder.com](https://www.ocrecorder.com), come to the office, show your ID, sign for the record and then walk out of the office with your requested record in your hand," he says.

In addition, about a year and a half ago, the department launched its OCWeddings mobile app to help couples planning for their big day. Couples can complete a marriage license application on their mobile device, submit the application and by the time they reach the Clerk-Recorder's office, the marriage license is ready to be processed without having to wait in long lines. The department also performs marriage ceremonies, with the highest volume on Valentine's Day. Couples can also get married during one of the department's once-a-month special Saturday openings at the Old County Courthouse and at branch offices in Anaheim and Laguna Hills. Typically during the special Saturday opening, the department will handle about 140 appointments with an additional 30-35 walk-in customers. Customers can make appointments for Saturday openings at [OCRecorder.com](https://www.ocrecorder.com).

"These special Saturday openings are great for working families, students and individuals who would otherwise not be able to obtain our services during our normal operating hours," Najeeb says.

During those Saturdays, customers can also submit their passport applications and purchase passport photos since the Clerk-Recorder Department is also a passport acceptance facility. Customers can submit their applications and obtain their passport photos at the Old County Courthouse and at branch offices in Anaheim and Laguna Hills. The department also makes obtaining passport services easy for customers by hosting special Passport Days prior to the busy spring and summer travel seasons. This helps customers be ready in time for their vacations.

"We are measured by performance," Najeeb says. "We strive to hire great customer services people who will help fulfill our mission by offering our customers friendly service and who will make it easier for our customer to access their records in a fast and efficient manner."



# SUPPORT COUNTY PROGRAMS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

## PAWLIDAYS

OC Animal Care hosts two events in December to get you and your pets – even ones you might not have adopted yet – into the holiday spirit.

Every Saturday in December, bring your pet to the shelter at 1630 Victory Road in Tustin for a photo with Santa. He'll be there from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Any donations made will benefit shelter pets awaiting their forever homes. And if you don't have a fuzzy friend to call your own, stop by from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, December 21 for free\* adoptions. If you're there at the same time as Santa, be sure to get a picture with your new bestie.

If you're in the giving mood, consider donating items the shelter needs. From food and treats to bedding and toys, there's a long list of options. Check out OC Animal Care's [Amazon wishlist](#) for more ideas. For more information about these events, visit [ocpetinfo.com](http://ocpetinfo.com) or call 714-935-6848.

*\*Free adoptions do not including microchip, licensing fee, leash or carrier. Discount will not apply to puppies under 6 months of age and animals with prior reservation deposits.*



Adoptions will be \*free from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. December 21.

## SENIOR SANTA & FRIENDS



Social Services Agency leaders help out at the holidays.

Senior Santa & Friends provides gifts and special request items to low income elder adults or those who are severely disabled who are clients of the County of Orange Social Services Agency and/or OC Health Care Agency. Oftentimes, these individuals are isolated from family and their community. Each year staff identifies clients who may benefit from receiving items like household appliances, special medical equipment, nutritional supplements or clothing. Last year, Senior Santa & Friends provided 2,331 gifts to this vulnerable population, made possible by the efforts of volunteers and donations made by County employees, the business community, community-based organizations and private individuals.

For more information please call (714) 825-3111 or e-mail [Senior.Santa@ssa.ocgov.com](mailto:Senior.Santa@ssa.ocgov.com).

Online donations may be made at [http://ssa.ocgov.com/ssa\\_volunteer/donations/sr\\_santa\\_donation](http://ssa.ocgov.com/ssa_volunteer/donations/sr_santa_donation).

# OPERATION SANTA CLAUS

Operation Santa Claus (OSC) serves Orange County's most vulnerable at-risk youth by providing gifts to children who have endured abandonment, neglect and/or abuse and are in placement with a County of Orange program including Kinship Care, Resource (Foster) Families and group homes, as well as to children of disadvantaged families who receive services from the County of Orange.

OSC is an Orange County Board of Supervisors-approved program and the only official County holiday toy drive. Last year, the OSC program distributed over 41,000 gifts, made possible by the generosity and collaborative efforts of County of Orange employees, churches, businesses and individuals in the community who help hold toy drives to benefit OSC or provide financial donations.

OSC is coordinated by the County of Orange Social Services Agency, with support from community volunteers who have been vital to the success of the program since its inception. For more information please call (714) 679-2438 or email [OperationSantaClaus@ssa.ocgov.com](mailto:OperationSantaClaus@ssa.ocgov.com).

Online donations may be made at [http://ssa.ocgov.com/ssa\\_volunteer/donations/osc\\_donation](http://ssa.ocgov.com/ssa_volunteer/donations/osc_donation).



Jesse Guillen and Cheryl Smyth accept toys for Operation Santa Claus at a previous event.



Donate a toy to Operation Santa Claus to brighten a child's holiday season.



# DIAMONDS IN THE RUFF

## POLISH ONE ANOTHER



The first group of dogs for program at OC Probation were Scout, Gizmo and Biscuit, a lab, Pekinese and Terrier Mix.



A representative from Supervisor Wagner's office presented a proclamation.

At-risk youth and shelter dogs are getting second chances through a collaboration between OC Probation, OC Animal Care and nonprofit Cell Dogs Inc.

A decade ago, Cell Dogs Executive Director Janette Thomas approached OC Probation with an idea to help shelter dogs and youth in juvenile facilities learn to be better citizens. Over roughly 12 weeks, youth would train the dogs in preparation of being adopted.

Cell Dogs has a list of 22 commands for the dogs to learn. The youth focus on three or four each week, teaching the dogs good manners, a few tricks, agility and more.

"This provides good focus for both the youth and the dogs," Janette says. The program teaches the youth compassion, responsibility and good housekeeping skills as the dogs live in the units with them. The youth learn firsthand what owning a pet entails, including cleaning kennels and supplies, filling bowls with food and water, and grooming.

"Some come into the program thinking it will be a breeze," Janette says, adding that at the end of each session, once the dogs have graduated, the youth also have matured. "They start making eye contact and smiling more. Their tempers don't flair as much. It's just so transformational."

That transformation spreads to youth not in the program as they don't want their unit to lose the privilege of having the dogs around. The dogs become part of the family unit, wandering around during movie nights in search of idle ear scratches and pets.

About 90 percent of the dogs in the program come

from OC Animal Care. The only real restriction involves the inability to include bully breeds due to liability issues. Dogs ranging in age from 9 months to 12 years and as small as 10 pounds and as large as 118 pounds have been in the program. They must be amenable to people and other dogs. "You could have a dog who is amazing one on one with a person, but gets grumpy over food, toys and attention around other dogs," Janette says. "Unfortunately, we cannot include dogs who engage in resource guarding."

"OC Animal Care has been extremely supportive," Janette says. She's worked with them for 13 years, adopting dogs for the Orange County program, as well as programs through the state. OC Animal Care has also helped get the word out for pups awaiting adoption. Probation staff have adopted 15 percent of the graduates and another 12 percent have gone on to be therapy and service dogs.

"I've watched shelter dogs given an opportunity to transform," says OC Animal Care Public Information Officer Jessica Novillo. "This program touches and changes lives."

At an October event at OC Animal Care's shelter to celebrate 10 years of success, Chief Probation Officer Steven J. Sentman said, "Many of the youth don't understand relationships with dogs, but they express natural skills and talent in this rehabilitative process."

So far, 60 dogs and more than 100 at-risk youth have been in the program. For more information about Cell Dogs, visit their [Facebook page](#).





# Pawliday

OC Animal Care • 1630 Victory Road • Tustin • 92782

Saturday, December 21st

From 11 am to 5 pm

(Visiting hours end at 4:30 pm)

**\*FREE Adoptions!**

\*(not including microchip, licensing fee, leash or carrier.  
Discount will not apply to puppies under 6 months  
of age & animals with prior reservation deposits.)



[www.ocpetinfo.com](http://www.ocpetinfo.com) • (714)935-6848



/OCAAnimalCare

# 2019-20 UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN

## KICK-OFF RAISES \$2,100

The October 22 kick-off for the United Way campaign was a great success, bringing in more than \$2,100 to support programs in our community. Below is a list of winners who agreed to have their names published in County Connection. Thank you to all who participated in the opportunity baskets. Whether you donated items to fill a basket or bought tickets, Orange County residents will benefit from your efforts.

The goal of the 2019-20 United Way campaign is to increase the number of County employees who choose to participate by donating through a bi-weekly payroll deduction. In order to have payroll deductions effective beginning in January 2020, they must be submitted no later than Friday, November 8. You may set up your United Way payroll pledge through United eWay, an electronic pledging tool ([click here](#)), or by completing a paper pledge form ([click here](#)). Your United Way pledge will roll over from year to year, and your contributions (whether you give to United Way or designate another specific organization) will continue unless you specify otherwise.

To request more information or ask questions about the 2019-20 United Way Charitable Giving Campaign, please contact Jessica Witt at [jessica.witt@ocgov.com](mailto:jessica.witt@ocgov.com).

BASKET NUMBER AND NAME	DONATING DEPARTMENT	WINNER	DEPARTMENT
1. Big Money	Auditor-Controller	Laurent Washington	Child Support Specialist
2. Hair Care and Halloween	Campaign Finance & Ethics Commission	Jamie Ross	Clerk of the Board
3. The Giving Tree	Clerk of the Board	Delise Wyrick	District Attorney
4. Weekend Vibes	Clerk-Recorder	Wendy Tsui	Auditor Controller
5. Starbucks Delivery	County Executive Office	Susan Debaun	Human Resource Services
6. Fab Fit Fun and More	OC Health Care Agency	Denise Churchill	Social Services Agency
7. The Fall Basket	Internal Audit	April Chase	CEO Risk
8. Safe Travels	John Wayne Airport	Paulin Colvin	Board of Supervisors
9. Welcome to Our Community	OC Community Resources	Ray Garcia	CEO HR Benefits
10. Home Improvements	OC Public Works	Susie Baker	Human Resource Services
11. Local Teams Are a Treat	OC Waste & Recycling	Amy Ojima	OC Public Works
12. Orange County Sheriff's Department Experience	Orange County Sheriff's Department	Amanda Calderon	OC Health Care Agency
13. Welcome Winter	Probation	Ray Serafico	CEO Fiscal Services
14. Dog Treats Basket	Public Defender	Teri Koger	CEO Real Estate
15. A Night on the Town	Public Defender	Melvin Chua	CEO HR Benefits
16. Let's Get Cozy	Registrar of Voters	Stephanie Preciado	Clerk of the Board
17. Spooktacular	Social Services Agency	Ricardo Araujo	OC Public Works



Bring your Pet to OC Animal Care for a...

# Photo with Santa!

1630 Victory Road • Tustin • CA • 92782

Every Saturday in December  
until Christmas from 11 am to 3 pm



All Donations will  
benefit shelter pets!



[www.ocpetinfo.com](http://www.ocpetinfo.com) - (714) 935-6848



/OCAAnimalCare

# THANKSGIVING

## Food Safety Tips

Practice safe food handling procedures to reduce the risk of foodborne illness to your family this Thanksgiving holiday. May the only “fowl” you commit to your meal be your turkey!

Food safety starts from the purchase, through the proper preparation steps, to the cooking and serving of the turkey and other traditional dishes. Here are some helpful tips to keep your Thanksgiving dinner safe so you can enjoy the company of your family and friends.

### Food Safety Tips When Shopping

- Buy your turkey preferably 1-2 days before you cook it.
- Pick up the turkey, dairy and eggs just before check out.
- Bag the frozen turkey or keep it separate from fresh produce.
- Avoid buying stuffed turkeys.

### Storing the Turkey and Perishable Foods

- Store the turkey in the freezer if you bought it early in the month.
- If you purchased the turkey 1-2 days before cooking store it in the refrigerator.
- Keep the turkey in its package and place in a pan to keep any juices from getting into fresh produce or food.
- Refrigerate pumpkin pie and other foods prepared ahead of time.

### Thawing the Frozen Turkey Safely

- Wash your hands with soap and water before handling the turkey or any food.
- There are 3 ways to defrost a frozen turkey safely:
  1. Defrost a turkey in the refrigerator (40°F) approximately 24 hours for every 4-5 pounds of turkey.
  2. Submerge turkey in its original package in a pan of cold water deep enough to cover the turkey. Change the water every 30 minutes, and allow 30 minutes thawing for every pound. Cook the turkey immediately.
  3. Thaw in the microwave oven. Remove any packaging and keep turkey in a microwave-safe pan to catch any juices. Cook the turkey immediately.  
\* Microwave ovens may change to vary do be sure to check the manual for the minutes per pound and power level to use for defrosting.
- Remove any giblets from the turkey cavity and cook separately.

### Preparing Food Safely

- Wash your hands with soap and water.
- Make sure working areas and surfaces, utensils and plates are also clean.
- Use separate cutting or chopping boards for meats and for fruits/vegetables. Avoid putting cooked food on cutting boards that have touched raw food.
- If you touch raw food, avoid wiping your hands with dish towels.
- Keep raw food away from other foods.



## Cooking Food Safely

- Stuffing the turkey is not recommended. Cook the stuffing separately.
- Use an accurate food thermometer to make sure your turkey is cooked to the correct temperature.
- Check to make sure every part of the turkey reaches a minimum internal temperature of 165°F, even if your turkey has a pop-up temperature indicator. Check the innermost part of the thigh and wing, and the thickest part of the breast.
- Let turkey stand for 20 minutes before carving to allow juices to set.
- Stuffing should also reach a minimum temperature of 165°F.
- Any dish containing eggs should be cooked to reach an internal temperature of 160°F.
- Use a separate clean spoon whenever tasting food from the pot. Any spoon that's used for stirring should not be used to taste the food.

## Serving Food Safely

- Wash hands with soap and water before handling food or eating.
- Carve the turkey with a clean carving knife and fork.
- Keep cold foods cold and hot foods hot. Return foods to proper storage temperatures within 2 hours to prevent bacterial growth.
- Keep pumpkin pie and any cold dessert in the refrigerator at 40°F.
- Use clean serving spoons for each dish.

## Storing Leftovers Safely

- Store left-over food within 2 hours after serving, including pumpkin pie.
- Use several, shallow storage containers to store left-over food.
- Store in the refrigerator and eat leftover food within 3 days.
- Keep in the freezer for longer storage time.
- Label and date all of your leftovers.

## For More Information Regarding Safe Food Handling for Your Holidays

### U.S. Department of Agriculture

[www.fsis.usda.gov](http://www.fsis.usda.gov)

USDA – [Let's Talk Turkey - Consumer Guide to Safely Roasting a Turkey](#)

USDA – [Other Ways to Cook a Turkey](#)

USDA – [Is Pink Turkey Meat Safe?](#)

USDA – [Leftovers – Keeping Food Safe](#)

Orange County Food Safety Program – [www.ocfoodinfo.com](http://www.ocfoodinfo.com)



Gobble up these food safety tips and your family and friends will be sure to enjoy your meal. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us. We are here to assist you!

The Food Safety Program helps reduce the risk of food poisoning by performing routine inspections of Orange County food facilities and educating food service workers in proper food handling methods and facility sanitation.

### Have a SAFE & Happy Thanksgiving!

Orange County Environmental Health Food Safety Program  
1241 E. Dyer Road, Suite 120 | Santa Ana, CA 92705  
(714) 433-6000 | [www.ocfoodinfo.com](http://www.ocfoodinfo.com)



@ochealthinfo



@ochealth



@ochealth

# U.S. CENSUS HIRING THOUSANDS TO COUNT EVERY RESIDENT



Looking to make some extra money after the holidays? If so, there is a great opportunity to join the 2020 Census team.

The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting thousands of applicants who want to help their community. What is the Census you ask?

The Census is a nationwide survey intended to count every person in the U.S. The results of the survey help establish congressional representation for every state as well as funding for state programs. It is only conducted every 10 years, so it is extremely important that we get an accurate count.

Census jobs are temporary and can be a great opportunity for a second job. The recruiting process runs through February and the Census Bureau will begin making job offers in January. Training will begin in March and lead into your first day of work. Paychecks are delivered weekly and training is paid. Most of the positions will last several weeks and can include census takers, recruiting assistants, office staff and supervisory staff. You also have the perk of working within the area you live in. The qualifications are as follows:

- Be at least 18 years old.
- Have a valid Social Security number.
- Be a U.S. citizen.
- Have a valid email address.
- Complete an application and answer assessment questions. (Some assessment questions are available in Spanish. However, an English proficiency test may also be required.)
- Be registered with the Selective Service System or have a qualifying exemption, if you are a male born after Dec. 31, 1959.
- Pass a Census-performed criminal background check and a review of criminal records, including fingerprinting.
- Commit to completing training.
- Be available to work flexible hours, which can include days, evenings and/or weekends.

## **MOST JOBS REQUIRE EMPLOYEES TO:**

- Have access to a vehicle and a valid driver's license, unless public transportation is readily available.
- Have access to a computer with internet and an email account (to complete training).

If you'd like to learn more about this opportunity, please visit the US Census Bureau website at <https://2020census.gov/jobs>. This is your chance to help make a difference, apply today!



# OPERATION SANTA CLAUS

## Needs Your Help!



Help brighten the lives of our community's most vulnerable children and families by donating toys and gifts this holiday season.

### GIVE ONLINE

[ssa.ocgov.com/ssa\\_volunteer/donations/osc\\_donation](https://ssa.ocgov.com/ssa_volunteer/donations/osc_donation)

### DONATE IN PERSON

Drop off new, unwrapped toys and gifts at:  
1505 E. Warner Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92705

### VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME

Volunteers are needed to sort gifts, restock and assist shoppers.  
Sign up online at [signupgenius.com/findasignup](https://signupgenius.com/findasignup).  
Enter "operationsantaclaus@ssa.ocgov.com" under "Search for a Sign Up" to sign up for an available slot.

### CONTACT US

(714) 679-2438 or by email at [operationsantaclaus@ssa.ocgov.com](mailto:operationsantaclaus@ssa.ocgov.com)

\*\*\*GIFTS FOR TODDLERS, TEENS, & GIRLS ARE IN HIGH DEMAND.\*\*\*

# HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

A section for news regarding wellness, benefits and other employee services

### Open Enrollment deadline is November 15

Open Enrollment is here, and the deadline to make your elections and turn in complete Employee Married to Employee forms is November 15. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact the Benefits Center at 800-858-7266 to speak to a benefits specialist for assistance.

#### OPEN ENROLLMENT ITEMS TO REMEMBER

Health Care Reimbursement Account (HCRA)

- The annual maximum for HCRA has increased for 2020 to \$2,700.
- If you do not re-enroll in HCRA for 2020, you will forfeit any funds left over in your 2019 account.
- If you re-elect HCRA for 2020, up to \$500 of unused funds from your 2019 account rolls over automatically to the 2020 account. However, you will lose any money above \$500 if you do not use it by the end of 2019.

#### EMPLOYEE MARRIED TO EMPLOYEE (EME)

If you are an existing employee married to employee wanting to change plans (for example moving to Cigna Select) or arrangements, or if you're inquiring about a new EME relationship, please contact the Benefits Center at 800-858-7266 to speak to a benefits specialist for assistance. Both employees are required to contact the Benefits Center to make EME elections. Both the elections and completed EME forms must be received by November 15, 2019, if you are:

- Enrolling as EME for the first time
- An existing EME and changing health plans for 2020
- An existing EME and changing your arrangement for 2020

### DATES TO REMEMBER

MAKE YOUR OPEN ENROLLMENT ELECTIONS BY:  
**November 15**

DEPENDENT VERIFICATION FORM AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS DUE:  
**December 31**

IF YOU ELECTED A NEW HEALTH PLAN OR WILL BE ENROLLED IN A PPO OR A CIGNA HMO FOR 2020, YOU SHOULD RECEIVE YOUR HEALTH ID CARD BY:  
**December 31**

2020 BENEFITS BECOME EFFECTIVE:  
**January 01, 2020**

FIRST DEDUCTION OF NEW PLAN YEAR  
&  
NEW PAYROLL DEDUCTION RATES AND HCRA/DCRA CONTRIBUTIONS:  
**January 10, 2020**



### 1. TELL US A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS ORANGE COUNTY AUDITOR-CONTROLLER.

A. As the Auditor-Controller, I oversee the department, which performs essential financial functions for the County. For lack of a better term, we are the Chief Accountant for the County of Orange. With over 400 employees, the department performs a variety of tasks such as:

- Accounting for and performing budgetary control of the County's financial transactions
- Processing accounts payable, which includes vendor payments and employee reimbursements
- Processing payroll for approximately 18,000 County employees
- Providing support for the County-wide financial, personnel and property tax information technology systems
- Providing accounting services for eight County departments at their locations
- Preparing the County's financial statements, the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), and mandated state and federal financial reports
- Calculating the property tax liability of over 1 million County properties, then allocating and distributing property tax to cities, schools, successor agencies, special districts and County government
- Performing statutorily mandated audits of the County treasury and Probation
- Processing payroll for the Superior Court of California, County of Orange
- Providing staff for the Countywide Oversight Board that oversees the wind down of the redevelopment dissolution

We also perform a set of statutorily mandated audits of the County treasury, among others.

### 2. WE KNOW YOU'VE BEEN WITH THE COUNTY A TOTAL OF 33 YEARS, CAN YOU TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOUR PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND?

A. I began my career with the County as a staff accountant in 1984 and worked my way up to a director position. Along the way, I worked in many different areas of the Office. I retired from the County in January 2018 for the opportunity to serve as the Finance Director at the City of Villa Park. It is a pleasure to be back with the County family and I am honored to be your Auditor-Controller.

### 3. WHAT IS YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND?

A. I graduated from California State University, Fullerton with a bachelor's degree in economics, and earned



my MBA from California State University, Long Beach. I am also a Certified Public Accountant.

### 4. WHAT DO YOU DO FOR FUN? ANY HOBBIES?

A. In my time off, I love spending time with family — which can be challenging with my three adult kids and grandkids living in Arizona and Texas. My wife and I try to see them as often as possible. I enjoy working on projects around the house and on the "Dad To-Do" list items when I visit my kids. I also keep busy caring for my two dogs — a three legged pit bull and a "terror-ier."

### 5. LASTLY, AS SOMEONE WITH OVER THREE DECADES OF SERVICE FOR THE COUNTY OF ORANGE, ANY ADVICE FOR EMPLOYEES JUST STARTING OUT IN THEIR CAREER?

A. Working for County government can be a great career. It can provide work/life balance and fulfillment. What you do, although it may seem small, has an impact on the residents of Orange County. That can be viewed as being a great responsibility, but it can also be very gratifying. Keep that in mind and take ownership of it, and it will bode well for your career. It should provide an incentive to do the best you can at your work and to being a great steward for Orange County.

As you work in the County, you establish relationships in your department with fellow co-workers and supervisors, as well as with people outside of your department. Nurture those relationships. They definitely will help you throughout your career.



# AROUND<sup>THE</sup> COUNTY

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# COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

## CEO Communications Earns Award of Excellence

On September 26, CEO Communications received an award at the 44th annual PROTOS awards ceremony put on by the Orange County Public Relations Society of America (OCPRSA).

The team took home an Award of Excellence for “Collateral Materials External Audiences” during the ceremony at the Marconi Automotive Museum in Tustin.

“I am so proud of our awesome CEO Communications team. They work hard to help tell the County’s story by effectively communicating the often complex policy issues our departments are tasked with developing and implementing. It means a lot for the County to be recognized by the Orange County Public Relations Society alongside other big private agencies for the work on the Point In Time infographic,” said Jessica Witt, Director of Government & Community Relations.

The Collateral Materials External Audiences award went to the “[Point In Time Infographic](#),” which addresses homelessness in Orange County and the solution offered by the County to combat that issue. The infographic includes data on the sheltered and



CEO Communications team members Travis LaRiviere, second from left, and Jamie Cargo, along with Government & Community Relations Director Jessica Witt, accept an Award of Excellence from KTLA entertainment reporter Sam Rubin.

unsheltered OC’s homeless citizens and breakdowns of subpopulations, such as those with mental illness and substance use abuse. It also highlights shelter inventory and community ties, as well as reports on current employment status.

Overall, OCPRSA presented 19 Award of Excellence trophies and 23 top prize PROTOS awards. For more information and to see the list of winners, visit <https://www.ocprsa.org/awards/protos-awards-2019/>.

# HEALTH CARE AGENCY

## Flu Surveillance in Orange County

In early October, the OC Health Care Agency (HCA) begins primary surveillance work to monitor influenza (flu) activity by collaborating with local hospitals, primary care providers and colleges. The work relies on the dedicated employees at the Public Health Laboratory who provide critical lab services during the flu season, which includes confirming test results and flu virus subtyping.

The 2018-19 flu season in Orange County was uncharacteristically long compared to previous seasons, with overall moderate severity. Flu activity began to increase in mid-December and peaked at the beginning of March. Peak activity occurred much later during the 2018-19 season compared to the past three flu seasons. Only one pediatric flu-related death was reported in OC during the 2018-19 season.

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by flu viruses. Some people, such as older people, young children and people with certain health conditions, are at high risk of serious flu complications. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends the annual flu vaccine for



everyone 6 months of age and older as the first and most important step in protecting against flu.

For more information, contact Employee Health Services at (714) 565-3780.

## ***New Wing Glider Soars High Above Thomas F. Riley Terminal***

Have you recently been to Baggage Claim in Terminals A or B and looked up? If so, you may have noticed a new addition to the hang glider exhibit. A Wills Wing T3 now floats over Carousel 2 in the Thomas F. Riley Terminal.

The Wills Wing joins another T3, a T2 and a Sport 3 as part of an ongoing exhibit in the Terminal. The exhibit was first designed and installed in 2009 by hang gliding enthusiast, Owen Morse. Earlier this year, Morse flew the newly added T3 in a declared goal “out and return” world record attempt in the Owens Valley. The 10-plus hour flight covered 232 miles for a total of 104,000 feet of climbing to altitudes up to 15,000 feet. The Wills Wing T3 increases the cross-country performance of the hang glider through the incorporation of carbon fiber airfoil support and a unique system of bearings in the wingtip for added control.

In 2009, Morse won the presidential citation



*The new Wills Wing T3 is part of an exhibit at John Wayne Airport that was first installed in 2009.*

award from the United States Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association for creating the exhibit at John Wayne Airport. “Hang gliding is a very safe and peaceful recreational sport. It’s a marriage of high tech and nature,” Morse says.

To learn more about the JWA Arts Program, visit [www.ocair.com/terminal/artexhibits/](http://www.ocair.com/terminal/artexhibits/).

## ***Make-A-Wish “Trips That Transform” Campaign Results***

Through a partnership with [Make-A-Wish®](http://www.makeawish.org) Orange County and the Inland Empire (MAW), John Wayne Airport (JWA) helped increase the cumulative donation of American, Delta, JetBlue, Southwest and United airline miles by 412 percent to assist in granting travel wishes to children and their families during the month-long [Trips That Transform](http://www.makeawish.org) campaign in August.

### **SUMMARY OF AIRLINE MILES DONATED:**

- American Airlines mileage donations totaled 5.1 million miles as a result of the campaign compared to 532,000 miles during the same period in 2018.
- Miles donated for Delta (143,798) and United (8,821) totaled 152,619, more than doubling the amount given during the campaign period compared to last year.
- Delta and United saw a 61 percent and 133 percent increase in total airline miles/points donations, respectively.
- Inspired by the campaign, a Delta Air Lines SkyMiles® member donated 111,000 miles after viewing promotional signage about the campaign throughout the JWA Terminal.
- Total miles/points donated to Make-A-Wish® increased by more than 400 percent in 2019.

Digital campaign signage, pop-up and roadway banners, Wish events in the Thomas F. Riley Terminal, and social media promotion encouraged the online



*John Wayne Airport’s youngest travelers can enjoy a fun and comfortable space at the Make-A-Wish® Lounge before their flight. The play area is conveniently located in an enclosed space adjacent to the Nursing Mother’s Lounge in Terminal B (post-security) between Gates 11/12 near restrooms and provides easy access to nearby food concessions.*

donation of unused, low-balance or soon-to-expire airline miles at [www.ocair.com/wish](http://www.ocair.com/wish), garnering more than 1,000 website visits by JWA travelers and guests.

As part of the month-long campaign, JWA also debuted the first North American airport children’s “Wish Lounge” to guests on August 19. The children’s play area features child-sized tables and chairs where kids can enjoy coloring activities, reading books, playing games and taking photos at a selfie-station equipped with photo props and a giant teddy bear before departing for their flight.



# JOHN WAYNE AIRPORT

## New Terminal Signage Makes Locating Electric Vehicle Parking Easier

Electric vehicle (EV) owners can quickly identify where to park and charge their cars for free with newly installed reflective signage and parking space surface markings in all three parking structures at the Thomas F. Riley Terminal.

The EV parking spots offer electric outlet plugs at each location, ample space to park and serve double-duty as 2-hour spaces for dropping off or picking up passengers for both EV and standard cars or overnight for EVs. The 72 parking spaces are inside the following Terminal Parking Structures and Main Street parking lot.

- Parking Structures A1 and A2 – Adjacent to and directly across from Terminal A (American, Delta, and WestJet)
  - o A1 (Level 1): Eight Spaces
  - o A2 (Level 1): Nine Spaces
  - o A2 (Level 2): 20 Spaces
- Parking Structures B2 and C – Closest to Terminal B (Alaska and United) and Terminal C (Frontier and Southwest)
  - o B2 (Level 1): Eight Spaces
  - o C (Level 1): Seven Spaces



Each electric vehicle parking space offers electric outlet plugs and ample space to park.

- Main Street Parking – Off-airport parking lot at 1512 Main St. in Irvine. Free courtesy shuttle available every 15 minutes and runs from 4:30 a.m. to midnight.
  - o 20 spaces

EV travelers and guests are encouraged to visit the designated EV (and 2-hour) parking spaces throughout the Terminal Parking Structures. For more information about parking options, including real-time parking availability and Curbside Valet, visit [www.ocair.com/parking/](http://www.ocair.com/parking/).

# OC COMMUNITY RESOURCES - ANIMAL CARE

## 38 Kittens Find Homes through Partnership with OC Public Libraries

OC Animal Care partnered with OC Public Libraries to help adorable kittens find loving homes. The “OC Tails and Tales” kitten adoption events encouraged the public to come to the library to adopt, read to the kittens and learn more about OC Animal Care.

Irvine Heritage Library, Cypress Library and Tustin Library hosted the kitten adoptions, and it was a huge success. Over the span of three events, 38 kittens were adopted into loving homes. Event goers also had the opportunity to learn more about the shelter’s foster program that saves hundreds of kittens each year. The shelter is grateful to have the opportunity to co-host these events and provide an additional resource for kittens who are waiting to be adopted.

OC Animal Care is excited to partner with OC Public Libraries for additional events in the future to help more feline friends find loving homes.



Tustin Library was one of three OC Public Libraries that hosted an “OC Tails and Tales” adoption event for OC Animal Care. Over three events, 38 kittens found their forever homes.

# OC COMMUNITY RESOURCES - PUBLIC LIBRARIES

## Serving Seniors

Did you know that 26.9 percent of the population in Orange County is 55 or older? In alignment with guidelines set by the American Library Association, OC Public Libraries is continually assessing how to provide library services appropriate to the needs of older adults. To that end, in 2018 OC Public Libraries formed the Senior Services Committee to better serve this part of the community. The committee works with the 32 Library locations to provide a variety of programs and materials that serve the senior population. For example, OC Public Libraries has steadily been growing its audiobook and large print collections for users who need to find alternatives to standard print books.

Additionally, several libraries have hosted Taiko workshops, enjoying intergenerational audiences eager to participate in a traditional Japanese drumming performance. Health topics such as memory care have widespread interest. Genealogy presentations, musical presentations, gardening and yoga at the library are also popular for seniors. Presentations on support for caregivers, Alzheimer's, Medicare and Ketosis and are examples of library programs that promote the mental and physical well-being of seniors and their families. Book clubs are very popular, offering a stimulating format for discussion. The library serves as a community hub for seniors, combatting isolation that some experience.

From October through March, OC Public Libraries will be presenting a variety of events inspired by "Can't We Talk about Something More Pleasant?" by Roz Chast. Her book is one of the selections of the



National Endowment of the Arts' Big Read program, which OCPL was awarded. The book's serious subject matter of guiding parents as they transition from living independently to requiring assistance is approached in a poignant and humorous way as a graphic novel. At least a dozen book groups, a visit by the author, and presentations on health information, caregiving, decluttering and the graphic arts will be part of the program.

### ***The Kitten Lady at Tustin Library***



On October 12, OC Public Libraries partnered with OC Animal Care to bring "The Kitten Lady" Hannah Shaw to the Tustin Library for a cat adoption event. Over 200 attendees saw her speak and almost 40 cats were adopted!

*Supervisors to Recognize November as Adoption Awareness Month*

**A D O P T**

IF YOU CAN'T ADOPT

**F O S T E R**

IF YOU CAN'T FOSTER

**M E N T O R**

IF YOU CAN'T MENTOR

**S P O N S O R**

IF YOU CAN'T SPONSOR

**V O L U N T E E R**

IF YOU CAN'T VOLUNTEER

**D O N A T E**

IF YOU CAN'T DONATE

**E D U C A T E**



County of Orange Social Services Agency  
www.oc4kids.com • (888) 871-5437

The month of November is recognized as National Adoption Awareness Month, with a particular focus on the **adoption of children currently waiting in foster care**. During the month, public and private organizations, businesses, families and individuals celebrate adoption as a positive way to build permanent “forever families.”

The Orange County Board of Supervisors will present the County of Orange Social Services Agency with a resolution proclaiming November as Adoption Awareness Month during the November 19 Board meeting.

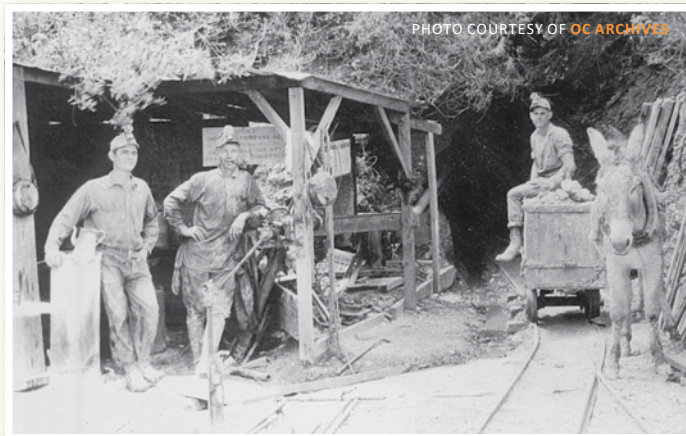
SSA encourages all County of Orange staff to embrace National Adoption Awareness Month and serve as champions of adoption every day. To learn more, please visit [oc4kids.com](http://oc4kids.com).



# OC HISTORY

## THE SILVERADO MINING BOOM

by Chris Jepsen



Deputy U.S. Marshal J.D. Dunlap opened the Blue Light Mine, seen here circa the 1930s, after he failed to track down a fugitive outlaw in the Santa Ana Mountains.



Hopeful prospectors revisit Silverado's old mines in the 1920s. Today, such entrances are sealed.

The town of Silverado, where Pine Canyon meets Silverado Canyon in the Santa Ana Mountains, was a classic Old West mining "boom town." The silver rush here wasn't critical to the development of Orange County, but it has lived for more than 140 years as part of our folklore and "local color."

Silver-bearing quartz was discovered in the canyon at Santa Rosa Mountain in August 1877 – purportedly by Santa Ana hunters Henry Smith and Bill Curry. The Santa Rosa Mining District soon was organized. Later, Anaheim real estate man P.A. Clark laid out a townsite he called

Although it's now gone, the Blue Light Silver Mines Company's mill, seen here in 1966, shipped out silver, lead and zinc.

Silverado, which also heralded the change of the canyon's name from Canada de la Madera to Silverado Canyon.

The actual rush of prospectors didn't hit until after the spring rains the following year. But when they came, the masses poured in. More than 500 prospectors descended on the sleepy canyon, and they staked at least 600 claims. Each was sure they'd found their path to riches. But most, historian Jim Sleeper writes, "...couldn't find their way across creek without a compass, and their knowledge about mining ranked right alongside that of a duck."

Silverado soon boasted, "...three hotels, three stores,



*Silverado, seen here circa 1920s, had "...three hotels, three stores, seven saloons, two blacksmith shops, two meat markets, a select school, and all the other industries of a first-class mining camp," writes historian Jim Sleeper.*

seven saloons, two blacksmith shops, two meat markets, a select school, and all the other industries of a first-class mining camp," writes Sleeper. "Town lots sold as high as \$75 each, yet nearly all the dwellings were canvas tents, and the occupants of board shanties were looked upon as 'bloated aristocracy.'"

The town's one-room schoolhouse was small enough that over the years it would later be moved back and forth between Silverado and Modjeska Canyons — wherever the most students lived at any given time.

Three stagecoaches ran to Silverado from Santa Ana each day, and two more from Los Angeles, with available seats scarce and costly.

Deputy U.S. Marshal J.D. Dunlap opened the most famous and most promising mine in Silverado: the Blue Light. Dunlap had been sent to the mountains to track down a fugitive outlaw. Failing in his task, he got caught up in the silver excitement instead. His initial success in finding profitable ore inspired adjacent operations by the well-financed New York Mining Company as well as mines and a quartz mill courtesy the Western Zinc Company.

But these larger operations were surrounded on all sides by many small-time ventures — some of them consisting of as little as one man with one pick.

The silver boom itself went bust in 1882 when miners learned the hard truth: The Santa Ana Mountains contain almost any mineral you can name, but not in large enough quantities to be profitable. Within a year, Silverado was deserted.

Of course, hope springs eternal and prospectors have a way of putting optimism ahead of experience. Accordingly, there have been at least six attempts to revive mining in Silverado. But nothing approached the district's early promise.

The Blue Light was sold in 1919 and a new Blue Light Silver Mines Company began shipping ore in 1920. This time, the focus was not just on silver, but also lead and zinc. "The last gasp was late in 1968," writes historian Phil Brigandi, "when silver prices rose and the Miracle Mining & Development Company of Utah took a five-year lease on the Blue Light. They began preparations to reopen the works, but the devastating floods ... of 1969 put an end to the project. The dilapidated old mill buildings were torn down in 1972" and the property was donated to the Cleveland National Forest in the 1980s.

*Previously published as a flyer for the Orange County Historical Society, June 2019.*

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](mailto:Chris.Jepsen@rec.ocgov.com) or 714-834-4771 if you have questions about the Archives.



## *Vishing Attacks: Who's Really on the Line?*

It's 4 p.m. on a Friday and you're getting ready to leave for the day. Your work phone rings, "Hello, this is Joe from IT. There is a critical patch that must be installed on your computer today and it will only take a few minutes. I know you are getting ready to leave for the day, but I will be in big trouble if I don't get this done today. Also, this may affect your access on Monday when you return. So can I please access your computer and start the process? I promise it won't take long."

Have you had these or other similar calls before? Maybe not at work, but on your personal device. How will you respond? Your response is very important. Most calls may be legitimate, but some are a type of phishing attacks called "vishing," which uses voice calls.

This technique involves psychologically manipulating people via telephone into divulging information or taking inappropriate actions. Very often victims have no idea they have done something wrong until an incident is later exposed or midway through the interaction. Cybercriminals often hide behind personas that are familiar to your organization, like your IT department, in order to trick you into letting your guard down. The following tips can help keep you and your organization safe from vishing calls.

### **TIPS TO KEEP YOUR INFORMATION SECURE:**

1. Treat all unsolicited phone calls with skepticism. If you did not place the call first or open a ticket with IT, assume that the call is phony. If you opened a ticket with your local service desk and they call you back, the IT personnel should reference the ticket number to which the call is referring.
2. Be aware that caller ID can easily be spoofed by spammers. If you are unsure of who you are speaking with, hang up with the caller and call the organization back yourself after verifying their correct phone number using their official website.
3. Use a different phone to call back. Attackers have ways to keep the line open even if you hang up and try to call the correct organization back. You may think you reached the organization of your desire, but you are still connected with the scammer.
4. Your County IT department should never need your password to remote into your computer. If an IT member asks you for your password, do not give it to them. IT personnel should always ask for your permission before remoting into your computer.
5. Computer system patches and updates are usually done automatically, and you will usually receive prior written notice via email of when to expect patches and updates to be installed. IT personnel should never need your password to install updates.
6. Your County IT is made up of County of Orange OCIT desktop employees, OCIT Enterprise Privacy and CybersecurityTeam, department IT team, and our Managed Service Provider. If the caller represents themselves from another vendor name, this should be a red flag. It does not mean if the caller states they are from a County IT team, that they are a legitimate caller either.
7. Validate the caller and be aware of what the caller is asking you to do or other information. Are they asking to open certain folders, provide them with information and asking you to do other things which may not be the norm for your County process?
8. Report all unsolicited phone calls, emails or texts to [Phishing@ocit.ocgov.com](mailto:Phishing@ocit.ocgov.com)
9. Never share any financial, business or personal information with organizations that reach out to you and do not have a ticket number to reference.
10. Do not respond to unsolicited phone calls, texts or emails requesting personal information, and never click on links or attachments contained within unsolicited emails. Never to go any websites following the prompts of an unknown caller.



# Give Back During the Pawlidays!



OC Animal Care



OC Animal Care graciously accepts donations that benefit our animals. Holding community drives to collect items for the shelter is a great way to help out. Please donate new items, unless otherwise noted. Here is a wish list of items the shelter is in need of:



## Food & Treats

- Dog and Cat Treats (Moist Treats Preferred—No Rawhides)
- Timothy Hay
- 3 to 6 lb bags of Royal Canin Kitten Food
- Authority Puppy and Adult Food
- 3 oz Cans of Pro Plan Kitten Food
- Friskies Cat Food (dry and wet)
- Treat Bags (Bait Bags)



## Bedding

- Hammock Style Dog Beds ([www.kuranda.com/main/nonprof.asp](http://www.kuranda.com/main/nonprof.asp))
- Small Fleece Cat Beds & Beds that cats can hide in
- New or Used Blankets (No sheets, pillow cases or comforters)
- Small Animal Woodchips or Bedding
- Fleece Blankets



## Enrichment Toys

- Durable Dog Toys (Kong, Boomer Ball, Jolly Ball and Other Rubber Toys)
- Cat Kong Toys
- Cat Scratchers (posts or attachments for doors)
- Rabbit Chew Toys
- Rabbit Warren Toy



## Grooming & Bathing Supplies

- New or Used Towels
- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Brushers, Combs and Nail Trimmers
- Oster or Andis Clippers and #10 Clipper Blades



## Pet Enrichment Tools

- Leashes
- Flat Collars
- Slip Leads (Leather or Cotton)
- Spray Bottles
- Hay Baskets



## Large Items (Items Must Be in Good Working Order)

- EZ-Ups
- Universal Microchip Scanners
- Basic Tools (Bolt Cutter, Pliers, Screwdrivers, Hammers, Tool Boxes, etc...)



To browse wish list items online and purchase directly from Amazon, view the  
OC Animal Care Amazon Wish List at: <http://a.co/gi63VOF>

For more information or to arrange delivery please contact the Public Education Officer at (714) 796-6426



# SAFETY SPOTLIGHT



## Wildfire Smoke Safety

The California wildfire season is off to a unspeakable start, with thousands of acres burning amidst dry, hot winds known as the Santa Anas. Typically seen in the Fall, these winds are not only a perfect set-up for brush fires to start, they make it close to impossible to contain the fires from spreading, let alone be extinguished.

When wildfires burn either in your area or even many miles away, they produce smoke that may reach your community. Wildfire smoke is a mixture of gases and fine particles from burning trees and other plant materials. This smoke can hurt your eyes, irritate your respiratory system, and worsen chronic heart and lung diseases.

### WHO IS AT GREATEST RISK FROM THE WILDFIRE SMOKE?

- People who have heart or lung diseases are at higher risk from wildfire smoke.
- Older adults are more likely to be affected by smoke. This may be due to their increased risk of heart and lung diseases.
- Children are more likely to be affected by health threats from smoke. Children's airways are still developing and they breathe more air per pound of body weight than adults do. Also, children often spend more time outdoors engaged in activity and play.

### TAKE STEPS TO DECREASE YOUR RISK FROM WILDFIRE SMOKE.

- **Be prepared for wildfires.**
- Stay indoors and limit your time outdoors when there is smoke in the air.
- Check local air quality reports: Listen and watch for news or health warnings about smoke. Find out if your community provides reports about the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Air Quality Index (AQI) or check the report on [www.AirNow.gov](http://www.AirNow.gov). In addition, pay attention to public health messages about safety measures.
- Consult local visibility guides: Some communities have monitors that measure the amount of particles in the air. In the Western United States, some states and communities have guidelines to help people determine if there are high levels of particulates in the air by how far they can see.
- Keep indoor air as clean as possible: If you are advised to stay indoors. Keep windows and doors closed. Run an air conditioner, but keep the fresh-air intake closed and the filter clean to prevent outdoor smoke from getting inside. If you do not have an air conditioner and it is too warm to stay inside with the windows closed, seek shelter in a designated evacuation center or away from the affected area.
- Avoid activities that increase indoor pollution: Burning candles, fireplaces or gas stoves can increase indoor pollution. Vacuuming stirs up particles already inside your home, contributing to indoor pollution.
- Follow the advice of your doctor or other healthcare provider: Contact your doctor about medicines and about your respiratory management plan if you have asthma or another lung disease.
- Do not rely on dust masks for protection: Paper "comfort" or "dust" masks commonly found at hardware stores are designed to trap large particles, such as sawdust. These masks will not protect your lungs from the small particles found in wildfire smoke. **Choose and use respirators to protect your lungs from smoke and ash.**
- Evacuate from the path of wildfires: Listen to the news to learn about current evacuation orders. Follow the instructions of local officials about when and where to evacuate. Take only essential items with you. Follow designated evacuation routes—others may be blocked—and plan for heavy traffic. You can also sign up for Orange County emergency alerts through [AlertOC.org](http://AlertOC.org).
- Protect yourself cleaning up after a fire: Cleanup work can expose you to ash and other products of the fire that may irritate your eyes, nose or skin, and cause coughing and other health effects. **Learn how to stay safe cleaning up after a wildfire.**



## *Less Traffic, More Holiday Fun*



Get into the holiday spirit without getting stuck in traffic. Here's what's happening in ridesharing this holiday season.

### **RIDE METROLINK TO THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS**

Metrolink will offer special service to the Festival of Lights at the Mission Inn in Riverside. On Fridays and Saturdays from November 29 to December 31, Metrolink trains will leave stations in Los Angeles and Orange counties beginning at 3 p.m. and will make the return trips from the Riverside station beginning at 8 p.m. Free RTA shuttles will carry passengers between the Riverside-Downtown Station and the Festival.

The Festival of Lights features more than 5 million holiday lights, 400 animated figures, horse-drawn carriage rides, Santa Claus — and even the world's largest man-made mistletoe!.

Find schedule information at [metrolinktrains.com](http://metrolinktrains.com).

### **DONATE TOYS FOR KIDS**

Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is partnering with KABC7 and the Southern California Firefighters for the annual Spark of Love Toy Drive. On December 20 at Orange County Great Park in the City of Irvine — sponsored by the Orange County Fire Authority, you can help “stuff a bus” full of new toys for underserved families. For details, visit <http://abc7.com/sparkoflove>. Toys can also be dropped off at your local fire station November 11 through December 24.

### **\$10 ALL DAY**

On Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day, Metrolink will run on its Sunday schedule and price, so it's only \$10 to travel all day, anywhere Metrolink goes.

### **GO METRO TO THE ROSE PARADE AND ROSE BOWL**

Avoid traffic and the hassle and expense of parking by taking Metro if you're going to the Rose Parade or Rose Bowl on January 1. The Gold Line will open early (at about 3 a.m.) from downtown L.A. to Pasadena, operating every 15 minutes until 5 a.m. and then every nine minutes until 9 p.m. Details will be available at [metro.net](http://metro.net).

## *Try Metrolink for Free*

Metrolink is offering a free one-day pass to any County of Orange employee who works in the City of Orange. To give Metrolink a try, [send an email to the Rideshare Office](#) and include:

- Name
- Employee ID number
- Work address
- Origin (home) station
- Work email

We'll email a special code to claim your free pass.



# BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADE



Check out the new building and  
construction trade collection!

Contractors, electrical, carpentry, construction,  
plumbing, alternative energy, HVACR, and  
welding introductions and reference guides.

Please visit **ocpl.org** for more information.



Orange County, CA  
**Public Libraries**  
*Open Doors. Free Access. Community.*

County Connection



# SENIOR SANTA & FRIENDS Needs Your Help!



Help brighten the lives of our community's most vulnerable elderly and disabled adults by donating gifts this holiday season.

## GIVE ONLINE

[ssa.ocgov.com/ssa\\_volunteer/donations/sr\\_santa\\_donation](https://ssa.ocgov.com/ssa_volunteer/donations/sr_santa_donation)

## DONATE IN PERSON

Drop off new, unwrapped gifts at:  
1505 E. Warner Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92705

## REQUEST ANGEL TAGS

Angel tags provide gift suggestions for a senior in need of a gift from "Santa" and can be displayed on trees, bulletin boards, walls, etc.

## VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME

Volunteers are needed to sort gifts, restock and assist shoppers.  
To request available shifts or for any questions, email:

[senior.santa@ssa.ocgov.com](mailto:senior.santa@ssa.ocgov.com)



# SERVICE AWARDS - November 2019

Recognizing our long-serving employees and their years of dedication to the County of Orange

## 45 YEARS

**CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES**  
DUNFORD, JANICE M

## 35 YEARS

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
CAMARENA, EVANGELINA

## 30 YEARS

**COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE**  
CRAWLEY, LAWANDA  
RICHARDSON, ROBERT L

**HEALTH CARE AGENCY**  
BAUSMAN, ELIZABETH  
MASARYK, JURAJ

**OC COMMUNITY RESOURCES**  
MC GUIRE, J DENNIS

**OC PUBLIC WORKS**  
VALLE, ROBERT C

**PROBATION**  
NEAL, SANDRA K  
ROSAS, ANA G  
STIVER, CATHERINE E

**SHERIFF-CORONER**  
CORRAO, ANNETTE K  
JIMENEZ, MARCELO E  
KROPIDLOWSKI, KENNETH M  
VILLEGAS, JUAN G  
VIRGOE, RENEE L  
WERNER, LAURENCE

**SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY**  
BRIDGES, KATHLEEN L  
DE HOOG, SHERRY  
DONG, JANE F  
GRINDLE, FREDERICK M  
NGUYEN, MICHELLE D  
NGUYEN, PHUONG-LAN T  
SERVIN, REBECCA

## 25 YEARS

**CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES**  
LOPEZ, SAIDA

**HEALTH CARE AGENCY**  
HOANG, SHARON K

**JOHN WAYNE AIRPORT**  
PAPE, JOHN C

**OC COMMUNITY RESOURCES**  
DEY, ROSEMARY  
MUGICA, RALPH

**OC WASTE & RECYCLING**  
SOLIS, ALEXANDER

**PROBATION**  
COTA, RICHARD D  
FLEMING, PAUL A  
MATURINO, KAREN M  
MELGAR, SALVADOR E  
REYES, GINA I  
TURNER, MARIA C

**PUBLIC DEFENDER**  
SAMBRANO-AGUIRRE, MARTHA

**SHERIFF-CORONER**  
DANKS, JASON L  
PETERS, MARK B  
TAYLOR, RANDY S

**SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY**  
DEMPSEY, GAIL L  
GUILLEN, IRMA M  
LIM, THERESA P  
MONTROYA, TANYA M  
SAPIGA, MAHONRI V  
SWISHER, PETER M

## 20 YEARS

**CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES**  
ESQUEDA, SOCORRO A  
NGUYEN, XUAN T  
PHAM, MICHELLE M  
TRAN, KIM P

**CLERK-RECORDER**  
AGUIRRE, IDALIA

**COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE**  
RAMOS, MELANIE M

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
WOLFE, STEVEN A

**HEALTH CARE AGENCY**  
BLANCO, LILIA  
CHOPRA, JAGDISH R  
FULTON, LISA L  
LIM, BELINDA  
LIZARDO, GRACE-AILEEN  
LOPEZ ESCAMILLA, AZAHAR  
LUNA, YESENIA V  
MALDO, ALBERT L  
UBINA, ELEONOR R  
VALDIVIAS, ROSIE  
WEBER, DIANA L

**JOHN WAYNE AIRPORT**  
LOPEZ, DANIEL A

**OC COMMUNITY RESOURCES**  
FIGUEROA, MAUREEN S  
HENSLEY, JASON L

**PROBATION**  
HEMMINGER, MARK A

## SHERIFF-CORONER

ANDERSON, CHRISTINA L  
COOPER-JEHANGIRI, SALLY A  
DE LA RIVA, LEONARDO  
EDWARDS, DESIREE D  
GARCIA, BORIS  
GARCIA, MARTHA I  
HEPPNER, ELYCE A  
MACOVEI, LYGIA I  
RAMIREZ, ADALBERTO  
SHARASCHANDRA, LATHA  
SILVESTRE, JESUS A  
WICKS, JAMES C

## SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY

ARTEAGA, GUADALUPE  
BUSTAMANTE, MITRA  
CHIEN, SHULING H  
KARIR, GEETA  
KUMAR, JITENDRA  
LEVIN, RACHEL  
LUCHONOK, LAURI  
MARSHALL, WENDY J  
MGBEKE, ETOOM O  
SCHENACH, TIFFANY P  
STANLOW, JUDITH  
STRATTMAN, NICOLE M

If you would like to have your name not printed in the Service Awards section, email [ceocom@ocgov.com](mailto:ceocom@ocgov.com). If you believe there has been an error or omission in reporting your years of service, please email [HRDataPortal@ocgov.com](mailto:HRDataPortal@ocgov.com).

To view the November 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.ocgov.com/jobs](http://www.ocgov.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 Assistant/Administrative Specialist-Extra Help - ASAP

Assistant Director/OC Crime Lab (Administrative Manager II) – ASAP

Vote Center Customer Service Representative (Extra Help) – ASAP

Training Specialist/Office Assistant-Extra Help - ASAP

Shelter Program Administrator – 11/21/19

Community Health Assistant III – 11/06/19

Heavy Stationary Equipment Mechanic/Operator – 11/14/19

Warehouse/Election Worker-Extra Help - ASAP

Building Inspector IV - ASAP

Code Enforcement Officer – 11/07/19

Sr. Public Health Nurse - Emergency Medical Services - ASAP

Airport Maintenance Supervisor – ASAP

Deputy Director of Administrative Services - ASAP

Bilingual Translation Specialist/Korean Proofer/Office Assistant-Extra Help - ASAP

Comprehensive Care Nurse II - Correctional Health Services - ASAP

Communications Installation Technician - ASAP

Correctional Services Technician - ASAP

Chief Deputy Public Guardian (Administrative Manager II) – ASAP

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Supervisor - ASAP

Director of Member Services - ASAP

Government Relations Manager - ASAP

### PROMOTIONAL

Sergeant– 11/15/19

Investigative Commander – 11/06/19

Chief Deputy Probation Officer – 11/07/19

Supervising Construction Inspector – 11/06/19

**Be sure to check the website often for any career opportunities that may be listed!**

# EVENTS CALENDAR - NOVEMBER 2019

Check out these County events scheduled for November and for details on these and other events, visit the [OC Events](#) Calendar online!

					1	2
3	4	5	6	Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board <i>Health Care Agency</i>	BHS 2019 Community Engagement Meeting <i>Health Care Agency</i>	9
10	11	12	13	Clutter Cleaning Workshop <i>OC Public Libraries</i>	15	16
17	Mental Health Steering Committee <i>Health Care Agency</i>	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	Mental Health Board Meetings <i>Health Care Agency</i>	28	29	30



# MIGUEL LOPEZ

*Adult Restitution Enforcement Unit - Probation*

"I was out on one of my morning runs I do on the weekends and caught sight of this beautiful view. This is in the Orange County Flood Control channel, right behind Theo Lacy."

SUBMIT PHOTOS TO [TRAVIS.LARIVIERE@OCGOV.COM](mailto:TRAVIS.LARIVIERE@OCGOV.COM)



# COUNTY OF ORANGE 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.**



THANK YOU FOR READING

# COUNTY CONNECTION

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