

# Are You Prepared at Home and at Work?

September has arrived and the official end of summer is just around the corner. Many of you have been preparing to send children back to school, but this is also the time to think about another type of preparation. September is National Preparedness Month, a time when Americans are encouraged to prepare for emergencies and disasters.

Here in Orange County, wildfires, earthquakes, El Niño flooding, tsunamis and landslides are just some of the natural disasters that are part of our preparedness planning. This year, concerns about H1N1 flu have brought a new element to our preparedness planning, as we consider how this new type of influenza may affect

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#### **Airport Improvement Construction Underway**

The construction of substantial new facilities at John Wayne Airport (JWA) is underway in order to meet the growing needs of the traveling public. The Airport Improvement Program will create additional terminal area capacity in the form of new aircraft gates, holdrooms, concessions, passenger/baggage screening capabilities, and parking. It will also help redistribute traffic between terminals, achieving a balanced operation throughout the terminal complex.

"We are pleased to be able to offer new and improved services in the Terminal providing our passengers with more convenience and a positive travel experience," said Alan L. Murphy, Airport Director.

This summer, the Board of Supervisors awarded contracts for the construction of Terminal C and Parking Structure C, which are scheduled to open to the public in late 2011. Supervisors also awarded a design-build contract for a Central Plant that will generate chilled water for the air conditioning system and electric power for the Terminal complex.

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our homes, schools and businesses.

In addition to preparing your families and households for emergencies, I hope you will think about your unique role as a Disaster Service Worker that is a part of being an employee of the County of Orange. If you've worked for the County for a number of years, you may not recall the oath you took regarding your responsibilities as a Disaster Service Worker. The information on the back of your identification badge provides a brief reminder, but the accompanying fact sheet provides more information about the ways you might be asked to serve during a disaster. There's even a video on the County Intranet to provide an overview of the important role of Disaster Service Workers.

To be prepared for your County role as a Disaster Service Worker, you have to make sure that your family and household are prepared for the types of emergencies that are common in Southern California. Once you know that your family is safe, you'll be better prepared to respond to help the public during times of need. So take a few minutes this month to review your preparedness plans. We know it's not a matter of "if" a disaster will happen, it's only a matter of "when."

# Thomas G. Mauk County Executive Officer

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Pile driving is the first step in creating the foundation of the new facilities. Indicator piles were driven to allow the Airport to analyze the equipment being used and to confirm the depth the piles will need to be driven for the foundations. After the analysis is complete, construction pile driving will begin on the site later this month. In all, 1,450 production piles will be necessary (450 for Terminal C and 1,000 for Parking Structure C). During the pile driving activity, noise and vibration are expected at and in the vicinity.

To learn more about the planned facilities or sign-up to receive JWA's newsletter and e-news alerts, visit www.ocair.com/im-provements.

#### **Tell Friends and Family about AlertOC**

Southern California is prone to many types of disasters, including wildfires, floods and earthquakes. Wildfires, particularly, have scorched parts of Orange County over the last several years, causing entire neighborhoods to evacuate. With the recent Southern California wildfires and concerns that there is more to come, all OC residents and businesses are urged to register their contact information with AlertOC.

Even if you don't live in a wildfire prone area, public safety and health disasters can strike at anytime. Residents are able to register more than one contact method per residence, thus enabling landlines, cell phones and e-mail addresses to be used for urgent notifications.

#### REGISTRATION IS QUICK, EASY AND CRITICAL.

Stay informed of emergency information by registering your landline, cell phone, and e-mail today. For additional information or to register, visit AlertOC.com.

How to share the news:

- 1. If you live in Orange County, register your cell phones and e-mail addresses.
- 2. Go to AlertOC.com and choose the **Share This** feature to send your friends and family an e-mail with a link to register.
- 3. Use the **Share This** feature to place a link on a social networking page such as Twitter or Facebook.
- 4. Spread the word through your neighborhood or community.

## **Leadership Lessons Foster Servant Leader Values**

"Be the change you seek in the world" ~ Mahatma Gandhi.

More than 600 County workers have attended the initial sessions of the Leadership Lessons series taught by dozens of alumni from the Orange County Leadership Academy (OCLA). The initial two half-day course called Leading as a Way of Serving focuses on developing skills to lead by serving fellow employees and community members, while inspiring and supporting others to do the same.

With busy work schedules and a list of daily tasks and projects to accomplish, it can become habit for any worker, regardless of job title, to think and orient their day in a deadline-driven environment. The Leadership Lessons series discusses ways to shift this reactionary mode into a perspective centered on core ideals of servant leadership, including values such as awareness, listening and commitment to the growth of people. In essence, servant leadership is about creating and sustaining a positive culture of service in the County.

"The course highlights the importance of developing people as servant leaders through their work and actions" said Frank Tuanai, with Public Administrator/Public Guardian and one of the facilitators for the OC Leadership Lessons series. "It is so exciting to share this course with so many employees who are eager to learn about servant leadership qualities."

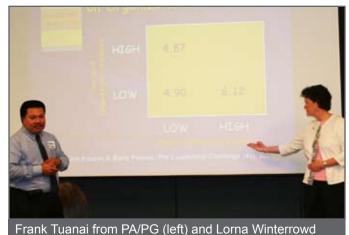
Participants collaborate in group exercises, take home assignments, as well as share experiences and practices to further their understanding of the course's central concept – a leader must first be a servant. Through helping others achieve their duties and responsibilities, the work community bands

together to serve our customers and the diverse needs of each department.

"In addition to having fun in Leadership Lessons, I left the training with a deeper appreciation of the valuable lessons I learned," said Athena Cumberland, Probation Department. "I had a very positive experience in this class, which did not feel like a stuffy or traditional training environment."

OCLA graduates will soon introduce new modules into the OC Leadership Lessons curriculum taking the principles of servant leadership further into topics of communication, teamwork and integrity. The new section will begin in January.

The current topic in the Leadership Lessons series is offered every month and participation is encouraged for all employees – not just managers and supervisors. To register for a class, visit the Training Partners web site and type "OC Leadership Lessons" in the search field. Employees are asked to obtain supervisor approval before registering.



frank Tuanai from PA/PG (left) and Lorna Winterrowd from the Probation Department facilitate a session of the OC Leadership Lessons. Click here to see slideshow. (If a security window appears, select "allow.")

#### The Upcoming Influenza Season: What Can We Expect?

While flu season is always a busy time for staff at the Orange County Health Care Agency, this year presents a special challenge as staff prepare for both the regular, seasonal influenza and the new H1N1 flu first identified earlier this year. County Health Officer Dr. Eric Handler answered a few questions about influenza

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and ways that we can all protect our health in the days ahead.

# Q. What can we expect this year from flu season?

A. The severity and exact timing of influenza seasons are unpredictable. We expect the regular, seasonal influenza that we get every year to return in the fall and the pandemic H1N1 (2009) strain of influenza (previously called swine flu) to increase its level of activity.

# Q. Is it unusual to have influenza circulating during the summer as it has been this year?

A. Yes. Usually seasonal influenza activity tapers off in the spring and the virus doesn't cause problems in the summer. Pandemic H1N1 influenza appeared in the spring and has continued circulating at high levels in the community through the summer. The normal, seasonal fluusually starts ramping up in the fall and goes until the spring.

# Q. Will recommendations for flu shots change since there will be different types of influenza circulating at the same time?

A. The regular seasonal influenza vaccine has been produced and will be available soon. The federal government is also ramping up as quickly as possible to make available a vaccine for the pandemic H1N1 influenza virus. There are some differences in who should get each of these vaccines. The recommendations for those who should get the regular seasonal vaccine have not changed. They include:

- Children aged 6 months up to their 19th birthday
- Pregnant women
- People 50 years of age and older
- People of any age with certain chronic medical conditions
- People who live in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities

- People who live with or care for those at high risk for complications from flu, including:
  - » Health care workers
  - » Household contacts of persons at high risk for complications from the flu
  - » Household contacts and out of home caregivers of children less than 6 months of age

The individuals who should get the pandemic H1N1 influenza vaccine first include:

- Pregnant women
- Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months of age
- Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel
- All people from 6 months through 24 years of age
- Persons aged 25 through 64 years who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza.

The federal government is now testing the vaccine that's been developed for pandemic H1N1. For seasonal influenza, adults should get one shot or one dose of Flu Mist (an inhaled flu vaccine). For pandemic H1N1, two doses (as a shot or inhaled) will probably be recommended.



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#### Q. How serious is the pandemic H1N1 influenza?

A. In most people, the illness is mild, and the symptoms, such as fever and cough or sore throat, are similar to the regular influenza. One difference is that about 25% of people with pandemic H1N1 influenza have diarrhea and/or vomiting. Another difference is that the populations experiencing serious illness are different than what you would expect with seasonal influenza. For example, younger groups are more affected by pandemic H1N1 than by seasonal influenza, while there is some protection from pandemic H1N1 infection among those who are 60 years of age and older. Pregnant women, who are at risk of serious illness from seasonal influenza, may be at even greater risk from pandemic H1N1. Although more research is needed, there is some evidence that obesity is a risk factor associated with more severe illness from pandemic H1N1 influenza.

# Q. Since pandemic H1N1 influenza vaccine may not be immediately available for everyone, are there other things people can do to protect themselves from influenza?

A. The federal government is anticipating that the pandemic H1N1 influenza vaccine will be available sometime in October. I think it is absolutely critical at this point in time that everyone in the recommended groups get a seasonal influenza



vaccine. If people become sick, they should remain home from work or school until they are without a fever for 24 hours. General cough etiquette (cover your cough and sneeze with your sleeve or a tissue) and proper handwashing are absolutely critical to prevent the spread of the virus. These practices will also prevent the spread of many other viruses that cause respiratory illness.

# Q. There have already been lots of changes in the recommendations associated with the response to pandemic H1N1 influenza. Is this a situation where the advice may continue to change as we learn more about the influenza virus?

A. Absolutely. This is a very fluid event. As a matter of fact, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has modified their recommendations on school closures. When very little was known about the virus, CDC recommended school closures in many situations. They are now recommending that schools close only in a few special situations. We may still need to consider closing schools depending on the specific circumstances at a school.

# Q. What is the Health Care Agency doing currently in response to pandemic H1N1 influenza?

A. The Health Care Agency, especially Public Health, is very active in planning for vaccinating large numbers of people. We are relying on our community partners to help us quickly distribute and use this new vaccine when it is here and available

# Q. Where can people get more information on influenza?

A. There are many websites with reliable information including the federal government site www.flu.gov and the Health Care Agency's website, www.ochealthinfo.com.

#### Slideshow: A Glimpse into the Orange County Archives

The Orange County Archives is the official repository of County historical records. It was established to ensure the preservation and availability of important material documenting Orange County's rich history.

The Archives is an invaluable resource, not just to the thousands of individuals who access its records, but also to County government, which depends on the Archives' expert staff to collect, preserve, and make accessible their most historically significant documents.

The Archives are operated by the Orange County Clerk-Recorder's Office, but are the repository of historical records for all County agencies. Each agency works with the Archives to develop procedures to identify and preserve records of historical value.

The Orange County Archives also collects nongovernmental materials such as local history books, cemetery records, newspapers, directories, photos, and the papers of historically significant Orange County individuals and businesses. Combined with government records, they make the Archives the premier research center for the study of Orange County history. If you'd like to do research or take a tour, you are welcome to visit the Archives on weekdays (9 am - Noon and 1 - 4:30 pm) at the Old County Courthouse, 211 W. Santa Ana Blvd, #101, in Santa Ana. For more information, visit OCArchives. com.

Additional sample photos from the Orange County Archives' collections can be found at www. flickr.com/ocarchives. More information about the Archives can be found at OCArchives.com.



Lion Country Safari, Irvine, 1971

Tourists drove their cars among the wild animals at Lion Country Safari from 1970 to 1984. This is one of many color images from the Archives' Planning Dept. Collection. Click here to see slideshow. (If a security window appears, select "allow.")

#### Save the Date for the United Way Leadership Breakfast

County employees are invited to attend the United Way Leadership Breakfast from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 17 at the Angel Stadium Home Plate Club. The event will feature keynote speaker George Willis, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Southern California District of UPS.

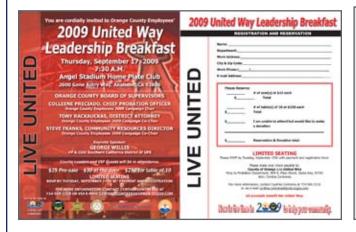
Tickets cost \$25 pre-sale, \$30 at the door or \$250 for a table of ten guests. Seating is limited, so please be sure to RSVP by Tuesday, Sept. 15 with payment and registration. All proceeds benefit the United Way.

"Each year, the United Way campaign raises the awareness among County of Orange employees about the virtues of giving back to the community and helping others during a time of unforeseen need," said 2009 Campaign Chair Colleene Preciado, Chief Probation Officer. "Only through our donations, whether large or small, are we able to help those who have experienced some type of setback due to our local and global economy."

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For more information, please contact Cynthia Contreras at (714) 569-2218 or via e-mail at Cynthia.Contreras@prob.ocgov.com.



#### Social Needs in OC:

- There were 8,333 homeless persons on the streets and in shelters during the 2009 Point In Time Count of the Homeless
- Over the course of one year, 21,479 persons become homeless in Orange County.
- Over 14% of individuals in Orange County do not have health insurance

#### **Mobile Unit Team Gains National Recognition**

An Orange County Health Care Agency (HCA) program delivering health services to the homeless has received the Model Practice Award from the National Association of City and County Health Officers (NACCHO).

HCA's Mobile Unit Team was one of 23 programs selected to receive recognition from among the more than 115 programs nominated by health departments nationwide. The Model Practice Award honors programs that demonstrate how local health departments and community partners can effectively collaborate to address public health needs.

Orange County's Mobile Unit Team was formed to address the tremendous need for coordinated services for the homeless. With direction provided by HCA, community partners including the Orange County Rescue Mission, Kaiser Permanente, University of California, Irvine and the Illumination Foundation have joined with HCA staff to better coordinate existing programs and services. Other partners, including Cal Optima, the County's Medical Services Initiative, the Social Services Agency, legal assistance programs, law enforcement and behavioral health specialists bring additional services and expertise to the effort that originally focused on meeting the

health care needs identified during a visit to winter homeless shelters. During a 17 month period, the Mobile Unit Team provided services to almost 1,200 clients at twelve different locations in Orange County. Two public health nurses with the County's Comprehensive Health Assessment Team for the Homeless, known as CHAT-H, provide coordination of services and help individuals identify a medical home that will provide them with on-going health care services.



Orange County Health Officer Dr. Eric Handler (center) chats with Bruce Dart, NACCHO President (left), and Gary Cox, NACCHO's immediate past president (right), during a reception for recipients of the Model Practice Award.

## Get the 411 on the **OC Human Resources Department**

- The OC Human Resource Department (HRD) oversees a variety of functions, from recruitment management, design and administration of employee benefits programs and contract negotiations with all labor organizations, to advising on employee relations matters and administering the County's Harassment Prevention policies for all 25 departments and 18,000 employees.
- HRD staff is part of an ongoing, multi-million dollar project designed to upgrade the automated Human Resources and Payroll systems that are scheduled to go live January 1, 2011.
- All recruitments are administered through the County's Online Recruiting System. Approximately 500 recruitments were opened and 68,000 job applications were received within the last year, with 99.7 percent submitted online. This system provides the departments with a tool that allows all applicants to review employment opportunities and submit applications 24/7.
- Twenty-eight Employee Benefit programs are designed and managed within HRD, including Health Plans for employees and retirees, flexible Spending Accounts, Employee Assistance Program, supplemental benefits, Defined Contribution Programs and more.
- To learn more about the OC Human Resources Department, please visit www.ocgov.com/hr.



**Richard Gable** 

#### **35 YEARS**

OC Public Works

#### **30 YEARS**

**Nelia Castillo** Child Support Services

**Elaine Renner** County Executive Office

Isabel Munoz Health Care Agency

#### Maria Gibbs Probation

Pamela Geady **OC Public Works** 

Chi Tran OC Public Works

Catherine Zurn Sheriff-Coroner

#### Pamela Stellrecht Social Services Agency

Adrienne Zavala Social Services Agency

#### 25 YEARS

**Andrew Klinck** Assessor

**Carolyn Albers** Auditor-Controller

**Barbara Jones** Auditor-Controller

#### **Denise Wendland** Child Support Services

Jill Dalton

OC Community Resources

#### Joanne Lusk

OC Community Resources

#### **Charlaine Marlow**

OC Community Resources

#### **Cuong Trieu**

OC Community Resources

#### Debra Armijo

County Counsel

#### David Kirkpatrick

District Attorney

#### Michael Lubinski District Attorney

**Darlene Olivarez** District Attorney

Linda Romo District Attorney

#### Marc Rozenberg District Attorney

#### Roxanna Osborn

#### Health Care Agency

#### **Arthur Thompson**

Health Care Agency

#### Marina Maldonado

Probation

#### Lori Newtown

Probation

#### Aram Eftekhari

OC Public Works

#### Frank Garcia

**OC Public Works** 

#### **Carl Gervais**

OC Public Works

#### **Francisco Hammons**

OC Public Works

#### Michael Wellborn

**OC Public Works** 

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# 25 YEARS CONTINUED

Harold Abe Sheriff-Coroner

Maria Cadena Sheriff-Coroner

Marcus Carter Sheriff-Coroner

Monica Ceniceros Sheriff-Coroner

**Shane Conway** Sheriff-Coroner

Lawrence Cyr Sheriff-Coroner

Karl George Sheriff-Coroner

Michael Gryzik Sheriff-Coroner

**Issa Hanania** Sheriff-Coroner

Michele Hill Sheriff-Coroner

**Donald Schmier** Sheriff-Coroner

James Slikker Sheriff-Coroner

**Dieu Ngoc Doan** Social Services Agency

**Nguyet Hong Pham** Social Services Agency

Jill Pirolo Social Services Agency

Carolyn Sura-Romero Social Services Agency

Mary Wethmeller Social Services Agency

#### **20 YEARS**

Mary Faccio Assessor

Robin Vann Child Support Services

Paul Lanning Clerk-Recorder

Marshall Duell
OC Community Resources

Monica Marquez
OC Community Resources

Andrea Richard
OC Community Resources

**Teara Le Blanc**County Executive Office

**Bruce Moore**District Attorney

Susan Jenan Health Care Agency

Maria Lopez Health Care Agency

Pamela Robles
Public Defender

Albric Ghokasian OC Public Works

Angela Renish
OC Public Works

Satinder Verma
OC Public Works

William Beeman Sheriff-Coroner Roma Bougouneau Sheriff-Coroner

**Tracy Carroll**Sheriff-Coroner

Mark Chavira Sheriff-Coroner

Chistine Crellin
Sheriff-Coroner

Timothy Cullen Sheriff-Coroner

Bretta Dalie Sheriff-Coroner

Jeffrey Hampton Sheriff-Coroner

James Hoffman Sheriff-Coroner

Mayo Jenkins Sheriff-Coroner

Cleveland Jones
Sheriff-Coroner

Kent McBride Sheriff-Coroner

Sharon Mata Sheriff-Coroner

John Murray Sheriff-Coroner

**Kevin Nadeau** Sheriff-Coroner

Carl Pollitt
Sheriff-Coroner

Margaret Reed Sheriff-Coroner

**Edna Samuel** Sheriff-Coroner

Thomas Spratt Sheriff-Coroner

**Lesley Trejo** Sheriff-Coroner

Virgil Washington Sheriff-Coroner

Patricia Figueredo Social Services Agency

**Susan Maday** Social Services Agency

Connie Miles
Social Services Agency

**Elizabeth Rivera**Social Services Agency

Ron Roman Social Services Agency

Vera Wutisen Social Services Agency

Laura Perguson
OC Waste & Recycling

Randall Linares
OC Waste & Recycling

My Vo OC Waste & Recycling

#### **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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