Connection



Vol. III, November 2006

CEO's Message

First of all, let me thank each of you for your continuing contributions to the success of Orange County. I don't have the opportunity to see all (or each) of you, but I do see the results of your work ranging from the continuing progression of the John Wayne Airport Capital Expansion Program to the successful implementation of CalWIN by the Social Services Agency. To everyone else - each department, division, and employee group has its success stories we need to get the message out.

As you know – speaking of successes and important public policy progress – the Board has now approved a Retiree Medical restructuring program, which in my view, has basically resulted in retaining and "saving" the program. 2007 will now be an "implementation" year and we look forward to working with all of you towards that end.

Also, let's all congratulate the Registrar of Voters, Neal Kelley, and his entire staff for a suc-

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Strategic Focus Completes First Phase



Held on October 12 and 13, the Strategic Focus Summit was the frosting on the cake prepared by countless cooks

in the kitchen. Essential ingredients used for the two-day session included: Summary of Findings – Employee Survey; Summary of Findings from External Focus Groups; Summary of Findings from Internal Focus Groups; Orange County Quality of Life Survey; Summary of Balanced Scorecard Effort accomplished by Probation and the Orange County 2006 Community Indicators Report.

During the first morning, the group reviewed key planning and communication principles,

reviewed where we are now versus where we want to be and then explored the "appreciative inquiry" process. The first afternoon concentrated on several small group sessions identifying the best of "what is" as a bridge to "what could be," identifying our strategic advantages and exploring our mission, vision, culture and values.

On day two, the group continued with refining our mission, vision, culture and values. From that effort, the group identified several core strategies to assist us in getting from where we are to where want to be, including both shaping the business future and the cultural environment.



Chairman Bill Campbell addresses the group attending the Strategic Focus Summit Workshop on October 12.

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cessful November 7th election. This is a difficult task with lots of detail, community involvement, outside agency oversight and so on. But, in Orange County, the difficult tasks are what you (we) do best!!

As you also know, a new Board will begin to be formed in December and that will extend on to January 2007. A special thanks to "termed out" Board members Jim Silva and Tom Wilson. They have accomplished a great deal for the County and for their Districts during the last ten years. They will be missed.

I look forward, with each of you, to future successes with the new Board and Board members' staff. There will be new challenges and opportunities, new initiatives and new professional staff and relationships. In all of it, what we do best is serve the best interests of the Board of Supervisors as it, in turn, serves the best interests of the taxpayers of Orange County.

Thanks to each of you for your continued focus on excellence in Orange County.

Please enjoy Thanksgiving with your families and remember our troops and the Armed Services during the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Thomas G. Mauk
County Executive Officer

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"I am extremely pleased with the outstanding effort by everyone involved with the culmination of the first phase of the Strategic Focus process," said Chairman Bill Campbell. "This ground-breaking journey to establish our mission and vision will prepare a clear and shining path for the future of the County."

Participants at the summit were the Board of Supervisors, agency and department heads, graduates from the Leadership Academy and facilitator Eric Allenbaugh.

Summary information from the two-day summit will be sent to County employees in the near future. In addition, information will be posted on the Strategic Focus web site at http://www.ocgov.com/strategic/stragicfocus.asp.



ROV Staff Works Round-the-Clock

When most citizens arrive at their local polling place, their thoughts are preoccupied with casting their ballot, remembering all the measures and candidates, and getting to work on time. It is common for the prepared and eager polling staff to go unnoticed.

On Election
Day, polling
sites are set up
at six o'clock in
the morning.
The registration check-in
list must be
out, along with
tables, chairs,
privacy curtains and the
ever-important

supply box. The electronic voting machines must be installed and the Judges Booth Controller box, which securely holds the electronic ballots, must be hand

placed by a trained polling place Inspector.

"Imagine having to open 1,057 retail stores in one day, staff them with trained workers, stock them with the right supplies, provide service to a million customers, close the stores that night, get the sup-

plies back to the warehouse, and tally the receipts with 100% accuracy while the whole country watches," said Registrar of Voters Neal Kelley. "That is our task."



Rows of supply boxes are lined up in the ROV warehouse prior to being shipped to the 1,057 polling places throughout the county.

While Election Day itself is demanding, the Registrar of Voters (ROV) office endlessly

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pushes forward for several months prior to prepare for a smooth, efficient election and must take proactive measures for anything that could happen. In fact, the ROV must prepare for future elections while still undergoing a current one.

And handling all the preparations means long hours. Managers and staff alike work up to 16-hour days throughout the week to ensure everything runs smoothly.

The Ballot

The ROV office processed 335 candidate statements for the 462 total contests throughout the county. There were 18 local measures, 17 from cities and one countywide, and 13 state propositions administered for the ballot.

There were 300 ballot styles for the Nov. 7 election. Each had to be scrutinized for spelling and accuracy before being translated into four other languages – Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and Spanish. For every ballot style there is a sample ballot that was proofed, printed, translated and mailed to the nearly 1.5 million registered voters in the county.

The ROV mailed out approximately 460,000 absentee ballots for the growing number of people who choose to vote through this method.

Voter Assistance

After last June's Primary Election, the ROV office received more than 21,000 new voter registration forms. Thousands more were received and proc-

essed from voters who either changed their address or party affiliation.

The ROV staff is ready and willing to assist with voter questions and concerns. Prior to the election, the staff handled up to 3,000 phone calls each day and hundreds of in person visits. A separate room is even set up for workers to handle the large volume of calls received.

The communications staff received media inquiries from around the world and before the Election was over, the number of media calls was in the hundreds.

All absentee ballots that were received early went through signature verification and then scanned throughout the week prior to the election. These results were posted at 8:05 p.m. on Election Night along with the early voting totals. All absentee ballots received on Election Day were counted the following day.

The ROV partnered with the Sheriff's Department to provide the secure transportation of election results to the ROV office off S. Grand Ave. once the polls closed. The Sheriff's Department also provides onsite professional law enforcement

Poll Workers

Community members are at all times being recruited to work the polls. ROV staff offers poll worker training classes seven days a week for the 5,100 volunteers needed to get the job done. Approximately 1,200 poll workers are bilingual.



Volunteers at the Registrar of Voters (ROV) office diligently scan absentee ballots the week before Election Day.

Volunteers aren't just recruited for Election Day. Poll workers are also needed in the office before the election to open and scan absentee ballots, among other duties.

Election Results

Thousands of voters choose early voting methods. Eleven locations throughout the county, including John Wayne Airport, provided this option for ten days. These sites are in addition to the mobile voting unit that visited seven locations.

back at the office from Election Night until the ROV certifies the election.

ROV staff and volunteers work together through the night to certify an election and post the live results on their newly enhanced web site.

The high-tech web site is the result of a two-year research and development process the ROV office underwent to better serve the Orange County community.

Volunteers Needed for Homeless Survey

Volunteers are needed to help count Orange County's homeless and to ensure important funding for homeless shelters and other supportive services. The Point-In-Time survey is tasked with tallying the homeless in one specific 24-hour period throughout the entire Orange County area and is the largest homeless census project ever completed in the County.

During the evening of Jan. 25 and Jan. 26 all homeless individuals and families (both unsheltered and sheltered) will be counted and surveyed. Volunteers will attend a training session. For more information or to volunteer, contact Mary Schwartz at mary.schwartz @ocpartnership.net or Jennifer Lee Anderson at janderson@infolinkoc.org.

Help Fight Hunger This Holiday Season

The Harvest for the Holidays Food Drive has begun. Housing & Community Services hopes to provide thousand of pounds of food to over 400 charitable organizations throughout the community this year, including homeless shelters, soup kitchens, senior centers, rehabilitation facilities and homes for abused children.

Contributions of canned food items, pasta, personal hygiene products, baby food and baby supplies may be left in your building's designated barrel until Nov. 30.

For more information, contact Mary Bishop, Homeless Prevention Coordinator at (714) 567-5162.

Conditions of Children Forum

The public is invited to attend the Fifth Annual Community Forum on the Conditions of Children in Orange County at Cal State Fullerton, Nov. 15 from 8:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Experts in the field and university faculty will discuss the implications of a yearly report that tracks the health, economic well-being, educational achievements and general safety of local kids.

Participants will have the opportunity to engage with speakers and receive a copy of the report that contains the most current data available regarding these topics.

To reserve your seat, please call (714) 278-3249 or e-mail vgarcia@fullerton.edu for additional information.



The original Irvine family mansion, which once sat on the grounds of the Irvine Ranch Historical Park, was demolished after a fire in the late 1960s.

Historic Twist for New Library

Construction of the Katie Wheeler Branch Library is set to begin Dec. 1 at Irvine Ranch Historical Park. The exterior of the 10,000 sq. foot facility will replicate the old Irvine family mansion that was originally located on the grounds, but was demolished after a fire in the late 1960s. Doors are expected to open to the public in late 2007.



The exterior of the 10,000 sq. ft. Katie Wheeler Library will replicate the original Irvine family mansion.

County Librarian Receives High Honor

County Librarian John Adams has been named as the 2006 Outstanding Librarian in Literacy by the California Library Association (CLA) and California State Library Literacy Services. Adams will be recognized for his dedication and support of literacy as an integral part of the Orange County Public Library system.

"This is a distinct honor for the entire Orange County Public Library, and I am pleased the Association is recognizing the accomplishments of the READ/Orange County staff and our hundreds of literacy volunteers in providing such an important service to our community" said Adams.

The award is presented to the Library Director who has shown excellent support and has gone above and beyond in one or more of the following areas: Outreach, Public Awareness, Programming, Advocacy, and Recruitment. Adams has excelled in his support for all five areas.

The award will be presented at the first-ever CLA award dinner on November 10, 2006 in conjunction with the CLA State Conference in Sacramento.

Employee Recognition



Public Library employees were recognized by Chairman Campbell at the Oct. 31 Board Meeting for their dedicated work throughout the year. Pictured from left: Chairman Bill Campbell, Hilary Keith, Jill Patterson, Tangela Ashe, Geany Crabb and County Librarian John Adams.

Get The 411 On OC

Clerk-Recorder

- 1. The Clerk-Recorder opened a new South County branch office in the Laguna Hills Civic Center. Since opening last Feb., the office has served more than 8,000 community members.
- 2. Due to the launch of an online application and appointment system, community members may now request copies of birth, death and marriage certificates from the comfort of their home. Applicants may then set an online appointment to pick up their copies from the office.
- 3. Since inception, the department has recorded more than 3.8 million property transactions electronically. As one of the only two county recorders in California authorized to record electronically, the Clerk-Recorder serves in an instrumental role as an advisor to the California Attorney General in establishing guidelines to certify new electronic recording systems in other counties.
- 4. One of the responsibilities of the Clerk-Recorder is to oversee the Orange County Archives. The Archivist gives monthly historical presentations to the Board of Supervisors, and has covered a variety of topics including the histories of various Orange County cities, Disneyland's 50th Anniversary and the 100th birthday of the *Orange County Register*.
- 5. On average, the Clerk-Recorder Department performs 20 marriage ceremonies a day. However, this number dramatically increases to approximately 150 a day around Valentine's Day.

To get more of the 411, visit: http://www.ocgov.com/recorder/.

Employee Flu Shot Program

According to the Health Care Agency, the first cases of seasonal influenza were reported in Orange County last month. There are approximately 114,000 hospitalizations and 36,000 deaths nationwide related to this illness each year.

Vaccination is effective in preventing disease in most healthy people; and, contrary to popular myth, cannot cause the flu to develop. County employees and their families have several options to receive the treatment and are encouraged to do so this November to ensure optimal protection.

Employee Health Services provides free flu vaccinations to County employees meeting high-risk criteria and for \$11 to all other employees. Vaccinations will be available at Employee Health Services, 405 W. 5th St., #601, Santa Ana from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Monday – Friday.

Vaccinations are also available to the public at physician's offices, health clinics, senior centers and some pharmacies. Check www.findaflushot.com for listings.

For detailed information, please visit http://www.ochealthinfo.com/public/flu or call (800) 564-8448.

Change Your Battery

Now that our clocks have been set back, the Orange County Fire Authority reminds us that fall is also the perfect time to check the batteries in our smoke alarms.

The OFCA has experienced a 70 percent failure rate with smoke alarms in residential fires, a problem it most often attributes to missing, disconnected or dead batteries.

Simply maintaining a working detector makes you twice as likely to survive such a blaze.

The agency is participating in the Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery™ safety campaign to provide information regarding the proper installation of smoke alarms, performance of monthly tests, best way to handle false alarms and planning of successful drills.

To learn more, please visit www.ocfa.org, www.energizer.com/learning/firesafety.asp or call (714) 573-6200.

United Way - Unity in Action



The Pirates of the Pacific Civic Center Kick-Off Rally was full of delicious food, lively entertainment, and handmade crafts. The event raised more than \$14,000 for Orange County United Way.

Unity in action is evident in the 2006 United Way campaign as County agencies and departments have pulled together to raise funds to help improve the lives of the poor and underserved in Orange County. The campaign has started strong thanks to the entire County family. Here is a summary of highlights from United Way Chair Bryan Speegle, Director of Resources and Development Management Department (RDMD).

Leadership Breakfast – generated nearly \$4,000.

Grand Ave. Kick-Off – generated \$3,057.

Civic Center Kick-Off – generated \$14,040. The Pirates of the Pacific theme took back the sea for another great turnout.

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County Day at the Park – generated approximately \$1,000. The winning team of the competitive games was a group from RDMD's Katella Yard. Next year's picnic will be held on Oct. 6.

Golf Tournament – generated \$16,100. A foursome from the Health Care Agency captured the year-round trophy from the day's 115 players.

E-Way Pledging – has generated more than \$117,000 in pledges and payroll deductions thus far. For a limited time, the E-Way site is still active for those who would like to make a pledge.



The RDMD/ Katella Yard team pulled through the tug-of-war game at the first-ever County Family Picnic.



The Housing and Community Services' Office on Aging dished out tasty desserts at the Grand Ave. Kick-Off.

United Way Photo Gallery



Clerk of the Board Darlene Bloom confidently reads her morning paper as she sits above the dunk tank at the Civic Center Kick-Off Rally.





The finalists for the first-ever OC Idol competition were Joyce Harrell (Clerk of the Board) and Darlene Schnoor (CEO). After three powerful rounds of competition and extremely close voting, Harrell was named this year's Idol.



Supervisor Norby hands Rob Richardson (CEO) two slices of pizza at the Board of Supervisors Picnic Lunch. Supervisors Correa and Campbell also serve Matt Petteruto (Third District Board Office) breadsticks as he moves down the line.



A foursome from the Health Care Agency took home the trophy from the Golf Tournament. Pictured from left: Mitch Cherness (HCA) and Shane Mills (HCA), with friends Charles Anderson and Ron Chamberlin.



For the Month of October

35 Years

Douglas Boeckler Housing & Community

Services Department

30 Years

Rusty Kennedy

Housing & Community Services Department

Doreen Roldan

District Attorney

Bart Bartlett

Human Resouces

Elizabeth Fletcher

Social Services Agency

Gregoria Hernandez

Social Services Agency

Gail Campbell

Social Services Agency

Lynn Boscia

Social Services Agency

Wanda Bale

Resources & Development Management Department

Geogory Walen

Resources & Development Management Department 25 Years

Lana Luu

Auditor-Controller

Sylvia Mann

Housing & Community Services Department

Sandra Reza

County Executive Office

Ruby Urban

District Attorney

Paul Odwald

District Attorney

Alonzo Whitney

Child Support Services

Michael Lundquist

Registrar of Voters

Larry Finch

Health Care Agency

Gilbert Garcia

Sheriff-Coroner

Elizabeth Bunetta

Probation

Sandra Swallow

Probation

Margaret Dames

Probation

Leslie White

Probation

Maureen Dumas

Probation

Cora Nichter

Probation

Maria Maynard

Sheriff-Coroner

James Beauchamp

Sheriff-Coroner

Lynn Manhart

Social Services Agency

Ruth Daniel

Social Services Agency

David Perry

Treasurer-Tax Collector

Javid Mohsenzadeh

Resources & Development Management Department

Susan Randall

Resources & Development Management Department

Irene Nickle

Public Library

Kate Dolan

Public Library

David Minnick

Integrated Waste Management

Joe Dorantes

Resources & Development Management Department

Robert Davis

Resources & Development Management Department

Carroll Baldwin

Resources & Development Management Department

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