

CEO's Message



Summer Time is Budget Time

Just as the Memorial Day weekend is the unofficial start of summer, the month of May is a critical time in the process of approving a new County budget.

Across all agencies and departments, staff has been hard at work for months to build their budgets and these individual budgets are rolled together to create the County's Fiscal Year budget that begins July 1. The County's hard work to reduce expenditures over the past four years and the hard work of everyone to live within their budgets has paid off this year. The County's total budget of \$5.6 billion is almost the same as last year and this year's budget does not call for any layoffs or

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Tale of Heroism from Medal of Valor Luncheon

The Orange County Sheriff's Department presented awards to honorees for their courage, merit, and distinguished achievements at its 24th Annual Medal of Valor Luncheon, held April 26th at the Hyatt Regency Irvine hotel.

Deputies Manny Ramirez and Dustin Fike were presented with the Medal of Lifesaving for saving the life of a two-year-old girl who nearly drowned. One Saturday afternoon in April of 2011, Deputy Ramirez was working patrol in the South Orange County community of Ladera Ranch with his new patrol trainee, Deputy Dustin Fike. At about 4:25 p.m., they were dispatched to one of the most dreaded calls a patrol deputy can receive, a "child not breathing."

The Deputies arrived on scene within a few minutes and met the child's mother at the door of the residence. She directed them to the backyard, where the little girl was lying by the pool spa not breathing and without a pulse. Surrounded by the child's hysterical family and friends, both Deputies immediately went into action – calmly and professionally administering CPR. After completing eight to ten cycles, the girl began to take short, gasping breaths on her own.

The Deputies continued to monitor her condition until fire department personnel arrived and transported the victim to the hospital. Because of the highly emotional nature of the incident, the Deputies accompanied the family to the hospital and also ensured that Trauma Intervention Program personnel were on site to provide counseling and comfort to the relatives. The little girl was later released and suffered no apparent ill effects from the near drowning.

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across the board reductions. There are some positive signs in the economy, but the slow pace of recovery requires a cautious approach.

With the good news come some question marks that could affect the County's budget a little further down the road. The uncertainties over the State budget and the State's growing deficit could affect our budget mid-year, making adjustments necessary. The State has also filed a suit over the so-called Vehicle License Fee issue that began a year ago and the outcome of that legal challenge is unknown. The County is also taking a conservative stance on potential revenue growth until we see that economic recovery is sustained. During the May 22nd Board of Supervisors meeting, Chairman John M.W. Moorlach put it this way: "I believe our budget is under control. It is the circumstances that buffet us that are not."

This month, the Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2012-13 budget and will consider final adoption at their June 26 meeting. While we won't have all of the answers by that time, we will be prepared to respond to circumstances as they arise. My thanks to all who participated in this process that is so important to our operations.

Thomas G. Mauk
County Executive Officer

(Tale of Heroism from Medal of Valor Luncheon

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2012 MEDAL RECIPIENTS



MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING

Investigator Adam Koliha
Deputy Michael Bard
Deputy Melonie Bloom
Deputy Jamaal Brathwaite
Deputy Eric Brown
Deputy William Burk
Deputy Jerry Contreras
Deputy Dustin Fike
Deputy Evan Guyot
Deputy Humberto Nava
Deputy Michael Padilla
Deputy Anton Pereyra
Deputy Manuel Ramirez
Deputy Michael Woodroof
Deputy Steve Yannizzi

MEDAL OF MERIT

Sergeant David Harrington
Sergeant John Hollenbeck
Investigator Mike Thompson
Deputy Ashraf Abdelmuti
Deputy Quyen Vuong

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MEDAL OF COURAGE

Deputy Jerry Contreras
Deputy John Gomez
Deputy George Miller
Deputy Thom Spratt
Senior Deputy Coroner Bradley Olsen

PLAQUE FOR COURAGE

Tustin P.D. Officer Tim Carson

DISTINGUISHED DEPUTY MEDAL

Lieutenant Robert Wren

MEDAL OF VALOR

Investigator Marcus Perez

To learn more about the ceremony as well as the recipients listed above, please visit <http://blog.ocsd.org/post/2012/04/27/Sheriff-honors-27-in-Medal-of-Valor-Ceremony.aspx>. ■

Winning Names Announced for OC Zoo's Lion Cubs

A pair of young, orphaned mountain lions at the OC Zoo has new names, thanks to Facebook fans of OC Parks. OC Zoo staff selected the winning names of Modjeska (for the female) and Santiago (for the male).

The cubs are now named for two local canyons – not far from the zoo – where mountain lions can be found in the wild. The cubs came to the OC Zoo after they were found malnourished and orphaned in Oregon when they were just two months old, far too young to survive on their own.



OC Zoo Education Coordinator Marcy Crede-Booth (left) and Animal Keeper Lauren Serrano (right) introduce mountain lion cub Modjeska.

The brother and sister, now 9 months old, went on display March 31st when Third District Supervisor Bill Campbell introduced them along with a special contest to name the young cats.

OC Parks' Facebook fans submitted more than 100 suggested name pairs for the cougars. After the submission period ended, the public had one week to vote for their favorites. OC Zoo

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staff chose the winning names from the top 10 vote-getters. The nine runners-up were: Tia and Tango, Butch and Betty, Bonnie and Clyde, Freddie and Zoe, Max and Lola, Matilija and Cholla, Makenna and Monty, Kimi and Takoda, and Rusty and Maxine.

The winner will receive a 2012 OC Parks annual pass and behind-the-scenes tour of the OC Zoo. The OC Zoo is inside Irvine Regional Park in Orange. It is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and weekends 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Zoo entry is \$2 per person for ages 3 and over; ages 2 and under enter free. For more information on the OC Zoo, call (714) 973-6847 or go to www.ocparks.com/oczoo. ■

Probation Department Volunteer Honored

Volunteer Janette Thomas, founder of the Pups and Wards (PAW) program, was recently honored with the Excellence in Volunteerism Award for her dedicated service to improving the lives of juvenile wards and the animals she helps teach them to nurture.

PAW provides vocational and life skill instruction to juvenile probationers 14 to 18 years of age and simultaneously improves the lives of at-risk youth and shelter dogs. The program contributes to the successful transition of juvenile probationers from incarceration to community reentry and benefits abandoned dogs through training and socializing that increases the likelihood of their permanent adoption by a loving family.

The PAW program helps rehabilitate minors by teaching them empathy, responsibility, and compassion. Probation youth live together with the animals in their care and are tasked with teaching basic obedience commands and performing potty, leash, and crate training. In return, the dogs teach their human companions responsibility, respect, and the rewards of unconditional love.

During the 18-week course, Janette works directly with the minors to train and care for the stray and abandoned dogs. She helps them to understand dog behavior and to identify common maladies suffered by certain breeds. She offers the youth a well-rounded education that focuses on animal obedience training, but also develops job skills that they can apply to future employment.

Through her work with the PAW program, Janette volunteers approximately 40 hours per month with OC Animal Care, and since signing up to volunteer with the Probation Department in 2009, she has dedicated more than 6,000 hours of service working directly with incarcerated juveniles. Her commitment provides important therapeutic benefits to at-risk youth so that they can lead more productive lives and also helps socialize shelter dogs, which increases their chances for future adoption.

The Excellence in Volunteerism Awards program was initiated on July 2, 2007. It is a prestigious County of Orange recognition program that emphasizes sustained volunteer service and celebrates the contributions of exceptional volunteers and interns who are making a positive impact within County government and within the community. ■



Golden Guardian Tests Orange County Response

It began with a 7.8 earthquake on the San Andreas Fault near the Salton Sea. There was widespread damage to buildings, numerous deaths and injuries and massive fires burning in several areas. Fortunately, the scenario was part of an emergency exercise but it served as a reminder of the potential devastation that an earthquake could cause in Southern California.

Golden Guardian 2012 is the latest edition of what has become the most comprehensive state-level exercise series program in the United States. The goal of Golden Guardian is to exercise and assess emergency operations plans, policies, and procedures for all-hazards/catastrophic incidents at the local, regional, and state levels. In Orange County, field exercises tested first responder capabilities while city and county emergency operations centers tested their response plans.

At the County's Emergency Operations Center on Loma Ridge, dozens of staff filled key positions and practiced making the type of decisions needed during a real emergency. Public Information Hotline staff received staged calls while experts in other fields took on the challenges of establishing shelters, acquiring needed equipment and goods or keeping roads and highways open. Board of Supervisors Chairman John M.W. Moorlach joined



Board of Supervisors Chairman John M.W. Moorlach (center) and Fourth District Supervisor Shawn Nelson (left) take part in a discussion in the Command Center during the Golden Guardian 2012 exercise.

representatives of key County departments and staff from Sheriff's Emergency Management in the Command Center, where the County's response is coordinated.

Future Golden Guardian exercises will test response to a tsunami, floods and other potential emergencies. The experience gained during these exercises helps prepare Orange County for real activations of the Emergency Operations Center in response to fires, weather related events and other emergencies common in our area. ■

Green Fair Draws Thousands

OC GREEN FAIR'S SLIDESHOW: [CLICK HERE](#)



Colorful signage helped guide visitors to the 2012 OC Green Fair.

The 3rd Annual OC Green Fair drew over 3,000 people to the Civic Center area on May 17, offering an opportunity to look at the latest trends and technology designed to protect the environment.

A highlight of this year's Green Fair was the participation of the Wyland Foundation, which provided its Clean Water Challenge mobile classroom exhibit to teach visitors about the importance of watersheds and provide a broader

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understanding of the impact that communities have on these systems and our ocean. Many student groups from area schools enjoyed the interactive displays and 4-D theater experience throughout the day.

Lining the Civic Center Plaza were booths from approximately 90 organizations and vendors featuring green products or technology. The OC Green Fair helps to reinforce the County's own environmentally preferable purchasing policy through educating County staff about the options available when purchasing products and services. It also helps consumers through easy access to information about ways they can reuse, reduce or recycle in their daily lives.

Several County agencies participated in this year's Green Fair, including OC Waste & Recycling, which sponsors the EcoChallenge exhibit at the Discovery Science Center, OC Parks and OC Public Works. Each agency has a unique role in preserving our natural environment and enhancing the public's enjoyment of Orange County's diverse landscape. ■

OC Public Works Receives American Public Works Association Accreditation

OC Public Works (OCPW) is proud to announce that it has received national professional accreditation by the American Public Works Association (APWA). Last month, OCPW received the news that its OC Engineering division became APWA's 81st accredited agency and the 10th agency in California to have achieved this honor. Orange County joins only two other counties in California – Contra Costa and San Francisco – that have achieved accreditation.

"I am proud that OC Engineering has earned this high honor that is a testament to our hard work, the quality of our staff, and our commitment to providing superior service to Orange County residents," said Ignacio Ochoa, Interim Director of OCPW.

The OC Engineering Division has been engaged in the APWA Accreditation Program for the past 18 months. The APWA's Accreditation Program is an 18-24 month, self-motivated process that provides public works agencies with



a way to compare their policies, procedures, and practices with those identified by nationally recognized public works experts. Full accreditation signifies that, on a daily basis, an agency meets or exceeds standards of performance in areas such as engineering, street/drainage, construction, emergency response, maintenance, surveying and traffic operations.

Chair of the Board of Supervisors, John M. W. Moorlach, presented a resolution recognizing OC Public Works' APWA Accreditation at the May 22nd Board meeting. ■

Dana Point Harbor Recognized for Beautification Efforts

During the City of Dana Point's 2012 State of the City Luncheon, the County of Orange Dana Point Harbor was awarded a Chamber of Commerce Beautification Award for the Harbor Entry landscape installation. Dana Point Chamber of Commerce Beautification Award recipients are selected by the Chamber Staff and members of the Board of Directors from locations nominated by community, business and civic partners. OC Dana Point Harbor proudly accepted this award in recognition of their efforts to make Dana Point Harbor an enjoyable place for hundreds of thousands of visitors each year.

Dana Point Harbor features two marinas with approximately 2,400 boat slips and a variety of recreational, sporting, and commercial boating amenities. There are also numerous programs offered in the Harbor to educate participants on the ocean, its habitats, and water recreation. Landside uses in the Harbor include areas for shopping and dining, the OC Sailing and Events Center, Baby Beach, and the Ocean Institute. A walking trail allows visitors to stroll the entire perimeter of the Harbor and benches and grassy areas provide places to relax near the water. ■



OC Parks Celebrates 25th Anniversary of Ranger Reserve Program



Ranger Reserves then and now: 1987 and 2012.

The Ranger Reserve Program was established by OC Parks and the Orange County Board of Supervisors on May 5, 1987. The program has grown immensely and, 25 years later, is celebrating this milestone anniversary with a summer season filled with special events.

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When the Ranger Reserve Program first launched, the OC Parks system included approximately 15,000 acres of land. Today, 50 Ranger Reserves provide 10,000 hours of annual educational and staffing support to more than 60,000 acres of land and the guests who enjoy them.

To commemorate the Ranger Reserve's 25th anniversary, the following specialty hikes and family activities are planned at various parks through August. At each event, the Ranger Reserves will be on-site leading special interpretive programs and sharing special giveaways with attendees.

Fossil Day

Date: Saturday, June 9

Time: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Location: Clark Regional Park

Interpretive Hike on Nature Trails

Date: Saturday, July 21

Time: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Location: Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve

Interpretive Sunset Nature Hike

Date: Saturday, August 4

Time: 5 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Location: Riley Wilderness Park

Family Movie Night and Kids Crafts

Date: Friday, August 10

Time: 5 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Location: OC Zoo located inside Irvine Regional Park

Learn more at www.OCParks.com. ■

California Dreamin' Pet Fair 2012



Please [click here](#) for the event flyer.

Get the 411 on John Wayne Airport

- John Wayne Airport (JWA) operates as a self-supporting enterprise fund. No general fund dollars/tax revenues are used at the airport.
- In 2011, JWA served about 8.7 million passengers and offered service to more than 20 direct destinations. Flights to Vancouver, Calgary and Mammoth were added in 2011 and service to Mexico City and Cabo San Lucas starts in June 2012.
- JWA partners with multiple local, regional and federal agencies to keep its customers safe and secure: Orange County Sheriff's Department, Orange County Fire Authority, Federal Aviation Administration, Transportation Security Administration, Federal Bureau of Investigation and, new in 2012, US Customs and Border Protection.
- A total of 178 County of Orange employees work at JWA - spanning 54 different job classifications and crossing six different bargaining units.

To learn more about John Wayne Airport, please visit: www.ocair.com



Service Awards

For the Month of May

35 YEARS

Holly Felipe
John Wayne Airport

30 YEARS

Deborah Seeley
Health Care Agency

Cindi Morgan
OC Community Resources

Jesse Ruiz
OC Public Works

Christina Preble
Probation

Ronald Hodges
Sheriff-Coroner

25 YEARS

Kenneth Grebel
Health Care Agency

John Ralls
Health Care Agency

Robert Waters
John Wayne Airport

Vincent Martinez
OC Public Works

Steven Moore
OC Public Works

Stephen Craft
Probation

Erin Balicki
Sheriff-Coroner

Barbara Flores
Social Services Agency

20 YEARS

Scepan Kral
Assessor

Arati Ghosh
Auditor-Controller

Maria Gina Dulong
County Executive Office

Luis Armenta
Health Care Agency

Rochelle Bracken
Health Care Agency

Elaine Overman
Health Care Agency

Christine Tran
OC Public Works

John Carlson
Probation

Ronald Gibbs
Probation

Vincent "Pat" Hernandez
Probation

Bryan Prieto
Probation

Michele Smith
Probation

Robyn Andrus
Sheriff-Coroner

Michelle Black
Sheriff-Coroner

Edward Burruel
Sheriff-Coroner

Gregory Engle
Sheriff-Coroner

William Garcia
Sheriff-Coroner

David Harris
Sheriff-Coroner

Kevin La Pyrne
Sheriff-Coroner

Craig Lee
Sheriff-Coroner

Jeffrey Manchester
Sheriff-Coroner

Francis Smith
Sheriff-Coroner

Kim Wright
Sheriff-Coroner

Gerri Arias
Social Services Agency

Ann Hobson
Social Services Agency

James Tutek
Social Services Agency



CONTACT US

COUNTY CONNECTION is distributed monthly by the County Executive Officer Thomas G. Mauk. The newsletter is published by CEO Community/Media Relations. Call 714.834.6203 or e-mail ask.the.ceo@ocgov.com with any suggestions and comments.

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