

THE NEW

# COUNTY CONNECTION

## AND HOW TO USE IT

County Connection has been a great way for the many stories and happenings around each department to be delivered in a finished piece. It has evolved over time (20+ years) and has grown to include more visuals, news content, employee services and much more. Now, County Connection will be presented in a digital magazine format right on your computer browser. Here are some important changes to County Connection to be aware of:

- 1. CLICK A CORNER TO TURN THE PAGE** - Just like a real magazine, you can click any of the 4 corners of the magazine to go to the next or previous page.
- 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS** - The table of contents will include the list of features and sections in each issue of County Connection. All of these stories are linked within the magazine so you can click right to a specific section right away. There is also a back arrow that will return you directly to the table of contents.
- 3. EVENT FLYERS ARE NOW FULL PAGES** - Department event flyers are no longer contained to a small thumbnail on a single page that you click to go somewhere else. Everything you need displayed will be on its own page, scattered throughout County Connection. These can serve as ads for your department or agency, just like a real magazine!
- 4. PARTING SHOT PHOTOS ARE NOW FULL PAGES** - Employee submitted photography is a great part of County Connection. In the past, Parting Shot was a section to display photos submitted by County employees. With this new design focusing on visual design, the photographs are now full size on a single page.
- 5. MORE EXCITING DESIGN AND LAYOUT** - News and stories from all the different agencies and departments should be given a grand appearance because all news is important news. With a greater emphasis on photography, design and content layout, each story will be exciting to read.

We hope that you enjoy this new format of County Connection and would love to hear your feedback of what we can do to improve upon it in the future!

- **CEO COMMUNICATIONS TEAM**  
[ceocom@ocgov.com](mailto:ceocom@ocgov.com)





# COUNTY CONNECTION

A digital magazine for and about County of Orange employees

APRIL 2017 VOLUME





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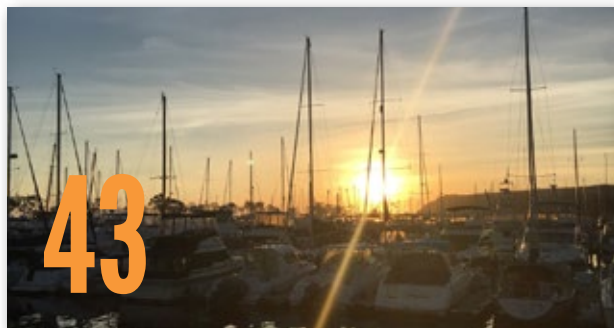
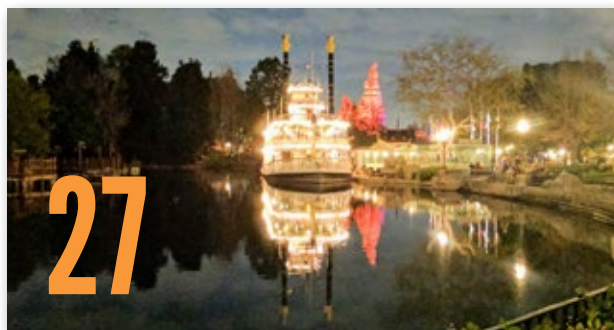
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Recognizing our long serving employees and their accomplishments





# FRANKLY SPEAKING

a message from CEO Frank Kim



Though it's not a widely recognized national holiday, April is National County Government Month. Held each year, National County Government Month encourages counties to actively promote, raise public awareness and increase understanding about the various services and programs provided by the County to the community.

As I participate in meetings and talk with employees across the county, I'm always amazed by our ability to overcome complex challenges, provide essential services to residents, save taxpayers money and constantly do more with less. Yet, our successes don't receive nearly the attention they deserve.

In that vein, I want to find innovative ways to tell the story of the County of Orange. The first step is this new digital magazine format of County Connection. Employees have enjoyed variations of County Connection for more than 20 years, and it was time for a redesign. Inside this issue, you'll find a more visually engaging and interactive version with informative features and articles. You can learn about the new program created by HCA called the Motel Assistance Program, which supports homeless individuals waiting for permanent housing. See the best spots at our County parks to view the wildflower blooms that are particularly spectacular this season. Or plan to celebrate Earth Day on April 22 with either OC Waste and Recycling at the Discovery Cube or join me at Fitness With Frank on a 5.5 mile hike through Limestone Canyon.

Beyond National County Government Month, I'm always looking to highlight our County services, programs and employees. We are demonstrating local leadership that makes a difference in people's lives. It's my hope that this new version of County Connection will encourage you to take what you learn and share with your friends and family. Stay engaged in the accomplishments of not only your department, but take the extra step to see how you connect to the County as a whole.



- FRANK KIM



# NATALIA GAERLAN

*Sr. Project Manager - OC Parks*

"I was hiking with my family on the Toyon Trail in Irvine Regional Park. The sun was beginning to set, creating an inspiring glow at the top of the hill."

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



# Donate Today!



*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
- 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)

- Wheelchair for Shelter Patrons
- EZ-Ups
- Universal Microchip Scanners

*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*

*You're Invited...*

23rd Annual

# Blue Ribbon Month Kick-Off Ceremony

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

at Bowers Museum (outdoor courtyard)  
2002 N. Main Street, Santa Ana

Join us to kick off "National Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month." Help us honor the memory of local children who died from child abuse and neglect, and hear the latest on what is being done to help prevent and stop the cycle of child abuse and neglect in Orange County. Applaud inspiring Blue Ribbon heroes, enjoy a Blue Ribbon youth art exhibit, and leave with important lifesaving information to share with others. It's important to attend!



#### EMCEE

**Vikki Vargas, Orange County Bureau Chief, NBC4 Southern California** 

A vital part of the NBC4 news team for 30 years, Vikki Vargas gathers and reports on Orange County's major news stories. She is recognized for her versatility and journalistic integrity, as evidenced by the numerous industry awards she has earned — among them the Orange County Press Club's highest honor, a Golden Mike, and part of the team that won a Los Angeles Area Emmy Award for "Best Newscast." She is equally as passionate about helping the community, providing numerous volunteer hours to her alma mater California State University, Fullerton (CSUF), and working with foster youth at Orangewood Children's Foundation.



#### IMPACT SPEAKER

**Mark Casas, Former Foster Youth and Inspiring Young Adult**

Being abused and neglected, homeless, separated from six of his seven siblings, and entering the foster care system all took place during Mark's childhood. He now thrives as a Guardian Scholar, senior in college, Peer Mentor, California Youth Ambassador, Foster Youth Outreach Coordinator, and recipient of international and local awards. He also has helped children during his studies abroad and while inspiring legislative bills to advocate for foster youth. Next he plans to pursue a Master's Degree and career in social work and social policy.

**Kindly RSVP your attendance**  
[kickoff.ocblueribbon.org](http://kickoff.ocblueribbon.org)



Orange County's Child Abuse Prevention Council

The 2017 Blue Ribbon Task Force is comprised of representatives from the American Academy of Pediatrics, OC Fire Authority, OC Sheriff's Department, County of Orange Social Services Agency, OC Department of Education, Families and Communities Together (FaCT), Faith in Motion, and The Raise Foundation. A special thank you to OC School of the Arts for their involvement in the ceremony.

To learn more about month-long Blue Ribbon efforts, or to plan one of your own, please contact us at: [www.ocblueribbon.org](http://www.ocblueribbon.org) or call (714) 884-3421, ext. 104.





# JOSH FARRIS

## *OC Waste & Recycling*

**O**C Waste & Recycling (OCWR) employees help deliver an essential public service by providing solid waste disposal at the landfills, and yet their work is not always on people's minds. Residents across the County put their trash and recycling bins out each week, with few probably thinking about what happens to the waste from there.

According to Josh Farris, an OCWR laborer at the Frank R. Bowerman Landfill in Irvine, the seamlessness of the waste disposal process is one sign of OCWR's success.

"I find pride in the fact that if people have to ask where their trash is being transferred to, that means we're doing our job," Josh said. When it comes to waste, he said, "If it's kind of out of sight, out of mind, that's exactly the goal we strive for," which means the landfills are doing their job in minimizing the environmental impacts of some 4 million tons of trash each year.

Josh has worked with OCWR since December 2014. A former reserve firefighter for the city of Santa Ana and a college graduate with a degree in public administration, he views his laborer position as his entry point into serving the County.

"I took this job knowing I don't want to keep this current job title my full career, but it was a way to get in and to hopefully partner my experiences with my public administration degree somehow down

the line," Josh said. Last year he participated in OCWR's career development program, called BOOST – Building Ongoing Opportunities for Staff Training. He spent six weeks at headquarters, shadowing a veteran employee and handling tasks in the business services unit.

Many OCWR staff refer to the landfills as "feats of environmental engineering excellence." In his current role, Josh and his fellow laborers at the landfill are responsible for maintaining the structural integrity of the landfill through a variety of means. On any given day, their work could involve tasks like directing traffic coming in and out of the landfill, working to mitigate litter, installing fencing, or installing pipes to deal with rain and avoid the pooling of water.

While Josh acknowledges that many Orange County residents may not know about the work that goes on at County landfills, he does think it is important to conduct community outreach and educate the public on proper waste disposal and recycling. As a participant in the OCWR Ambassador program, Josh regularly helps staff community events to engage with members of the public and share information about OCWR and environmental stewardship.

"I'm proud to be involved in teaching the public – especially children – about the concepts of "Reduce, Recycle and Reuse," Josh said. "I try to be responsible when it comes to the environment, and



"I find pride in the fact that if people have to ask where their trash is being transferred to, that means we're doing our job."

-JOSH FARRIS





## EMPLOYEE PROFILE





I think it's important to teach those values to future generations."

Earth Day, coming up on April 22, is one of many opportunities throughout the year for OCWR to conduct outreach and emphasize the roles landfills play in sustainability.

The County's landfills, for example, meet the need to dispose of solid waste while also giving back to the environment. Each day trash is placed, compacted and covered with a layer of soil or tarps. Over time, decomposing waste produces liquid that is then sprayed over dirt areas to control dust. The decomposing waste also naturally produces methane gas, which is collected through pipes and then sent to a facility for conversion to renewable energy or to be flared.

When Josh is participating in community outreach events, he promotes environmental responsibility by educating people on the right way to dispose of certain kinds of waste. He and other ambassadors want the general public to know what kinds of waste should go to the landfill, what should be recycled and what should go to a Hazardous Household Waste Collection Center.

"We inform the public on things like where they can drop off paint, other household hazardous items or anything else that they're unable to throw away in the trash," Josh said. Household hazardous waste includes products that contain corrosive toxic,

ignitable or reactive ingredients – such as paints, cleaners, oils, batteries and pesticides. If disposed of incorrectly, these items can pollute the environment and threaten human health.

The OCWR website includes information on proper household hazardous waste disposal, recycling, and general recycling and waste prevention tips that can help people do their part to protect the environment, on Earth Day and throughout the year. The website also includes a listing of OCWR education and outreach events scheduled for 2017.

For Josh, while he is passionate about the OCWR mission and is proud to be part of the County as a whole, ultimately his favorite part of his job is working alongside his teammates. "I think the best part of my job is working with my coworkers and the teamwork involved," Josh said. "We work very hard out in the field, especially when you take into account the elements or the weather, and we all work together to get the job done."

### 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 [jennifer.nentwig@ocgov.com](mailto:jennifer.nentwig@ocgov.com).

## Celebrate Earth Day with OCWR at the Cube and Meet and Angels Player

OC Waste & Recycling invites all employees to take the **Eco Challenge** at **Discovery Cube** on Earth Day, Saturday, April 22, 2017, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Cube will turn into a hub of environmental stewardship activity to help drive home the message that small, everyday changes can add up to a big environmental impact.

In addition to meeting some of OCWR's Community Outreach Ambassadors, you can learn about the environmental efforts of such organizations as OC Vector Control, Irvine Ranch Conservancy, Earth Friendly Products, Waste Not OC and more. [Click here](#) for a coupon for one free child's admission to Discovery Cube.

An Angels player will be on hand from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to autograph memorabilia. Go Country 105 will provide music and free giveaways from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

If you're already otherwise booked on Earth Day, you can

still visit the Cube any time before April 22 to participate in special environmental activities and challenges and learn about ways to help minimize your environmental impact. For hours and information visit <http://oc.discoverycube.org/>

For more information contact Isabel Rios-Kahn, OCWR manager of educational outreach at 714-834-4118 or [Isabel.rios-kahn@ocwr.ocgov.com](mailto:Isabel.rios-kahn@ocwr.ocgov.com).



DiscoveryCube  
ORANGE COUNTY



**Hugh Nguyen**  
**Orange County Clerk-Recorder**  
**Special Saturday Opening**

Saturday, April 22, 2017  
10:00am - 3:00pm



**North County  
Branch Office**

201 N. Harbor Blvd.  
Fullerton, CA 92832

**Services Available:**

Copies of property records  
Birth, death, and marriage  
certificates  
Marriage licenses and ceremonies



**Old Orange County  
Courthouse**

211 W. Santa Ana Blvd.  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

**Services Available:**

Marriage licenses and ceremonies  
Passport application processing  
Archives  
*\*Passport photos available for \$15*



**South County  
Branch Office**

24031 El Toro Rd., Suite #150  
Laguna Hills, CA 92653

**Services Available:**

Marriage licenses and ceremonies,  
Copies of property records  
Birth, death, and marriage  
certificates,  
Passport application processing  
*\*Passport photos available for \$15*

Reservations for civil wedding ceremonies and passports are recommended due to limited space. Please call (714) 834-2500 for more information.

**Free parking will be available at all three locations!**

For more information regarding our services and fees, please visit our website at:

**[www.ocrecorder.com](http://www.ocrecorder.com)**

# FITNESS WITH FRANK



The next Fitness with Frank hike, originally scheduled for April 8, has been rescheduled to April 22 (Earth Day) and will be held at the Irvine Ranch Nature Preserve. This will be a longer and more strenuous hike than has been done in the past – a 5.5-mile “moderate plus” hike into Limestone Canyon. There are hills (approximately 700 ft. elevation), and the hike will take approximately 2.5 hours. There will be some great views of Orange County, and the wet winter should bring out some amazing wildflowers.

Remember to bring water, some snacks, sunscreen and a hat. Also, sturdy hiking shoes are recommended. Please note that dogs are not permitted in this nature preserve.

For more information about Irvine Ranch Open Space, please visit <http://www.ocparks.com/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=21787>

To attend, please email [rsvp@ocparks.com](mailto:rsvp@ocparks.com) with “Limestone Canyon” in the subject line. The hike will start 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.





PHOTOGRAPH BY TRAVIS LARIVIERE / CEO COMMUNICATIONS



# CONSTRUCTION

## THE DEMOLITION OF BUILDING 16 AND THE FUTURE OF THE COUNTY CIVIC CENTER

On February 27, 2017, the County began demolition of Building 16, knocking down an entire wall of the building and marking a historic milestone in the start of the County's Civic Center Facilities Master Plan first phase.

*CONTINUED ON PAGE 16*





Originally named the “Welfare Building,” Building 16 was completed in 1955 at a cost of about \$785,000 and was the first Civic Center structure completed. It is a three-story structure, with approximately 36,000 square feet of office space and has been unoccupied since the mid-1980s.

Now, Building 16 is the first structure to be demolished as the County moves forward with its master plan.

Since the start of the Building 16 demolition, the County has made significant progress. As of March 22, the demolition work was about 85 percent complete. Throughout the project, the County has emphasized the importance of safety – completing a thorough asbestos removal process prior to demolition and emphasizing the importance of observing all construction signs during the demolition work. The demolition work is anticipated to be finished by May 2017.

According to the County of Orange Civic Center Facilities Master Plan approved by the Board of Supervisors in February

2015, a new six-story office building will be built on the site of the existing Building 16. Plans for the new building include a one-stop public counter, which will bring together 13 different County agencies and enable people to conduct business with multiple County agencies in one location.

The project will be delivered by a Public Private Partnership (P3) between the County and the Griffin Structures team utilizing tax-exempt financing with a long-term lease with the County, which will then own the facility at the end of the lease term.

Approximate construction and affiliated costs for the new Building 16 are estimated at \$166 million and the building is estimated to be ready for occupancy in 2020.



PHOTOGRAPH BY TRAVIS LARIVIERE / CEO COMMUNICATIONS

▲ Board of Supervisors **Vice-Chair Andrew Do**, First District Supervisor, **Supervisor Lisa Bartlett**, Fifth District and **Supervisor Shawn Nelson**, Fourth District were present to commemorate the demolition's significance.





# TIMELINE OF DEMOLITION

..... **March 10, 2017**



..... **March 15, 2017**



..... **March 20, 2017**



..... **March 22, 2017**





Every day is

# EARTH DAY

at OC Waste & Recycling

The first Earth Day was celebrated on April 22, 1970, and is considered the birth of the modern environmental movement. This year people worldwide will continue the tradition at various special events, marches and school activities once again on Saturday, April 22.

At OC Waste & Recycling (OCWR), the mission is to provide waste management services, protect the environment and promote recycling in order to ensure a safe and healthy community for current and future generations. With environmental stewardship a year-round priority at OCWR, every day is Earth Day.

As part of the OCWR Good Neighbor commitment, the department takes great pride in the environmental engineering best practices at the County's three active landfills and four Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers. Everything from converting landfill gas to energy to power area homes, to slope mitigation and habitat restoration projects, a bird abatement falconry program, goats for weed mitigation, public landfill tours, an Ambassador program and educational outreach, there are countless innovative measures taken in the best interest of the environment and neighboring communities.

To the right are samples of some of the great work implemented year-round. For more information, visit [oclandfills.com](http://oclandfills.com).

## PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. Goats graze in part of the Olinda Alpha Landfill as part of OCWR's eco-friendly vegetation mitigation efforts. Goats are used at various locations of the landfill sites for seasonal weed abatement. In the background, landfill operations are taking place moving soil as part of hillside slope improvement projects.
2. A falconry program helps to naturally deter pest birds at County landfills.
3. Strategic drainage installation and other vital storm mitigation measures helped OCWR landfills weather this seasons rains.
4. Residents can drop off household hazardous waste material for free at one of four County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers or at various collection events hosted throughout the year. The centers include a Materials Exchange Program where residents can take free materials such as paints, cleaning products and other items recycled there, which keeps them out of the landfills.
5. Landfill gas-to-energy plants at each site capture renewable energy to power homes throughout the region.
6. Engineers at the landfills work to restore native landscape, mitigate non-native species and preserve the integrity of the local habitat and hillsides.
7. The Eco Challenge exhibit sponsored by the County of Orange is a permanent exhibit hosted in partnership with Discovery Cube OC. It is supported by educational outreach programs and curriculum teaching recycling best practices to area students.
8. A local scout troop gets a first-hand look at the Frank R. Bowerman landfill operations during a recent tour earlier this month.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY OC WASTE & RECYCLING





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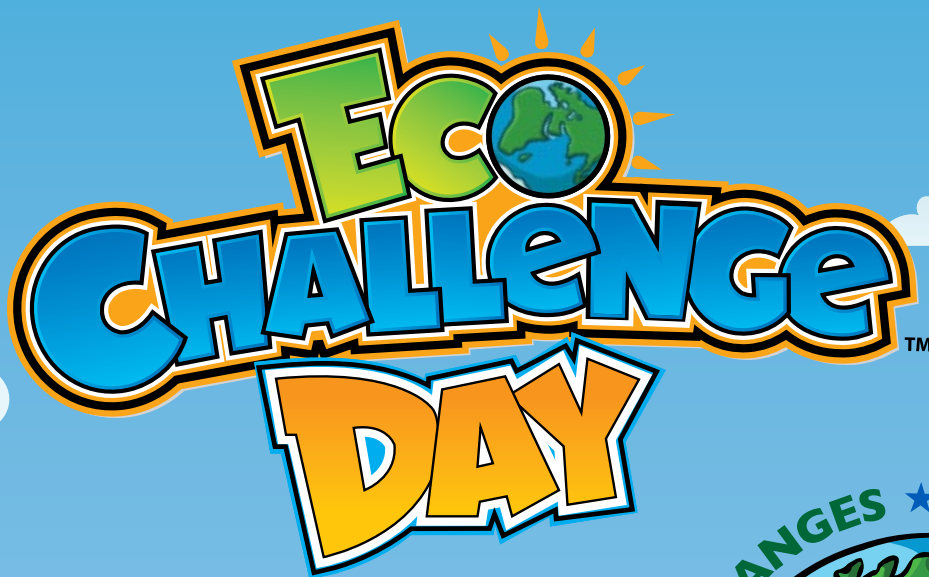
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# Celebrate Earth Day at the Cube



PRESENTED BY:



OC  
Waste  
&  
Recycling  
COUNTY OF ORANGE

**Saturday, April 22 - 10am to 1pm**

- Complete the Eco Challenge Scavenger Hunt and earn a 4-pack of Angels tickets\*
- Meet an Angels player
- Learn about eco-friendly resources
- Enter the poster contest for your chance to become an Angels Honorary Bat Kid

\*Limit one 4-pack per family. While supplies last.



## Earn a 4-pack of tickets!

Take our online pledge and get 4 tickets to Eco Challenge Day! Plus you could win one of 5 VIP Experiences to either of our summer exhibits: *Above & Beyond* or *Doc McStuffins*.

The first 100 families to take the pledge will receive 4 tickets. Available while supplies last.

**[discoverycube.org/earthday](http://discoverycube.org/earthday)**

## WIN A VIP EXPERIENCE



**DiscoveryCube**

ORANGE COUNTY

PRESENTED BY TACO BELL

Discovery Cube is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.  
All rights reserved ©Discovery Science Foundation.

**2500 N. Main Street  
Santa Ana, CA 92705**

I N S P I R E

E D U C A T E

I M P A C T.



# MELISSA TOBER

*Strategic Projects Manager - Health Care Agency*

A wonderful sunset shot taken back in January atop the pedestrian bridge at the Fullerton train depot.

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





PHOTOGRAPH BY VICTOR CASTILLO



PHOTOGRAPH BY MARIELENA VERDUGO

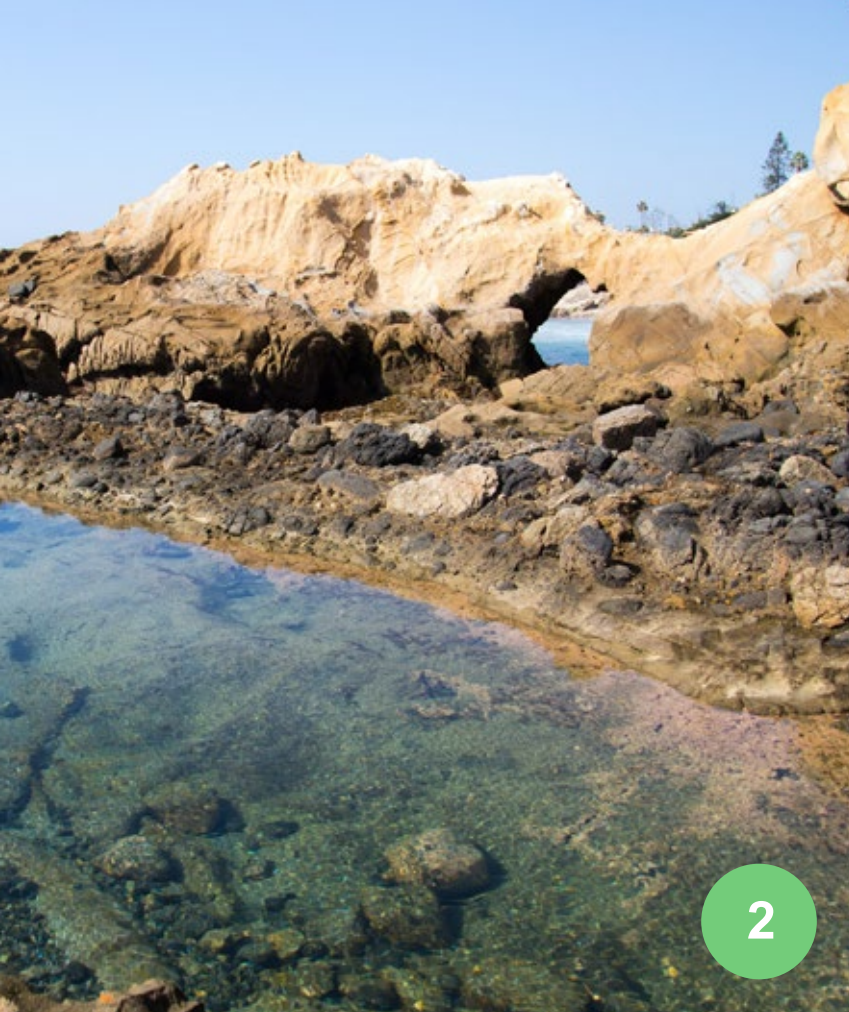
# FOR THE *Love of* OC

The County's first-ever "Love Orange County" Photo Contest recently concluded, and the winner of the contest is Victor Castillo who submitted his photo (top left) titled "Fallen but not Forgotten."

Victor is a Dual Eligibility Technician with the OC Social Services Agency. He photographed "Fallen but not Forgotten" at Balboa Beach on September 13, 2015.

The two other photographers whose submissions were selected as the final top three photos were "Mermaid Pool" (top middle) and "Surf Dreams" (top right). Marielena Verdugo submitted "Mermaid Pool," which she photographed in Laguna Beach on October 14, 2016. Alexander Redd, a member of the OC Community Resources Agenda Staff Report Unit, submitted "Surf Dreams," which he photographed in Del Mar in November 2015.





PHOTOGRAPH BY ALEXANDER REDD

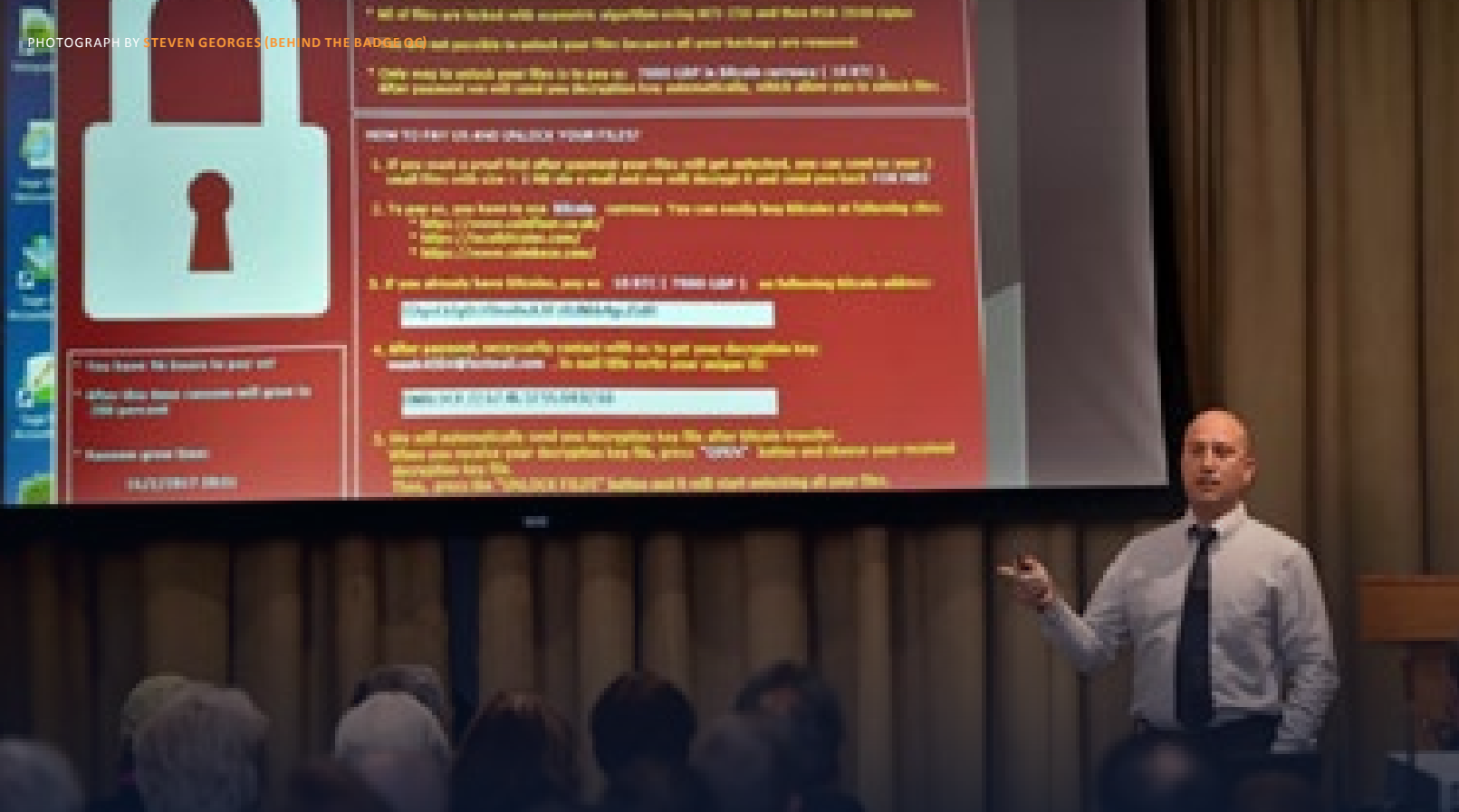
- ▶ **"FALLEN BUT NOT FORGOTTEN,"** a photograph by Victor Castillo, won the "Love OC" Photo Contest by receiving the most votes. During the public voting period, Victor's photo received 300 "likes" on the County of Orange Facebook page.
- ▶ **"MERMAID POOL,"** a photograph by Marielena Verdugo, earned second place in the "Love OC" Photo Contest. During the public voting period, Marielena's photo received 200 "likes" on the County of Orange Facebook page.
- ▶ **"SURF DREAMS,"** a photograph by Alexander Redd, earned third place in the "Love OC" Photo Contest. During the public voting period, Alexander's photo received 68 "likes" on the County of Orange Facebook page.

The contest, which was run by CEO Communications, began February 14, 2017, and accepted photo submissions through March 14, 2017. From March 20 through 5 p.m. on March 27, members of the general public voted for a winner by "liking" their favorite photo among the top three posted on the County of Orange Facebook page.

In promoting the contest, CEO Communications asked entrants – members of the public as well as County employees – to submit photos that convey qualities of Orange County that make the County a safe, healthy and fulfilling place to live, work, and play. The contest aimed to promote the County's mission and increase the County's social media engagement.

CEO Communications plans to conduct quarterly photo contests moving forward. To find out about future contests, follow the [County of Orange Facebook page](#).





The below article is a modified excerpt of an article by Jessica Peralta originally published by Behind the Badge OC.

▲ OCSD Investigator **Adam Sandler** talks about how hackers can hold a person hostage by locking him or her out of personal and business data.

"PASSWORDS (ARE)  
EVERYTHING.  
PICK SOMETHING  
GOOD."

- Inv. Adam Sandler

The Orange County Sheriff's Department (OCSD) launched a Cyber Crimes Detail (CCD) in July 2016, making OCSD the only agency in Orange County to have a dedicated cyber crimes detail. The new unit is responsible for handling cyber crime cases for 13 cities, as well as all unincorporated areas of Orange County – approximately 750,000 residents.

Knowing that identify theft and cyber crime are major public concerns, the CCD has made community outreach and education a priority. The detail has held presentations for city managers, their own patrol deputies and other employees – as well as members of the public like the Laguna Woods elderly community and a Feb. 23 presentation to the agency's Citizens' Academy alumni. The goal of the team presentations – run by one sergeant and two investigators – is to inform law enforcement and the general public about what criminal hackers are capable of, and also how people can protect themselves.

During the Feb. 23 presentation at the agency's Regional Training Academy in Tustin, OCSD Investigator Adam Sandler led an interactive discussion on everything from ransomware, vishing and phishing to the dark Web and Bitcoin's use by cyber criminals.

Ransomware, he explained, gains access to an individual's work or home computer via an attachment in an email.

When the person clicks on the email link – the attachment also may automatically open when the email is opened – the ransomware locks the computer and all its files. The victim





Orange County Sheriff's Department

# ADDRESSING CYBER CRIMES

*and Educating the Public*

then will see a notification on his or her computer to pay in Bitcoins to have the files unlocked. Time is of the essence, since the ransom amount may increase over time. This is where the OCSD's Cyber Crimes Detail can help.

Though the FBI will typically handle cyber crimes over \$100,000, those that are high-profile or connected to terrorism, CCD investigators are connected to the bureau and other resources that can help in these cases.

"Most of us worked in fraud before we came here, so we have a lot of good contacts," said Sandler.

Vishing involves phone solicitation to extract enough information to get into a person's online account. Phishing, on the other hand, refers to gaining access to a person's accounts by sending emails with links.

"And they're hoping somebody clicks on that link," Sandler said.

The dark Web is a small percentage of the Internet frequented by criminals. It only can be accessed through a specific browser, which is completely anonymous.

"This is just hidden content that you can't get to," Sandler said.

Sandler took the audience through a dark Web site on his computer, projected on the conference room screen. It was a sale page listing items under subheadings, including cannabis, erotica and fraud. He advised the more curious among the audience not to take it upon themselves to check out the dark Web.

"As soon as you enter the dark Web ... everybody is basically pinging and looking for you," he said, adding that this will open up visitors to a cyber attack.

Sandler offered several tips for audience members to protect themselves from cyber crimes. He said it's important

to set complex – at least 12-character – passwords using upper and lower cases, numbers and special characters. The login that is most important to protect is that of email because hackers can use an email login and password to get into all other accounts.

"Passwords (are) everything," he said. "Pick something good."

Computer data backup also is important in case of a cyber attack. But Sandler said to make sure to disconnect your backup device after each backup or you'll risk having your backup device also being infected during an attack.

Also, keep your devices locked by code, fingerprint or some other secure locking mechanism – and that means turning off Siri for when the phone is locked. (He told the audience about a case where a cell phone thief used Siri to text the victim's wife for their ATM pin code even when the phone was otherwise locked.)

Sandler said one of the best things people can do to help prevent identity theft is place a credit freeze with each of the three credit reporting agencies: Equifax, Experian and TransUnion. This will prevent credit checks unless an authorization code is put in to give temporary access – meaning you will have control over who runs your credit.

"Make it a challenge for would-be hackers, Sandler advised. "They're not going to target you if it takes more than a couple minutes."



# HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

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

### **EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OFFERS FREE, ONLINE WILL SERVICE**

You can create your own will online for free by using the legal and financial benefits available through your Employee Assistance Program (EAP). The online will program enables you to select from several will formats and choose the one that applies to your personal situation and needs. Wills are state-specific. Online will preparation is private and secure.

#### **DO YOU NEED A WILL?**

Do you want to determine who receives your property and assets? Do you want to say who takes care of your minor children in case you can't? If the answers are yes, you need a will. The resources are at your fingertips. You can:

- Choose the will format that suits your needs and wishes.
- Build your own will by inserting your personal information
- Download and print your will.
- Follow complete instructions on proper signing and witnessing to ensure validity.
- Note that your online will is legal and valid in the state in which you execute it.

#### **HOW TO COMPLETE AN ONLINE WILL:**

1. Login to the website ([www.mylifevalues.com](http://www.mylifevalues.com)).
2. From the main menu, select "Benefits." Click "Legal & Financial Services" in the drop down menu.
3. Select "Legal Tools/Forms."
4. When the Legal Resources Center opens, click "Personal Documents."
5. Choose your state and click "Go."
6. Click "Wills, Powers of Attorney and Estate Planning."
7. Choose your document type from the list and follow the instructions to open the document and create a personal login. Do not use your company username and password in this section.

**1-800-221-0945**

**[www.mylifevalues.com](http://www.mylifevalues.com)**

**Username: orange county ca**

**Password: eap**

*NOTE: It is suggested that you consider consulting with an attorney to be sure that you have taken the proper steps as it relates to your specific estate, personal and financial*



# BRIAN CLARK

*Regional Manager - Social Services Agency*

A beautiful nighttime shot at Disneyland looking towards Big Thunder Mountain Railroad and the Mark Twain Riverboat.

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



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## 5 Things You Need To Know About the Local Rise in STDs

1. From 2011 to 2016, Orange County has seen a 412 percent increase in syphilis cases, a 204 percent increase in gonorrhea and a 59 percent increase in chlamydia. Read more about the rise in a recent [Orange County Register article](#).

2. Orange County sexually transmitted disease (STD) rate increases are larger than other Southern California counties, but:

- OC ranks 30th of California's 61 local health jurisdictions (LHJ) for chlamydia rates
- OC ranks 35th of California's 61 LHJ for gonorrhea rates
- OC ranks 18th of California's 61 LHJ for early syphilis rates

3. To address the increase in STDs, Public Health Services and our Medical Director of HIV/STD Services, [Dr. Christopher Ried](#) are actively promoting appropriate screening of men

who have sex with men (MSM) by medical providers through outreach, educational events and newsletters. A new robust team of 10 Public Health Investigators were also brought on board to investigate syphilis and gonorrhea cases.

4. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that sexually active women under 25 should be tested annually for chlamydia and gonorrhea, pregnant women should be tested for syphilis and chlamydia early in pregnancy and sexually active MSM should be tested for syphilis, chlamydia and HIV at least once a year. Learn more [here](#).

5. HCA's 17th Street Testing Treatment and Care offers testing and treatment for STDs, HIV testing and HIV medical care. For more information, visit the [STD/HIV Clinic website](#).

## Become a Medical Reserve Corps Volunteer to Help Others Prepare for Disasters

The Health Care Agency's Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is actively recruiting volunteers who have medical as well as non-medical experience to assist the Orange County community during natural or manmade disasters and at emergency preparedness events.

As an MRC volunteer, you'll help dispense antibiotics or vaccines, respond to threats ranging from pandemic influenza to bioterrorist attacks, participate in various health fairs and assist with seasonal Point of Dispensing (POD) influenza clinics.

"I've been an MRC volunteer since 2009 and have worked alongside school nurses to provide flu shots to children at several schools in Anaheim and also participate in numerous HCA POD flu shot exercises held throughout the community," said Christina Branch. "It's a gratifying experience to be part of a group of volunteers from diverse walks of life who all come together with a singular purpose to help the community be prepared if and when a disaster strikes."

MRC volunteers are all community members with different backgrounds and experiences. They include public health and medical professions such as nurses, physicians, dentists, pharmacists and social workers, as well as those with non-medical expertise such as interpreters, retired professionals, legal advisors and service workers.

To learn more about the MRC volunteer program or for details on how to sign-up, visit [www.healthdisasteroc.org/mrc/volunteer](http://www.healthdisasteroc.org/mrc/volunteer) or contact Lindsey Greene, MRC Project Lead via email at [lgreene@ochca.com](mailto:lgreene@ochca.com).



▲ Medical Reserve Corps volunteers assisting families in a local community. Photography from HCA

## *New Motel Assistance Program Begins Housing Participants*

A new program, designed to provide temporary housing to assist individuals who are struggling with a mental health or substance use issue and currently work with our Behavioral Health Services (BHS) Outreach and Engagement (O&E) team, has begun housing its first participants.

The Motel Assistance for Behavioral Health Homeless program is designed to provide housing to individuals in a motel for up to seven days to support their recuperative care, linkage to behavioral health programs or after they are matched to a housing opportunity through the [Coordinated Entry System](#).

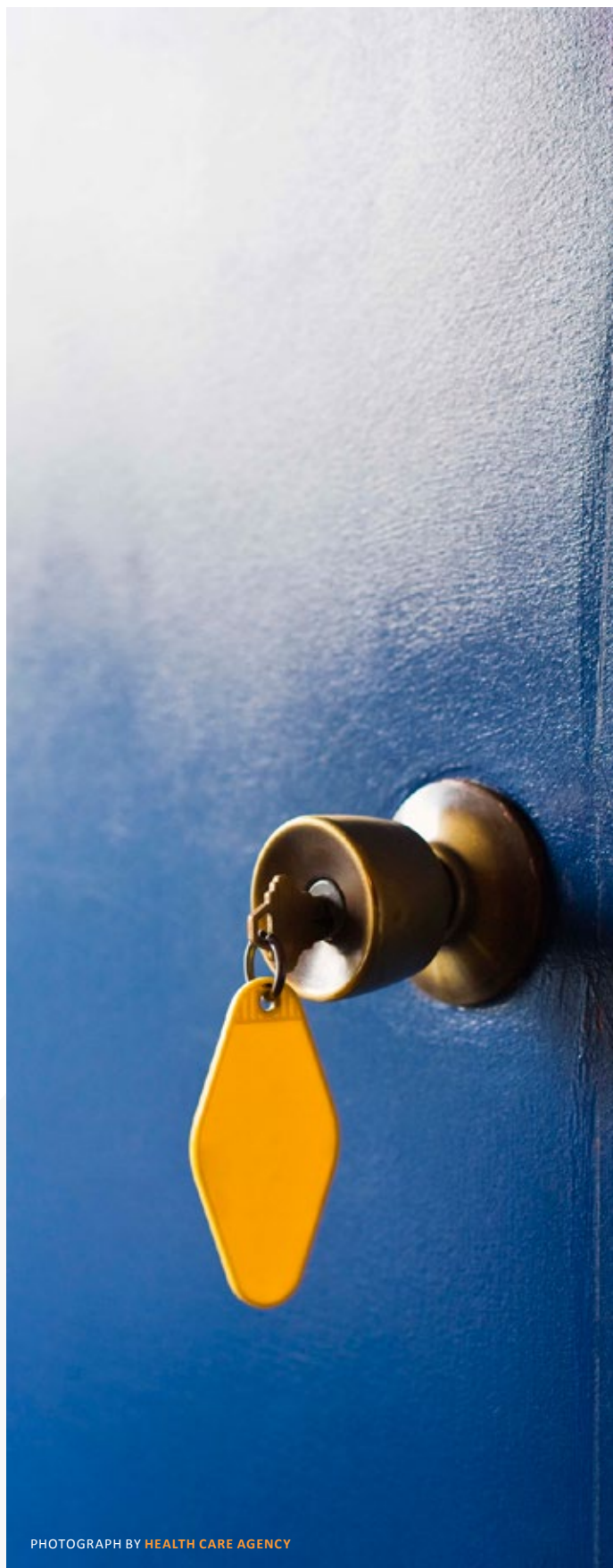
“It’s comforting to know that when we place our homeless participants in a motel, they are safe and supported as they prepare for the next stage of their journey toward independent living,” said Tammy Waitman, Mental Health Specialist, BHS O&E Team.

The process begins with O&E staff who identify participants that are working toward rehabilitative goals. Once a participant is determined, staff will connect with a BHS contract provider that has existing relationships with motels. The provider then sets up and funds the motel stay.

Since its launch February 23, the program has successfully housed several participants. Here are a few success stories:

- O&E staff had been working with an adult female who was matched for housing. She was scheduled for foot surgery prior to when her unit would be available. Staff all worked together to identify a motel and got her off the streets until she was able to move into her unit.
- A male that lives on the riverbed, who O&E staff had been working with, was matched for a housing unit that wouldn’t be available for a week. To get him off the riverbed, staff offered him a motel room until his unit was ready. He cried and commented that he hadn’t showered in weeks and would be very happy to use this service.

BHS O&E provides outreach services to individuals of all ages who are homeless, at risk of homelessness and struggling with a behavioral health condition. The team develops trusting relationships with homeless participants in any public area and works with them to reduce barriers to housing due to behavioral health impairments and facilitates linkage to available resources and support services. To learn more about the great work they do, visit the [Outreach and Engagement website](#) or call 800-364-2221.



PHOTOGRAPH BY HEALTH CARE AGENCY



## Foster Families Help Save Animals

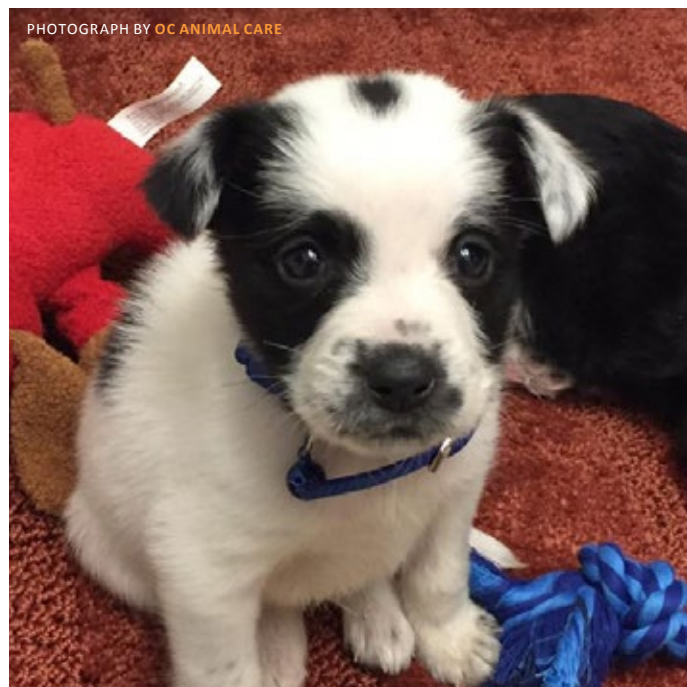
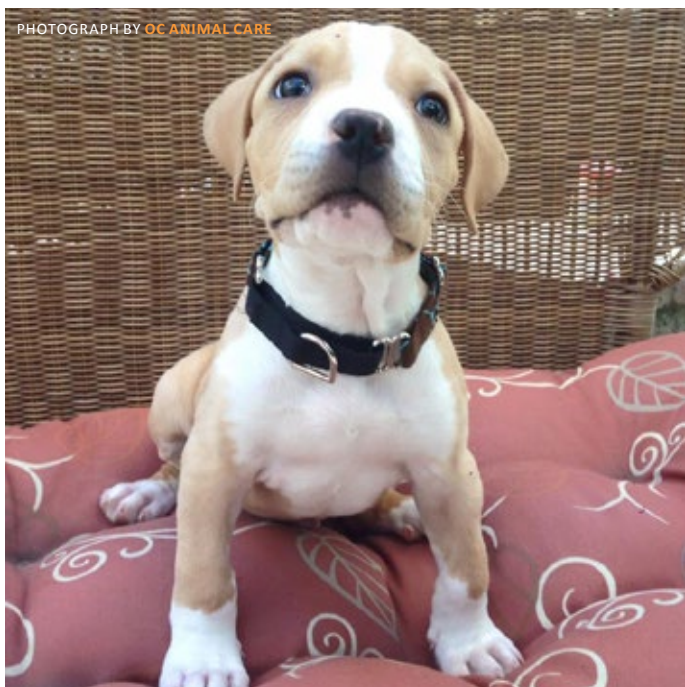
OC Animal Care's foster program consists of an incredible group of volunteers and staff who help save the lives of neonatal puppies and kittens, rehabilitate injured medical pets after surgery and provide socialization to fearful animals.

These exceptional volunteers take animals into their homes for anywhere from a single night to eight weeks to provide them the care they need to become adoptable pets. From January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2016, OC Animal Care's fosters helped 654 animals including 33 dogs, 37 puppies, 63 adult cats and 521 kittens. Our foster families provide the litter, food and love while OC Animal Care provides medical treatment.

While some find fostering a little bit intimidating, it is actually a very rewarding experience with varying levels of

care required. For instance, a mother cat with kittens is one of the easiest groups to foster as the mother cat does all the hard work of kitten care for you! While bottle feeder puppies and kittens require feeding every couple of hours, most foster animals are just fine being kept at home in a safe place during the day while families are at work.

OC Animal Care is always working to grow the program and help more animals in need, so if you might be interested in finding out more information about being a foster please check out their website at [www.ocpetinfo.com](http://www.ocpetinfo.com) under "Get Involved." You can also email the Foster Program Coordinator Erica McBride at [erica.mcbride@occr.ocgov.com](mailto:erica.mcbride@occr.ocgov.com).



- ▲ Dotty is a puppy currently in the OC Animal Care foster program.
- ▲ Lil' Fat Tuesday is a puppy recently adopted from the OC Animal Care foster program.
- ▲ Magnus is a foster kitten that has been adopted by an OC Animal Care employee.

## OC ANIMAL CARE

### *27 Bunnies found their “Hop-pily Ever After” during Adopt A Shelter Rabbit Month!*

During the month of February, OC Animal Care celebrated Adopt a Shelter Rabbit Month. Throughout the month, bunnies were given free spay/neuter and microchip. OC Animal Care is happy to announce that 27 rabbits found some bunny to love! Special thanks to everyone who chose to adopt a fluffy new friend, and to all the staff and volunteers for their hard work and commitment.

OC Animal Care has rabbits, and other animals besides cats and dogs, available for adoption on a regular basis. You can search listings of adoptable pets at the [“Adopt-A-Pet” page](#) on the OC Animal Care website.



PHOTOGRAPH BY TRAVIS LARIVIERE / CEO COMMUNICATIONS

▶ One of the many bunnies adopted at OC Animal Care

## OC COMMUNITY SERVICES

### *Office on Aging/Veterans Service Office Provides Vietnamese-Language Services*



PHOTOGRAPH BY OC COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Office on Aging/Veterans Service Office stations a Vietnamese-speaking staff member at the County Community Service Center in Westminster every other Thursday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Vietnamese-speaking staff member, Christopher Le, has access to provide many resources and referrals to walk-in clients while at the annex, as he would if he were in the call center at the Office on Aging. The referrals of services include transportation, home-delivered meals and housing-related services, utility and rent payment assistance upon availability, legal referral services, medical and behavioral health services, and information on senior placement and Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly.

◀ Office on Aging’s Senior Citizens Representative II, Christopher Le, provides Vietnamese-language assistance at the Orange County Westminster Community Center Annex.



## Wildflowers Bloom in OC Parks

An unusually wet winter has led to the best wildflower blooms seen in County regional and wilderness parks in many years.

As of mid-March, fields of bright orange California poppies could be seen in Caspers Wilderness Park, Santiago Oaks Regional Park and the Irvine Ranch Open Space. Other flowers, including lupine, wild hyacinth and mariposa lilies were also springing up in parks like Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park, O'Neill Regional Park and Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park.

Laguna Coast Wilderness Park is expecting a high concentration of blooms due to a wildfire last summer. Fire can clear away competing plants and cause some flowers to germinate, leading to a spectacular show of color.

Wildflower season is dependent on the weather and lasts for a short time, so it's best to get out to the parks soon to see the best flower displays. Remember to wear comfortable shoes, bring plenty of water and take only photographs – picking flowers is not permitted in County parks.

For additional information on the parks and trails where you are likely to see wildflowers in bloom, visit the [OC Parks website](#).



PHOTOGRAPH BY TRAVIS LARIVIERE / CEO COMMUNICATIONS

▲ California poppy flowers in full bloom at Santiago Oaks Regional Park

## OCIT Innovates with Cutting-Edge Solutions

Over the past few months, Orange County Information Technology (OCIT) has been working on several innovative projects, implementing the use of a new Human Resources (HR) Data Portal and continuing the rollout of the myOCgov app.

OCIT launched the new HR Data Portal on January 30, 2017. Whereas the County's legacy personnel data warehouse had a fixed set of mostly obsolete reports that required time-consuming manual processing, the new system offers numerous user-friendly features and functions.

The HR Data Portal has improved access to historical reports, enabling users to find a correct report in a matter of minutes. Time to generate an appropriately filtered and sorted report has been reduced by 50 percent. The new system automatically generates exception reports every pay period, freeing up eight hours per period for HR staff to work on other tasks and initiatives. The HR Data Portal also improves data accuracy and makes it possible for the County to gather data analytics and make evidence-based decisions related to benefits, employee retention, performance management, succession planning, and the distribution of talent across an organization.

OCIT continues to support the ongoing rollout and expansion of the myOCgov app, which officially launched on February 15, 2017. Prior to the development of the myOCgov app, the County did not offer a mobile-responsive platform for Countywide information about agencies/departments.

The myOCgov app now gives users the ability to use their mobile devices to find information about County services. Through the app, OCIT aims to provide the County's 3 million residents with a friction-free experience to find parks, libraries, health and human services, and a multitude of other government programs in their local area.

As of March 28, 2017, the app had more than 1,400 downloads. OCIT is working to expand information available on the app by incorporating additional government services and programs located in Orange County.

For information and to download the myOCgov app, visit <http://apple.co/2lILgi9> for Apple devices and <http://bit.ly/2lpzSO6> for Android device. For more information about OCIT, visit: <http://www.ocgov.com/gov/ceo/cio/>



Heritage Hill  
*Historical Park*



ocparks.com

# Rancho Days Fiesta



**Saturday, May 6, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is \$5 per person ages 3 and over**

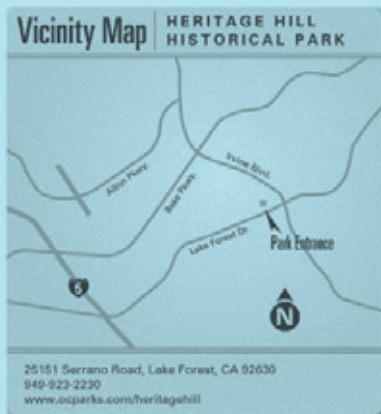
## 21<sup>st</sup> Annual RANCHO DAYS FIESTA

**Heritage Hill Historical Park, Saturday, May 6, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Come explore the rich history of Orange County's rancho era through hands-on activities, crafts, music, and dance.

### Activities and performances include:

- Native American and Folklorico dancing
- Early California ranching hands-on activities & exhibitors
- Piñata breaking, butter churning, and candle dipping
- Rancho-era music and crafts for children
- Charro horse riding and roping demonstrations
- Historic buildings open, courtesy of the Amigo de la Colina docents



### Admission

\$5.00 per person. (Free for children under 3.)



# OC Public Works **OPEN HOUSE** CELEBRATING NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

See How Public Works Connects Us  
**Saturday, May 20, 2017**

From 10am to 2pm  
at 2301 N. Glassell Street, Orange

**FREE Family Fun  
Giveaways  
Booths  
Exhibits  
Equipment**

Administrative Services  
Construction  
Development Services  
Environmental Resources  
Facilities Design & Construction  
Facilities Maintenance &  
Central Utility Facility  
Fleet Services  
Infrastructure Programs  
Operations & Maintenance  
Survey



FACEBOOK



TWITTER



PERISCOPE

**[www.ocpublicworks.com](http://www.ocpublicworks.com)**



In Support of National Public Works Week:  
May 21 - May 27, 2017



## OC Public Works Assesses New Guardrail Locations

On March 7, 2017, OC Public Works (OCPW) engineers visited the Panorama Heights community to assess locations identified for future installation of new metal beam guardrails to enhance safety and protect members of the community from going down the steep slopes in the area. Regina Hu, Sandra Ly and Tony Mireles verified gas line relocations, trenching and removals, and coordinated with the Southern California Gas Company to resolve any issues.

▶ From left to right: **Regina Hu, Sandra Ly, Tony Mireles.**



## “Adopt A Channel” Program Featured in CSAC Video

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) released a [video](#) in March highlighting OC Public Works’ Adopt A Channel program, which earned a 2016 CSAC Challenge Award.

The [Adopt A Channel program](#), which is similar to the Adopt A Highway program, provides an opportunity for organizations, businesses and residents to adopt a flood control channel. By partnering with members of the community, the program helps improve the physical appearance of Orange County’s flood control channels in neighborhoods and enhances the environment through trash and graffiti removal.

Channel adoption includes activities such as inspecting the adopted site on a routine basis, collecting trash and debris from the adopted site for pick-up by OC Public Works, painting over graffiti, identifying household hazardous waste for pick-up by OC Public Works, and identifying other issues or challenges observed within the channel and notifying OC Public Works.

Adopters benefit by positively impacting the environment and setting an example for the community. They also receive public recognition through signage at the adoption site; the ability to use Adopt A Channel imagery on their own organizations’ letterhead, email, social media, etc. and through acknowledgment in Adopt A Channel website content.

Current adopters in the Adopt A Channel program include Disneyland Resort, Bolsa Chica Conservancy, The Ranch at Laguna Beach, The Sharp Family, Tetra Tech, Inc., Orange County Conservation Corps, Yorba Linda Sunrise Rotary Club, Orange County Water District and Regent Association Services.

The CSAC Challenge Awards provide California’s 58 counties an opportunity to share their best practices with county officials around the state and nation. The call for entries for the 2017 CSAC Challenge Awards will be distributed in April.



▶ [Click the photo to watch the video](#)



## OCSD Ladies' Trigger Team Takes Top Honors in National Shooting Competition



The Orange County Sheriff's Department (OCSD) Ladies' Trigger Team took first place in the 11th annual San Diego Women's Pistol Invitational – a national competition that drew 64 teams from 28 local and federal agencies.

More than 260 women competed in the event, which tested marksmanship and skill.

The OCSD's Alpha Squad – Investigator Maria Bowman, Deputy Amy Raphael, Deputy Cynthia Greene and Sheriff's Special Officer Jean Tindugan – took first place in the Team Division and also earned Fastest Time Team Event No. 3.

Bowman also edged out every other competitor by taking 1st place overall. Green placed 6th overall, Raphael came in 7th and Tindugan took 13th.

Congratulations to the OCSD Ladies' Trigger Team!

Members of the Ladies' Trigger Team (from left to right) Deputy **Amy Raphael**, Sheriff's Special Officer **Jean Tindugan**, Deputy **Cynthia Greene** and Investigator **Maria Bowman** display their awards from the San Diego Women's Pistol Invitational.

## OCSD Honors 48 at Medal of Valor Luncheon

On March 23, 2017, the Orange County Sheriff's Department (OCSD) honored 48 department members at the annual Medal of Valor Luncheon. The medals recognized a wide range of OCSD members' outstanding actions, from saving people's lives

(on and off duty) to cracking a major fraud case to outstanding career-long service. Read a recent [Behind the Badge](#) article about the Medal of Valor event for a full listing of the Medal of Valor winners and accompanying photos.



## Public Defender Staff Rally to Help Rescue Mission

On February 24, 2017, Public Defender Sharon Petrosino read that the Orange County Rescue Mission was in **urgent need of food for donations**, and she called upon the generosity of Public Defender staff in all office locations to request that each employee donate one item of food.

The staff heard the plea and in one week collected 830 pounds of food for the Orange County Rescue Mission. Then several staff volunteers loaded the food and transported it to the Orange County Rescue Mission. Public Defender staff routinely help people in the community who are in need, and this is one example of their compassion for their fellow human beings.

▲ Donated food at the OC Rescue Mission

▶ Volunteer assisting with the transport of donated food.

▼ OC Public Defender team at the OC Rescue Mission







# Dine AT THE Dump

It's not really a dump; it's a highly engineered, sanitary landfill.  
Come and see the many environmentally friendly features in place at Frank R. Bowerman landfill.  
Tours of the Frank R. Bowerman Landfill will be available.

This event is being held as a fundraiser for the 2017 Orange County United Way campaign.  
The pleasure of your company is requested to celebrate and support this worthy cause.

**Thursday, May 11, 2017**  
**11:30 a.m.**

**\$15 luncheon cost**

(Five Opportunity Drawing tickets will be included with each lunch ticket purchased)

Frank R. Bowerman Landfill  
11002 Bee Canyon Access Road, Irvine, CA 92602

RSVP by May 1st, 2017 / Carmen Saldana  
email: [carmen.saldana@ocwr.ocgov.com](mailto:carmen.saldana@ocwr.ocgov.com)



**Opportunity Drawing**  
**Tickets:**  
Suggested Donation Price  
  
(No Purchase Necessary -  
Donations Suggested)

**3 for \$5**  
**8 for \$10**  
**20 for \$20**



**HONORARY HOST**

OC Waste & Recycling

**HONORARY SPONSOR**



**CO-HOSTS**

Clean Harbors, Inc.  
Park Disposal / EDCO Waste Services  
Waste Management of Orange County

Ecology Auto Parts  
Republic Services  
Ware Disposal Co., Inc.

## Workplace Safety - Eye Safety

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics noted more than 20,000 workplace eye injuries occur each year. Injuries on the job frequently require one or more missed work day(s) for recovery, and eye injuries are estimated to cost \$300 million a year in lost productivity, medical treatment and worker compensation.

### Common causes for eye injuries and dangers are:

- Flying objects
- Tools
- Particles
- Chemicals

### Prevent eye injuries by:

- Being aware of eye safety dangers at work
- Eliminating hazards before starting work
- Wearing the correct protective eyewear when working in areas that pose eye hazards

### Technological ergonomics for eyes:

- A computer screen monitor's distance should be approximately 18 to 30 inches from your eyes when sitting, and for reading distance a little

further with the top of the screen at or below eye level.

- The computer monitor should be able to tilt or swivel and have controls for both contrast and brightness.
- Have an adjustable chair.
- Place reference materials on a document holder; this keeps your eyes from refocusing and looking back and forth.
- Modify your lighting to eliminate screen reflections or glare (close blinds when the sun is bright).
- Take periodic rest breaks and blink often to keep eyes from drying out.

These safety tips can alleviate eye injuries in the workplace, so remember, as Ben Franklin once said, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

For additional information concerning resources and training, contact the Safety and Loss Prevention Program at 714-285-5500 or email [Safety@ocgov.com](mailto:Safety@ocgov.com)

## SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

Now that it is staying lighter outside each day, it is still important to be aware and alert when going to and from work. Please remember:

- Walk with someone else when you can.
- Be aware of your surroundings and do not walk with earbuds in or be on the phone.
- Know your surroundings. Keep an eye on the people in front of as well as behind you.
- Carry your purse close to your body; don't swing it loosely.
- Walk with confidence.
- Approach your vehicle with your keys already in your hand.
- Try not to carry too many items.
- Place all packages out of sight in your vehicle, preferably in the trunk.
- Keep your vehicle doors locked and your windows shut.

If you see anything suspicious or if something just doesn't feel right, immediately contact law enforcement. In the Civic Center area:

- o Sheriff's HOA Kiosk - (714) 834-2250
- o SAPD Dispatch - (714) 834-4211
- o 9-1-1

When in doubt, for emergencies, call 9-1-1! When dialed from a cell phone, 9-1-1 calls are directed to local law enforcement.



# Cyber Security Awareness - Spring Break Traveling

Spring break is right around the corner. One of the most common ways for cyber criminals to steal your personal information is usually while traveling. Travelers are often targeted by hackers, criminals and scam artists. Given this, it is important to be as aware and informed as possible when you travel, especially to unfamiliar places. Once you return from your vacation, monitor your bank and credit card statements. If you see anything that is unusual on your bank statements with charges that that you did not use, or if you believe your information has been stolen, report it to the financial institution right away.

## 1. PRIOR TO TRAVEL:

- Keep a note of your credit card information and telephone numbers in case you need to contact them. (Do not write the security number and/ or expiration date.)
- Let your credit card company and bank know that you will be traveling, even if locally, so they can monitor any discrepancies.
- Turn on your credit card and bank alerts for every purchase made. This may be burdensome, but at least you know if you made the purchase.
- Don't share on social media regarding your traveling plans.

## 2. TIPS WHEN TRAVELING:

### • AVOID USING PUBLIC COMPUTERS/PUBLIC WI-FI.

Do not use public computers and public wireless networks to conduct sensitive online transactions (e.g. banks, credit cards, etc.). Wi-Fi spots in airports, hotels, coffee shops and other public places are often unsecured and can leave you at risk. Malicious individuals may spy on your connection to steal your login credentials, financial information or other sensitive information. If you find it necessary to use public Wi-Fi for internet access, following these simple tips should provide protection against most malicious activities:

1. *Ensure your connection is secure: The browser address bar should have https in front of any websites you access that require you to enter a username and password.*

2. *Consider purchasing or using a free Virtual Private Network (VPN) service: This is an application that will secure the connection between your device and another computer. All internet browsing activities will then be conducted through the secure, protected connection to protect your privacy. CyberGhost is a free application that can be used in this manner. There are many other such applications – do your research and read the end user license agreement carefully before using CyberGhost or any other VPN.*

### • FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH ANY LOCAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE OF AND PERMISSIBLE ACCESS TO MOBILE DEVICES, LAPTOPS, APPLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS.

Different countries have different laws, which may allow government employees or law enforcement full access to your device without your knowledge or permission. It's also important to know the local laws regarding online behavior, as some online behaviors, such as posting disparaging comments or pictures of illegal activity on social media websites, can be illegal.

### • BE AWARE OF ANY SECURITY ALERTS OR TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS.

The U.S. Department of State provides warnings and alerts compiled for residents:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html>

### • ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Power off all electronic devices when they are not in use and turn off any nonessential protocols such as Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, file sharing, etc.

### • SENSITIVE MATERIALS

Never leave devices or sensitive materials unattended and/or unsecured in your hotel. It's always best to keep these items with you.

### • DUMPSTER DIVING

Dumpster diving is when someone steals personal information from a dumpster or trash bin. When we travel we may tend to pitch credit card, flight and hotel receipts into a waste basket, but it's critical to shred personal information when you throw it away. Make sure you tear up receipts or save them until you get home so that you can shred them.

### • SHOULDER SURFING

Be aware of your surroundings and protect your information because anyone could be watching you. Take extra precautions when you check into a busy hotel, pay with a credit card at a restaurant or use your ATM when others are around you – especially when you are on vacation.

### • CARD SKIMMING

Whenever you use an ATM or any type of payment processing machine, be aware that criminals may have attached a "skimmer," a curved plastic sheath over the card slot that can read information from your debit or credit card as you swipe. These can also be used with a concealed camera where thieves can record your Personal Identification Number (PIN). Protect yourself by checking any nearby objects for possible concealed cameras. Check the card slot for a skimmer device, and don't use the machine if you suspect it has been tampered with.

## 3. PROTECT YOURSELF WHEN TRAVELING:

### • SOCIAL MEDIA

Avoid publicly posting details of where and when you'll be traveling. Revealing specific details about your whereabouts could allow criminals to know when your family is away and target your home.

### • MAIL THEFT

One way thieves can gain access to your personal information is to steal mail, such as credit card invoices and bank statements, directly from your mailbox. Stop your mail while you are away, have someone pick up the mail for you or sign up for bills to be electronically sent to you while you are on vacation.

If you have any questions, please email [SecurityAdmin@ceoit.ocgov.com](mailto:SecurityAdmin@ceoit.ocgov.com)

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

## 35 YEARS

**Child Support Services**  
LOONEY, CATHY A

**Social Services Agency**  
DOWNS, MARTHA V

**Treasurer-Tax Collector**  
PADILLA, PATRICIA L

## 30 YEARS

**Clerk-Recorder**  
JOHNSON, PHYLLIS

**District Attorney**  
BROWN, NAOMI

**OC Community Resources**  
MC MASTER, JOYCE A  
MORGAN, WAYNE  
ROSALES, TAMI E

**OC Public Works**  
NGUYEN, MICHAEL P

**OC Waste & Recycling Enterprise**  
PATILLO, GLENN A

**Sheriff-Coroner**  
GEARY, KEVIN E  
GUEVARA, ROGER E  
MCLAIN, JEFFREY M  
O'DOWD, BRIAN J  
SPALDING, SCOTT R

**Social Services Agency**  
BASA, PERCIVAL M  
ROSS, LYNDA A  
WALLINGFORD, JOSHUA R

## 25 YEARS

**Airport Operation**  
FITZGERALD, STEVEN R

**District Attorney**  
UMEDA, CANDICE Y  
ARELLANO, ROSA M

**Health Care Agency**  
CLARK, PATRICK G

**OC Community Resources**  
PARK, WOON Y

**OC Public Works**  
BOVARD, JOSEPH M

**Sheriff-Coroner**  
KIBBY, GREGORY S

**Social Services Agency**  
ALVAREZ, BONNIE M  
BARELA, SUSAN M  
BARRIENTEZ, LUCILA  
BUI, LISA  
CHAFFIN, AMELIA  
LEON, HECTOR A  
LONG, KERRIE  
MEINEKE, JANICE L  
NGUYEN, HA LIEN K  
ORTEGA, HUGO R  
PEREZ, MARTHA I  
PEREZ, RAYMOND E  
REED, KIM  
SANTOS, MARLOWE  
SOLORZANO, MARY LOU  
TODD, LAURA A  
TULLER, LOIS F  
VU, CALINH T  
WALTER, MARTHA

## 20 YEARS

**District Attorney**  
NGUYEN, GINA

**Health Care Agency**  
BANKSON, JANENE A  
BECERRA, GUADALUPE L  
KWAK, JINNIE Y  
SCOTT, SANDRA V  
STATZULA, CAROLINE S  
TRAN, YVONNE B

**OC Community Resources**  
CONARD, CORINNE R  
WALLSTROM, THOMAS D

**OC Waste & Recycling**  
GAMBOA, JOSE C

**OC Waste & Recycling Enterprise**  
PATILLO, GLENN A

**Probation**  
HOANG, MI T  
PEDROZA, GRACIELA N

**Public Defender**  
NECHAEV, ANDREW D

**Sheriff-Coroner**  
BEAL, SUSAN G  
CASTANEDA, CHARLES E  
CHASE, JERRY R  
COLE, JEFFREY R  
CONTRERAS, JESIKA  
GILBERT, AARON W  
HERNANDEZ, ELAINE M  
LEONARD, DOUGLAS E  
LEWELLYN, GARY R  
MILLER, GEORGE J  
PERERA, MARK P  
SCHWITTERS, SHAWN T  
SILVA, ALEJANDRO B  
TORREZ, ROBERT J

**Social Services Agency**  
BAX, MARY A  
DIAZ, KARINA  
GALVAN, LORENA M  
LEDEZMA, FABIOLA V  
RATHSWOHL, DAVID F

*Service Awards are announced in each edition of County Connection in the month immediately following work anniversaries, not in the month of the anniversary.*

If you believe there has been an error or omission in reporting your years of service, please email [Navminder.Kaur@ocgov.com](mailto:Navminder.Kaur@ocgov.com).

To view the March list in its entirety, which also includes recipients of 5, 10 and 15-year Service Awards, please click [here](#).





# SHEILA REFOY

Contract Administrator - Health Care Agency

A beautiful photo capturing the sunset to end the day at the Dana Point Harbor Marina.

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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