



## Ask the CEO



**We're off!!** The new fiscal year has begun based on the Board of Supervisors' action on June 27 that approved a \$5.6 billion budget. The Board conducted a thorough review of the proposed budget on June 13 and 14, and proposed revisions, including an additional \$10 million for Medical Services for Indigents, for consideration in the final budget adoption. The adopted budget includes several important Board-approved augmentations including:

1. \$700,000 to expand the District Attorney's High Tech Crime Unit
2. \$500,000 to expand the number of bed nights at the cold weather shelter armory
3. \$1.1 million to increase service levels in SSA's Children & Family services
4. \$1 million for an additional field services unit to increase supervision of probationers
5. \$10 million toward the replacement of the CAPS System

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Employee Survey Successfully Launched

In less than two weeks since the launch of the first-ever, County-wide employee survey, more than 3,000 responses have been received with about three weeks remaining until the deadline. All employees should have now received or have access to the confidential survey that is an essential part of the Strategic Focus effort.

Employees who do not have direct access to a computer should have already received a hard copy of the memo from Chairman Bill Campbell and CEO Thomas G. Mauk with the employee's Username and PIN which enable them to access the survey. The Username and PIN can only be used once to complete the survey and, thereby, ensure the confidentiality and credibility of the survey. Employees without their own computers should check with

their Department Heads for direction to a computer terminal on which to take the survey.

"We need the participation and feedback of all County employees to help us shape the course for the future," said Chairman Bill Campbell. "To ensure that employees are comfortable with candid replies, this survey is being analyzed and summarized by MGH Consulting, an outside, independent firm."

The survey will take no more than 15 – 20 minutes to complete. It is available online to employees until August 31. After all the survey input is received, a summary report will be completed by early October, and will be shared with employees.

*(Continued on page 2)*



*(Continued from page 1)*

Budget approval also allows the staff to move forward with several other program-related Board priorities including:

- Graffiti abatement on private property
- The addition of a third Youth & Family Resource Center
- Funding for the CEO, Social Services Agency and Housing & Community Services to coordinate the development of disaster planning for the County
- Increased funding for preventive maintenance of County facilities

On the Retiree Medical front, the working group established by the Board is about half-way through the process of developing recommendations. Additionally, the Chairman has, with Board support, instructed the Human Resources/Employee Relations Department to meet regularly with Retired Employees Association of Orange County (REAOC) to receive input directly from retirees.

On a more personal front, I appreciate all your efforts in conserving electricity demand during the heat wave. It's another way that we can all pitch in to accomplish an overall goal. Thank you as well for the good response we've seen to the employee survey. You will receive weekly updates on our progress in that area.

**Thomas G. Mauk**  
County Executive Officer

*(Continued from page 1)*



Anyone experiencing difficulty with the survey may email

[pat.markley@ocgov.com](mailto:pat.markley@ocgov.com) or [diane.thomas-plunk@ocgov.com](mailto:diane.thomas-plunk@ocgov.com).

Another component of the process involves interviews of identified internal and external public/private "stakeholders." The interviews are being conducted by trained Leadership Academy graduates. The entire Strategic Focus process will culminate in October with a two-day workshop.

"We are strongly committed to the Strategic Focus effort, and we want the highest possible participation in the employee survey," said CEO Thomas G. Mauk. "While the survey is in progress, we will send out

weekly emails to let you know how we're doing."

All communications about Strategic Focus are being posted on a web site that can be accessed by employees and the public. You can see these at <http://www.ocgov.com/strategic/strategicfocus.asp>.

Once completed, a new strategic plan will create a renewed vision for the future as the County enters a new era of successes. In the coming weeks and months, please watch the County Connection newsletter and other mailings for updates on the progress.



## HBP Launches First Family Picnic to Benefit OC's United Way

It's an old-fashioned family picnic at the park with competitive games safely less nerve-chilling than X-Games. And it's all to benefit United Way.

Harbors, Beaches & Parks (HBP) this year is launching its first-ever, Countywide picnic as one of this year's major fundraising events for United Way. The family day at the park is set for 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. on October 7 at Irvine Regional Park, #1 Irvine Park Rd. in Orange.

"Everyone in HBP is very excited about the County family picnic," said Kevin Thomas, Director of

HBP. "It will be a fun-filled day for all County employees and their families, and it will support a very good cause. All proceeds from the games and refreshments will go to the 2006 United Way campaign. I'm hopeful that, when everyone sees how much they and their families enjoy the park and this event, it will become an annual tradition of County family fun and goodwill for years to come. We really hope that all County departments work with us to make this a truly memorable ex-

*(Continued on page 3)*

# News Briefs

## County Booths Bring Home Ribbons from the OC Fair

The Year of the Garden was in full bloom at the 2006 Orange County Fair where more than 900,000 guests took part in mouth-watering culinary delights, thrilling carnival rides and family attractions. Visitors also enjoyed the twin treats of information and entertainment created for displays by representatives from County departments and agencies.

Employees from Animal Care Services, Assessor, Clerk-Recorder, Homeless Prevention, Health Care Agency, Integrated Waste Management, John Wayne Airport, Law Library, Office on Aging, Probation, Public Library, Registrar of Voters, Sheriff-Coroner, Social Services and Superior Court welcomed Fair visitors from July 7 – 30.

Several booths were honored with Orange County Building awards in the Government Agency competition. The Orange County Sheriff's Department won first place for Best of Show, while Assessor's Office received second place for both theme and educational content. Probation completed the trio with a third place for educational material.

The Registrar of Voters Office drew inspiration from the Fair's Flower Power theme by inviting the crowd to pick their favorite flower using one of the newly introduced electronic voting machines. This creative display brought home first place in the variety/interactive category, where the incumbent California Poppy closely won the fragrant election by 16 votes over the Blue

*(Continued on page 4)*



Committee members for HBP's United Way "Day at the Park" met at Irvine Regional Park to discuss the set-up for the October 7 event. They are (from left) Wida Karim, Harbors, Beaches & Parks; Deanna Azevedo, Social Services Agency; Harry Huggins, Harbors, Beaches & Parks; and Mona Gustafson, Social Services Agency.

*(Continued from page 2)*

perience."

The day will abound with events for adults and children including free activities for kids such as clowns, face painters, and bounce houses. There will also be golf putting; golf pitching, dunk tank, midway games and Irvine Park's existing amenities like train rides, pony rides and bicycles — all at discounted prices. There will also be live music, food and non-alcoholic beverages.

United Way Chairman Bryan Speegle said that friendly competition among departments will be encouraged as teams sign up for the tug-of-war, three-legged race, sack race and relay races. The team with the highest score at the end of the day will get to take home a trophy -- and bragging rights for the next 12 months. Teams are comprised of 8-10 employees. Departments can register their teams for \$150. More information will be provided as the picnic draws closer.

Departments may also host a fundraising or information booth.

The booth fee is \$100 per department.

The park entrance fee is optional for the day of the picnic. All proceeds collected will be donated to United Way.

For further information about sponsoring a booth or registering for the games, contact Dee Azevedo at 714.245.6254 or via email at [deanna.azevedo@ssa.ocgov.com](mailto:deanna.azevedo@ssa.ocgov.com). For general event information, contact Wida Karim at 714.973.6870 or by email at [wida.karim@rdmd.ocgov.com](mailto:wida.karim@rdmd.ocgov.com).

### United Way Calendar

- Sept. 27 Leadership Breakfast
- Sept. 28 Grand Ave. Kick-Off
- Oct. 5 Civic Center Kick-Off
- Oct. 7 County Day at the Park
- Oct. 9 Golf Tournament

For a list of all United Way events Countywide, visit <http://ocintranet.ocgov.com/unitedway/calendar.asp>

(Continued from page 3)

“Himalayan” Poppy. The official election results are below.

California “Golden” Poppy	274
Blue “Himalayan” Poppy	258
Mariposa Lily	178
Write-In	53
Matilija Poppy	44

### County Archivist Authors County Name Book

You’ve heard of a “busman’s holiday.” Well, County Archivist Phil Brigandi has perfected the history buff’s version. During his non-work hours, Brigandi has been busy writing a historical book. And now he can enjoy the culmination of his personal project since **Orange County Place Names A to Z** landed in stores last month.

The paperback chronicles the tales behind the names of places throughout Orange County. From canyons and hills to cities and school districts, more than 500 alphabetical entries detail the interesting stories that answer the intriguing question, “How did that place get its name, anyway?”

A copy of **Orange County Place Names A to Z** can be obtained at your local bookstore for approximately \$13.

### Fight the Bite

Mosquitoes multiply during the summer heat. It’s important to take precautions against mosquito bites to avoid West Nile Virus (WNV) infection. Here are a few tips.

- Empty all standing water on your property.
- Check all window and door screens for rips and tears.
- Use insect repellent that contains DEET, picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus and always follow label directions.
- Limit outdoor activity during dawn and dusk.

Visit <http://www.ochealthinfo.com>.

## Get Your Photo in *Connection*; Take the OC History Test

How much do you know about Orange County history? Take the quiz below and put your expertise to the test. Answers and a photo of the first respondent with the highest number of correct answers will be featured in next month’s County Connection. Send answers to [ask.the.ceo@ocgov.com](mailto:ask.the.ceo@ocgov.com).

*(Assistance in developing the questions was provided by County Archivist Phil Brigandi and Archives section staff. These staff members are ineligible to enter the contest.)*

1. In what year was the County of Orange formed?



**Test your OC IQ. When did a tumbler damage the Old County Courthouse?**

2. When the County was formed, which city - other than Santa Ana - campaigned to become the County seat?
3. Who was the first Chief Administrative Officer of the County?
4. How many counties in the United States share our name? In what states are they located?
5. In what year did the Old Orange County Courthouse sustain severe damage from an earthquake which resulted in the removal of the cupola?
6. What Orange County city was formerly known as Dairyland?
7. There has only been one city that was incorporated and disincorporated prior to its absorption into other cities. Name this “ghost city” that now lies in parts of Fullerton and Anaheim.

8. The oldest incorporated city in the County is \_\_\_\_\_.
9. What was the year of the first Orange County Fair?
10. What year did the present JWA (known then as the Orange County Airport) open?
11. Give the current name of the first county park.

*(Continued on page 5)*

*(Continued from page 4)*

12. Name the Orange County citizen who first developed the boysenberry.
13. The Board Supervisor who held a 30-year tenure (the longest ever in Orange County history) is \_\_\_\_\_.
14. In what year was Mission San Juan Capistrano founded?
15. Name the youngest city in the County.

## Get The 411 On OC Child Support Services

1. Child Support Services (CSS) collected and distributed a record \$178.3 million to secure the financial and medical well-being of Orange County families in 2005.
2. Technological advances play an integral part in the collection and distribution of funds. Currently, clients have the option to receive funds via direct deposit, and employers may transfer funds electronically. Non-custodial parents have the option of sending support via credit card or debit card in addition to more traditional means such as checks and money orders.
3. CSS staff includes trained family law attorneys and more than 300 caseworkers who help locate absent parents, establish paternity, set up court orders for the financial and medical support of minor children and enforce court orders. All services, funded through State and Federal monies, are provided free of charge to the client.
4. The County of Orange is one of the top six California counties in terms of total case loads. Despite that, the County's CSS leads the other five in the following areas:
  - Per case collection
  - Percentage of children with established paternity
  - Percentage of cases with an established court order
  - Percentage of current collected support
  - Percentage of cases with arrears collection

To get more of the 411, visit <http://www.css.ocgov.com>.



## 25 Years

**Maricella Gonzales**  
Auditor-Controller

**Sandra Schwarzbach**  
Clerk of the Board

**Sharron Anderson**  
County Executive Office

**Lew Rosenblum**  
District Attorney

**Mary Huth**  
Child Support Services

**Patricia Moulton**  
Health Care Agency

**Janis Carlson**  
Health Care Agency

**Dr. Katherine Huber**  
Health Care Agency

**Linda Keenan**  
Health Care Agency

**Arcelia Aguilar**  
Probation

**Lynn Mercado**  
Probation

**Patricia Neal**  
Probation

**William Kelley**  
Public Defender

**Marcella Alvarez**  
Sheriff-Coroner

**Jamie Young**  
Social Services Agency

**Calvin Inthavong**  
Social Services Agency

**Tann Lee**  
Social Services Agency

**Michael Sutton**  
District Attorney

**Dean Swart**  
Resources & Development  
Management Department

**Charles Lessick**  
Resources & Development  
Management Department

**Richard Villaran**  
Resources & Development  
Management Department

**Rudy Figueroa, Sr.**  
Resources & Development  
Management Department

**Susan Derr**  
Public Library

**Elpidio Salanga**  
Integrated Waste  
Management Department

## 30 Years

**Sara Ruckle-Harms**  
District Attorney

**Terri Burke**  
Health Care Agency

**Mickey Johnson**  
Health Care Agency

**Linda Rappaport**  
Health Care Agency

**Barbara Myers**  
Health Care Agency

**Joseph Mishica**  
Sheriff-Coroner

**Gary Shields**  
Sheriff-Coroner

**Dana Parish**  
Sheriff-Coroner

**Conchita Dizon**  
Social Services Agency

**Steven Farrar**  
Resources & Development  
Management Department

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