

County Employees Celebrate George Washington's 275th Birthday



Chairman Chris Norby and his wife Marsha introduce the Santa Ana High School Fife and Drum Corps.

Nearly 1,200 County employees gathered at a birthday bash to honor our nation's first president on Feb. 22. Board Chairman Chris Norby and wife Marsha played active roles as George and Martha Washington – complete with costumes, wigs and an axe – as they welcomed guests to the party.

While employees ate their complimentary sandwiches and cherry pie, they were also entertained with the melodies of patriotic songs, such as “Yankee Doodle”, performed by the Santa Ana High School Fife and Drum Corps.

The celebration was dedicated to honor George Washington's birthday and to recognize County employees. The lunch was hosted by Chairman Norby and paid with leftover funds from his campaign.



Employees from the Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office arrive at George Washington's Birthday Party on Feb. 22. From left to right, Steve Schultz and Marjon Shabanpour receive a warm greeting from Chairman Norby and his wife Marsha.



Elizabeth Perez, Auditor-Controller's Office, meets Marsha Norby and Robin Russell, Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office, shakes hands with the Chairman.



Charlie Leopold, Resources & Development Management Department, visits with Chairman Norby and his wife Marsha.



Bryan Speegle, Director of Resources & Development Management Department, receives his slice of cherry pie.



Chairman Norby, with wife Marsha at his side, welcomes employees and commemorates the occasion while the Santa Ana High School Fife and Drum Corps stand at attention.

Paving Your Career Path with Choices

The first day of Tara's well-deserved tropical vacation is marked by the thundering sky and constant streams of rain. Priding herself on packing for all weather, Tara quickly pulls out her rain coat and tours the area with enthusiasm.

On the other side of the island, Sara stands sopping wet and frozen on the sidewalk. She quickly realized after reaching her vacation getaway that she hadn't thought to check the weather report and pack for all possible conditions.

These two experiences compare with how many people have an idea of where they want their job to lead them, but don't know how to get there. ***It's a choice to either be prepared for your career path or ill prepared and lost in the maze.***

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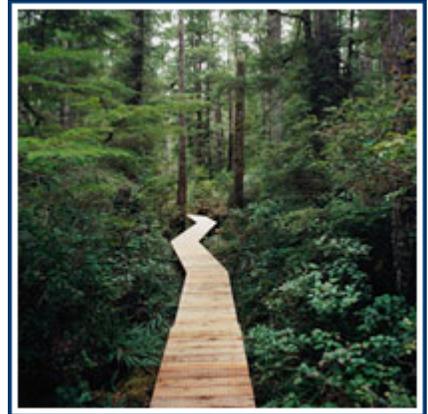
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With 24 agencies/departments and thousands of positions, the County is an employer with great opportunities for employees to grow without having to switch employers, lose service hours or change medical insurance.

For Chip Monaco, Management Services Manager with the Integrated Waste Management Department (IWMD), the County has offered an opportunity to work for different sized departments with varying levels of responsibility.

“I’ve been fortunate to have had the opportunity to work on the policy-making side of the County, then for a large department and now for a smaller department,” said Monaco. “With each opportunity I’ve been able to match my skills and interests with the department’s function while garnering a greater understanding of how the County works together.”

Starting as an intern with the County Executive Office, Monaco grew into advisor positions with former Supervisors Wilson and Spitzer. Eventually, he became Chief of Staff for then-Supervisor Spitzer, prior to transferring to a management position with the Resources & Development Management Department. Having found another opportunity to grow, Monaco is now in his current position with IWMD.



“The County offers a unique opportunity for its employees to look within to meet their professional needs without having to change employers,” said Monaco. “The opportunities to try new disciplines and learn new trades are endless.”

Choosing Your Career Path

1. Research – Ask yourself what you want to do. If you don’t know, think about what skills you’re good at or what interests you.
 - Review Agency and Departments’ web sites at www.ocgov.com and select the department from the quick jump menu at the top of the site.
 - Find out detailed information about an agency or department by reading their business plan at <http://www.ocgov.com/ceobusiness.asp>.
 - Contact the Human Resources Team at www.ocgov.com/hr/hr_contacts.asp.
2. Map out a plan – Once you’ve identified what you’re interested in, find what the job is called at the County. Next, think about what you’d need to prepare for this position. What is required for education or experience?
3. Education – Take advantage of formal and informal learning opportunities such as:
 - The County’s Educational and Professional Reimbursement Program
 - Ask your supervisor about the Personnel Services Institute (PSI) training program or visit www.ocgov.com/hr/training/index.asp.
 - See if your Department/Agency has a training program.
 - If you need to complete an internship for school, check out www.ocgov.com/hr/volunteer/volunteer.asp.
 - Start memberships with related professional organizations.
 - Subscribe to professional journals or web sites.
 - Look for a mentor.
 - Perform online training or blended training that includes online, in-person and other methods.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

- Attend professional conferences or workshops.
4. Experience – Job experience can include:
 - A new or different project that stretches you beyond what you do everyday.
 - Internships or volunteer experience
 - Transfer to a newly established position or a place where you will serve a different client. Think of other jobs you've had that might incorporate transferable skills. If you have questions about what qualifies as a transferable skill, contact your Department/Agency Human Resources Team. You can find the contact information at www.ocgov.com/hr/hr_contacts.asp.
 5. Online job opportunities – visit the HR recruitment web site to view open recruitments, set up an account and apply online at <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/oc/default.cfm>. Remember to fill out the online job interest card if you are interested in a position that is not currently advertised and wish to become informed when the position opens up.
 6. Prepare for the Interview – This is your chance to showcase your skills.
 - Review the job bulletin and any resources included. Be prepared to explain how your experience relates to the competencies and requirements of the position you're after. Understand the recruitment process – the recruiter noted on the bulletin is your resource.
 - Learn about the department(s) you are interviewing with. Check out the online agency directory at <http://www.ocgov.com/directory.asp> or read the department business plan located at www.ocgov.com/ceobusiness.asp.
 - Practice – Conduct a mock interview with a friend while video taping or recording your session. Remember to include:
 - ◆ Greet the interviewer(s) with a warm smile and a handshake.
 - ◆ Dress professionally.
 - ◆ Anticipate what questions may be asked. Think about the questions you would ask if you were the interviewer.
 - ◆ Make eye contact with the interviewers.
 - ◆ Assume others do not know you or what you do.
 - ◆ Understand that it's a competition.
 - ◆ Be prepared with your own questions.
 - Scope out the location prior to the interview to ensure you arrive on time.
 - Remember to have fun.

View this information online at http://www.ocgov.com/hr/Jobs/career_path.asp.

Public Health Week Celebration

In recognition of National Public Health Week, the Health Care Agency (HCA) will hold a Public Health Week Celebration on April 4 to honor the department's achievements in health education. Emergency preparedness displays and take-home information will set off this year's theme – "Preparedness and Public Health Threats: Addressing the Unique Needs of the Nation's Most Vulnerable Populations."

Festivities will feature guest speakers including Public Health Chief Medical Officer Dr. Nancy Bowen and Chief of Public Health Operations David Souleles. The recipient of the 2007 Gerald A. Wagner Excellence in Health Education Award will also be announced.

The department's "Everyday Heroes" will also be showcased. These individuals are chosen by each program within HCA/ Public Health who demonstrate outstanding dedication and commitment to the clients served by the HCA.

The celebration will begin at noon at the Public Health Education Center, located at 1729 W. 17th St./Bldg. E in Santa Ana.

To find out more information about this event and other events held during Public Health Week, visit <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/public/phweek/>.

Leadership Academy VII Participants

Marilyn Greene
Assessor

Larry Chanda
Auditor-Controller

Claire Moynihan
Auditor-Controller

Matt Petteruto
Board of Supervisors

Jessica O'Hare
Board of Supervisors

Kim Evans
Child Support Services

Laura Sipa
Clerk-Recorder

Jim Harvey
County Counsel

Tony Lucich
County Executive Office

Michelle Aguirre
County Executive Office

Rozanne Holbrook
County Executive Office

Kim Dinh
District Attorney

Sheryl Curl
Health Care Agency

Dorinda Malloy
Health Care Agency

Marie Vu
Housing & Community
Services Department

Bart Bartlett
Human Resources

Rochelle Carpenter
Integrated Waste Management

Winnie Keung
Internal Audit

Don Arthur
John Wayne Airport

Paula Bruce
Public Library

Suzanne Jenike
Orange County
Employee Retirement System

Steve Sentman
Probation

Lala Ragen
Probation

Bruce Peotter
Public Administrator/
Public Guardian

David Dworakowski
Public Defender

Brenda Erlinger
Registrar of Voters

Sonia Nasser
Resources & Development
Management Department

Mark Denny
Resources & Development
Management Department

Brent Giudice
Sheriff-Coroner

Dortha Ronan
Sheriff-Coroner

Phyllis Watanabe
Social Services Agency

Kamal Singh
Treasurer-Tax Collector



Literary Orange - A Celebration of Authors

The Orange County Public Library has opened registration for its first author festival, Literary Orange – A Celebration of Authors. Participants will be able to meet and interact with a variety of authors at this all day literary event, taking place April 21 at the Hyatt Regency Orange County in Garden Grove. Aspiring writers can look forward to a special panel discussion on the business of writing, including advice from literary agents, editors and teachers alike.

To learn more, visit <http://www.ocpl.org/literaryorange/faq.asp>. To sign up, visit

<http://www.ocpl.org/literaryorange/RegistrationForm.pdf> soon as space is limited.



Ronald Robertson
Sheriff-Coroner

Michael Betzler
Sheriff-Coroner

25 Years

Daniel Dwyer
Sheriff-Coroner

Harjinder Kamboj
Assessor

Nancy Nunez Vega
Social Services Agency

Ted Rigoni
Resources & Development
Management Department

30 Years

Brian Frick
Health Care Agency

Caroline Y. Lee
Assessor

Deborah Sledge
Probation

Barbara Okubo
District Attorney

Clint Standiford
Sheriff-Coroner

Thomas Klier
Sheriff-Coroner

Barbara C. Murphy
Sheriff-Coroner



**Get The 411 On OC
Housing & Community Services**

- Housing & Community Services, created July 1, 2003, is staffed by 209 full-time employees who work within the following divisions: Office on Aging and Homeless Prevention, Community Development Services, Community Investment Division, Housing Assistance, Housing Development and Administrative Services, Human Relations Commission and Veterans Service Office.
- The Office on Aging provides services and resources to older adults and their caregivers. In 2006, approximately 39,500 older adults benefited from services such as adult daycare, case management, community services, meals, elder abuse prevention, medication management and senior employment.
- The Orange County Housing Authority's (OCHA) Housing Choice Voucher program assists approximately 9,600 households (more than 22,000 people) with monthly rental assistance payments. In addition, OCHA assists another 350 households with supportive services for the homeless disabled.
- The Veterans Service Office files claims for Federal and State Veterans Benefits for OC veterans, their survivors, and dependents, comprising a client pool of 475,000. This division processes more than \$5 million per year in monetary claims for local residents.

County Connection is distributed monthly by the County Executive Officer Thomas G. Mauk. The newsletter is published by CEO Community/Media Relations. All suggestions and comments may be emailed to ask.the.ceo@ocgov.com or faxed to 714.796.8426.