County Clips

Spotlight On:
Emergency Operations and Response Prevails
See Page 4
Happy New Year to our great County Staff, who worked so hard in 2019 to provide high quality services to Contra Costa residents and businesses.

The last quarter of 2019 saw several public safety emergencies and challenges in Contra Costa County. The NuStar Petrochemical Storage Tank explosion and fire, the PG&E Planned Power Outages, and several wildfires required a major response by County departments including our first responders.

This collaboration, hard work, and planning saved lives and property, showing service excellence that can make us all proud.

The start of a new year is a good time to reiterate our appreciation for the quick response by first responders of our Contra Costa Consolidated Fire District along with other fire agencies. Their effective response prevented the NuStar fire and several wildfires from spreading and causing serious injury or death.

I want to also acknowledge the remarkable collaboration of County departments and employees as we faced some extraordinary challenges, including high risk fire conditions and Planned Power Outages by PG&E, some all at the same time.

This strength of collaboration especially shined on October 27, when numerous fires burned at the same time throughout our County, while power outages affected many of these same areas, as well as others. The County’s Emergency Warning System was activated and evacuations occurred.

And this was on just one day. As we all know, planned power outages and Red Flag fire warnings occurred on many other days, as windy, dry fire conditions continued, sometimes blowing in hazardous smoke from fires in other parts of the state.

During this time, many different County departments sprung to action to protect and care for our residents and businesses. This includes Contra Costa Fire, on the front lines fighting blazes and providing mutual aid to other agencies, and our Sheriff’s Department, which ran the Emergency Operations Center, and oversaw evacuations and the community warning system, along with many other law enforcement duties.

The County Office of Communications and Media provided 24/7 information updates via social media, press releases and our website, providing an information lifeline to our communities.

Health Services, Employment and Human Services, and Public Works jumped into response mode, assisting our residents in important ways, especially our most vulnerable populations, doing outreach, clearing roads, and providing a safety net of medical care and support.

We laud everyone’s collective efforts. Things could have been much worse without this cooperation. At the same time, we send sincere condolences to California communities that experienced far greater losses during this time.

The recent rains have ended this year’s fire season, but we know there’s plenty to do to prepare for next year. Before we know it, the hills will be dry again and winds will blow. Red Flag days will be back.

We’re doing a great job. We know we can do even better by continuing to work together.

With the environmental changes of global warming, we know high fire risk will unfortunately continue, and we’ll be tested again. I’m proud of our leading efforts to make Contra Costa County more resilient and sustainable.

I look forward to continuing to work with all of you to make our County a safer, healthier and a more equitable and prosperous place to live, work and play.

Thank you for your public service and Happy New Year.
County Clips
Winter Edition 2020

Spotlight: Emergency Response Prevails 4-13
DoIT News 14
County Building Updates 15
Veterans Day Ceremony 16
Health Services News 17
Destination Weddings 17
2020 Census Update 18
Election News 19
Public Works News 20
Office of Communications & Media 21
Library News 22
Fire District News 23
Sustainability Corner 24
Employment & Human Services 25-26
Airport News 26
Probation News 27
Sheriff’s News 28
Annual MLK Commemoration Event 29
Service Awards & Retirements 30
Save the Date: Annual Cesar E. Chavez Celebration 31

On Cover: NuStar Energy facility fire in Crockett in West County

Recommendations Please
County Clips is your employee newsletter. Please send us your comments, questions & suggestions.

Contact the Office of Communications & Media at (925) 313-1180 or email us at CCTV@contracostatv.org.

Board of Supervisors Office Locations

DISTRICT 1 – Supervisor John Gioia
Sonia Bustamante, Chief of Staff
El Cerrito Office Information:
11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530
Phone: 510-231-8686 • Fax: 510-374-3429
Email: John_Gioia@bos.cccounty.us

Lamorinda Office Information:
3338 Mt. Diablo Road, Lafayette, CA 94549
Phone: 925-646-6067

DISTRICT 2 – Supervisor Candace Andersen
Gayle Israel, Chief of Staff
San Ramon Valley Office Information:
309 Diablo Road, Danville, California 94526
Phone: 925-957-8860 • Fax: 925-820-3785
Email: supervisorandersen@bos.cccounty.us

DISTRICT 3 – Supervisor Diane Burgis
Mark Goodwin, Chief of Staff
Brentwood Office Information:
3361 Walnut Blvd., Suite 140, Brentwood, CA 94513
Phone: 925-252-4500 • Fax: 925-240-7261
Email: supervisor_burgis@bos.cccounty.us

DISTRICT 4 – Supervisor Karen Mitchoff
Anne O, Chief of Staff
Concord Office Information:
2151 Salvio Street, Suite R, Concord, CA 94520
Phone: 925-521-7100 • Fax: 925-646-5202
Email: supervisor_mitchoff@bos.cccounty.us

DISTRICT 5 – Supervisor Federal D. Glover
David Fraser, Chief of Staff
Pittsburg Office Information:
190 East 4th Street, Pittsburg, CA 94565
Phone: 925-608-4200 • Fax: 925-608-4209
Email: district5@bos.cccounty.us

Martinez Office Information:
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, Martinez, CA 94553
Phone: 925-335-8200 • Fax: 925-335-8208

Hercules Office Information:
151 Linus Pauling Drive, Hercules, CA 94547
Phone: 510-262-8800 • Fax: 510-262-8808

On Cover: NuStar Energy facility fire in Crockett in West County
On the evening of Saturday, October 26, 2019, Contra Costa County faced dire circumstances: Red Flag fire conditions, historic high winds, and 77,000 PG&E customers without power. The dramatic and fast-moving events of the next 18 hours, including an unprecedented number of fires and evacuations, truly tested the County’s emergency response:

- A two-alarm structure fire
- Eight grass and vegetation fires
- Winds hit a high of 75 mph
- Downed power lines
- Downed trees, including an incident with casualties
- Seven evacuation orders issued and then lifted
- Health Advisory for unhealthy air

“The weather conditions were such that there were a series of fires one after another that led to evacuation orders in multiple parts of the County on that Sunday alone.”

– Supervisor John Gioia
The weather conditions were such that there were a series of fires one after another that led to evacuation orders in multiple parts of the County on that Sunday alone,” said Board Chair, Supervisor John Gioia. “Throughout the emergency, Con Fire and other fire district firefighters, Sheriff’s Office, County departments’ employees and other partners, including the National Weather Service, worked diligently to coordinate in the County’s Emergency Operations Center.”

County Administrator David J. Twa, as the Administrator of Emergency Services, signed a proclamation of local emergency at 4:37 pm on October 27. It stated that “conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within the County, caused by a severe weather event commencing at 8 p.m. on October 26, 2019.

The month of October, the height of fire season, had already tested Contra Costa County with a number of incidents. The County’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC) had gone to Level 2, partial activation on October 9 when PG&E initiated a Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) in parts of Contra Costa County due to a weather event and fire danger. A fast moving wildfire broke out in the middle of the night in Moraga on October 10, and residents in 140 homes were evacuated. No lives or structures were lost in the Merrill Fire, thanks to the coordinated work of multiple fire districts and law enforcement, including many departments, Red Cross, 211 and others already working in the EOC 24/7 at the time. A vegetation fire in Antioch was also quickly contained and the number of households that lost power in the County slowly declined from a high of 51,000 customers during this first PG&E planned power outage.
On October 15, a fire broke out at the NuStar Energy facility in Crockett, and the County’s Community Warning System (CWS) was at work again. This time, CWS issued a shelter-in-place alert and activated sirens. Crockett-Carquinez Fire District, Contra Costa County Sheriff’s Office, California Highway Patrol and Contra Costa Health Services Department were in Unified Command. Multiple agencies, including Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (Con Fire) and other fire agencies were on scene. Con Fire reported that 200 firefighters worked to control the fire and adjacent vegetation fires. Hazardous Materials teams from both the Contra Costa Health Services Department and Con Fire were on scene. Getting accurate information to the public and media was an important function as the fire was contained, the CHP re-opened Highway 80, and the CWS shelter-in-place alert was lifted.

On October 24, the forecast called for an extreme weather event on the weekend of October 26-27, and PG&E announced another Public Safety Power Shutoff. The Sheriff’s Office of Emergency Services with Mr. Twa as Director of the Emergency Operations Center declared a Level 2 partial activation of the EOC in response.

It was an historic series of events that faced County first responders and EOC staff that weekend. A two-alarm commercial fire broke out in Walnut Creek at 11:45 pm on October 26. Three hours later in the early morning, the Santiago Fire on Bethel Island broke out. Then two more fires started in Oakley in East County: the Knightsen and Cypress Fires at 5:14 am and 5:36 am. As staff already positioned in the EOC quickly coordinated responses and sent evacuation alerts to residents, the Leon Fire in Clayton erupted at 6:40 am. With lives at stake, these fires triggered evacuation order upon evacuation order. At 9:39 am, the Skye Fire in Crockett began and now fires were being fought in different parts of the County. An evacuation warning for Pomona Street was issued at 10:10 am.
The day’s events were not over. A tree fell at the Martinez Farmers’ Market that Sunday, causing multiple injuries. Then as residents were returning in Crockett, three fires erupted in Central County: Pleasant Fires, North and South, at 1:20 pm and 1:23 pm in Lafayette, and the Forest Fire in Martinez at 3:51 pm. Subsequent evacuation orders occurred in those locations at 2:05, 2:43, and 4:14 pm. Smoke from Solano County fires also led to a Public Health Advisory for unhealthy air quality at 5:35 pm. The potential for devastating damage across the entire County was immense, yet by 7:05 pm, all evacuation orders in the County were lifted.

A combination of emergency preparedness, decisive action by first responders, and hundreds of County employees and volunteers averted disaster during the local emergency created by extreme weather. To understand how the planning and response prevailed over disaster, we have to recognize the planning and coordination among many departments. It takes a team to overcome awesome adversity.

Emergency Preparedness

The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors has an Emergency Operations Plan. County Administrator David Twa acts as the Administrator of Emergency Services and head of the Emergency Operations Center. The County EOC has an Incident Command System (ICS) with five distinct sections: Management, Operations, Planning and Intelligence, Logistics, and Finance and Administration. The EOC Director in collaboration with department heads and the Sheriff’s Office of Emergency Services (OES) staff requests team members, as needed, to the County EOC to carry out their duties. Departments often fill roles in several sections.

With a local emergency proclamation, such as the one we had for weather-related events in late October that the Board of Supervisors ratified, the proclamation itself plays an important role. It starts the process whereby the County can request and receive outside aid and funds to cover emergency operations and expenditures. It also gives the County the authority to call in any County employee to work in case of need during the emergency, not just first responders and those with dedicated EOC responsibilities. All County employees are emergency workers in our role to best serve the public.
Office of Emergency Services

Under the Contra Costa County Sheriff’s Office, the Office of Emergency Services (OES) supports the administrator of emergency services and creates and implements the County’s Emergency Operations Plan. Following PG&E’s May 2019 announcement about Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) to prevent wildfires, OES staff coordinated and conducted meetings with departments and organizations within Contra Costa to prepare. OES also hosted a “tabletop” discussion-based exercise with multiple departments and organizations to practice a coordinated response to a PSPS event.

Office of Emergency Services staff acts as Liaisons and Coordinators to assist the EOC Director with ensuring efficient operations of the EOC. All of these events involved the coordination of multiple departments and organizations within the County, including fire agencies, law enforcement, Red Cross, 211, and others.

Emergency Services Manager Rick Kovar and Captain Tory Kornblum of the Emergency Services Division, under the leadership of Sheriff David O. Livingston, played critical roles in ensuring the EOC functioned well and communications with multiple agencies through daily conference calls kept everyone informed.

The Community Warning System (CWS) played a critical role in alerting residents to evacuate with location based warnings in response to wildfires on October 27. A total of seven evacuation alerts were ordered and then, thankfully, lifted that same day. To protect you and your family, sign up for the County’s Community Warning System to receive alerts for evacuations and emergencies via phone, text, and/or email. Go to cswalerts.com to register.
Management, Finance & Administration

As Director of the EOC, County Administrative Officer (CAO) David Twa made critical management decisions and communicated with the Board of Supervisors so they could stay apprised of the County’s emergency response.

His ongoing presence in the Emergency Operations Center and availability 24/7 during the partial activations provided steady leadership. With his direction and engagement of the County Administrator’s Office, Senior Deputy and Deputy County Administrators, Finance Director, County Counsel, Human Resources Director, Risk Management Director, Office of Communications & Media Director, Department of Information and Technology Director, and heads of County departments, including Auditor-Controller Robert Campbell, the CAO and the County successfully supported the Emergency Operations Center and County employees so that our team kept Contra Costa residents safe and County offices open for business during the incidents and local emergency.

CAL FIRE provides air support to help firefighters contain the nine-alarm “Pleasant Fire – North”

Fire Protection District

During an unprecedented 18-hour period on October 26 and 27, firefighters from across Contra Costa County and beyond were dispatched to respond to a near-continuous series of a two-alarm structure fire, eight grass and vegetation fires from East to West and back to Central County, and a mass casualty event when a tree fell.

“We faced a historic and massive challenge October 27, the likes of which we have not encountered before and one that could have turned out much differently in loss of property and even life.” – Fire Chief Lewis T. Broschard III

County firefighters, with support from out-of-county jurisdictions, fought one fire after another, sometimes concurrently and with more than 160 firefighters on the largest one. Each of these fires could have resulted in massive devastation to large parts of the County. Suppression and extended mop up efforts to preclude reignitions varied from nine-to-18 hours.

Spotlight Continued on Page 10
Sheriff’s Office

The Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff activated and staffed, multiple day, 24-hour Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during the PSPS implemented by PG&E. During October, the Office also provided mutual aid to various nearby counties affected by recent large fires.

To support the incidents in the field, Office of the Sheriff personnel acted as EOC Directors during the activations as well as the Operations Section Chiefs and law branch leads. Responsible for efficient, effective operations in the EOC, they coordinated the activities of the multiple departments and organizations within the EOC, including Employment and Human Services, Health Services, Public Works, and others.

All of the major fire events included significant evacuations, which the Sheriff’s Office and local law enforcement supported and conducted. From knocking on doors, the Sheriff’s Office trained deputies and officers assisted more than 7,000 residents across the County to evacuate on Sunday, October 27, in response to multiple wildfires. In each instance, they kept the public safe.

The Search and Rescue (SAR) Team was very active in the EOC. Team members assisted in the Planning Section. They operated as situation status recorders by monitoring incoming events and communicating them to the rest of the EOC divisions. They also provided important assistance by making phone calls to members of the Disabilities and Access and Functional needs (DAFN) communities to check on them. SAR Team members also went door-to-door to check on DAFN community members to further ensure their safety.

Animal Services

The Department of Animal Services alerted pet owners to the danger of PG&E’s Public Safety Power Shutoffs, requesting animals be kept indoors, affixed current tags, and updated microchip. They were open in case residents needed to file lost pet reports. Animal Control staff assisted with evacuations in Oakley and Crockett and remained on call in case of other emergencies during the events.

Spotlight Continued from Page 9

As a result of holding off-going personnel at their stations, and later recalling firefighters and support personnel from the remaining, third shift, Con Fire alone was able to staff, in addition to existing normal staffing, a total of six fire engines, 15 wildland fire engines, two auxiliary support units, 14 command personnel, and five support personnel. A task force from San Luis Obispo County and two task forces from Alameda County critically provided mutual aid to bolster our County effort.

“We faced an historic and massive challenge October 27, the likes of which we have not encountered before and one that could have turned out much differently in loss of property and even life,” said Fire Chief Lewis T. Broschard III, Contra Costa County Fire Protection District. “Considerable planning, both in the prepositioning of fire resources well ahead of the predicted fire weather, and operational planning in its early hours and throughout the day, allowed us to deliver the resources needed to make rapid and overwhelming responses, limiting damage in what could’ve been a series of catastrophic, county-wide events.”
Communications, Media & Public Information

In an emergency, the Office of Communications & Media has the lead in coordinating emergency communications and public information for the County. With PG&E’s confirmation about planned power outages, the Office pushed out communications right away so that residents had time to prepare. Susan Shiu, Director of the Office of Communications & Media, also activated the Joint Information Center (JIC). With Public Information Officers’ (PIO) support from County departments, including Animal Services, Clerk-Recorder-Elections, Communications & Media, Contra Costa Television (CCTV), Con Fire, District Attorney, Employment and Human Services, Health Services, County Library, Public Works, and the Sheriff’s Office, and assistance from 211 and the Contra Costa County Office of Education, the JIC provided 24/7 support in the EOC and throughout the events.

The Joint Information Center is a team effort, coordinating a response, gathering and verifying information, issuing press releases, handling media calls and interviews, and pushing out information via social media and the website. Traffic to the County’s website contracosta.ca.gov reached a record 140 million hits as the public searched for information. @CCCounty on Twitter provided accurate, up-to-date information about red flag weather, power shutoffs, fires, evacuations, charging stations, school closures and other information to assist residents. The rapid and accurate information flow proved the County to be a trusted source in the emergency.

Conservation and Development

The Department of Conservation and Development had 20 staff members respond to the 10/26 PSPS. It staffed the County’s EOC 24 hours a day over the course of several days. The Department’s role is to staff the Planning and Intelligence section of the EOC. Their responsibilities in the Planning and Intelligence Section include writing the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) and Situation Status Reports.

The EAP is a document that explains the priorities, objectives, tasks, and personnel assignments of what is happening in the Emergency Operations Center for each operational period. The Situation Status Report is a document that provides people with a quick understanding of the current situation. These documents are of high importance to keep everyone in the EOC up to speed on the current situation, priorities, and objectives for the next operational period.

EOC staff coordinating a 12-hour shift change

Website reaches an historic 140 million hits during October events

Spotlight Continued on Page 12
Health Services Department

Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS) was involved in the 24/7 County response, from health officers staffing the EOC’s Medical/Health Branch to environmental health specialists who visited hundreds of businesses in outage areas to ensure the public consumed safe food.

One crucial effort that many CCHS employees assisted in was contacting residents who depend on electricity to operate medical equipment or who have health conditions that make losing power dangerous (DAFN).

Public Health and IT divisions pieced together incomplete data from many sources to map and to identify where these patients lived, their level of risk, and a way to reach them. CCHS staff from diverse divisions and the volunteer Contra Costa Medical Reserve Corps called patients about their emergency plans and the help they needed.

Contra Costa Regional Medical Center and most of our health centers kept the lobby doors open to provide free charging stations for phones and medical equipment. Many of our community hospital partners did the same at our encouragement. Following the unhealthy air advisory, CCHS also opened “Cleaner Air Centers” for those struggling with respiratory issues.

The Emergency Medical Services division coordinated local ambulance services and sent an ambulance strike team to support fire evacuations in the North Bay. Our Hazardous Materials program monitored gas stations and similar facilities to ensure no spills during the outages and monitored the effects of nearby wildfires on our air quality.

Department of Information and Technology

The Department of Information Technology (DoIT) and OES worked closely to transition GIS support services from the Sheriff’s Office to DoIT. Last summer, the Sheriff’s Office and DoIT’s Geographic Information System (GIS) team collaborated to prepare for peak wildfire season, creating GIS maps and applications to coordinate services and communicate critical information to the community in the event of a fire.

The result was an award-winning dashboard providing real time situational awareness of the power shutoffs via live data feeds. The dashboard allowed EOC staff and County executives to have a live look at the locations of the power outages and exactly how many people were without power in each area. This critical information allowed for resources and staff to be deployed and used efficiently. DoIT also provided 24-hour GIS staffing support to the Emergency Operations Center.

Employment and Human Services

When 77,000 Contra Costa County PG&E customers lost power during the recent windstorms and wildfire alerts, Employment and Human Services Department (EHSD) employees were called to help at the Contra Costa County EOC where multiple wildfires were being monitored.

During the PSPS, EHSD quickly planned and offered charging stations to people whose electronic devices ran out of power. EHSD opened ten charging stations at its offices in Antioch, Pleasant Hill, Richmond, Martinez, Hercules, and Brentwood. The availability of charging stations for residents’ mobile devices and durable medical equipment was vital information to coordinate and communicate to the public.
Spotlight Continued from Page 12

County Library

During the PSPS, several Contra Costa County Library locations and dozens of library employees faced an impact from the power outages. The Kensington, Lafayette, Moraga, Orinda, Pinole and Ygnacio Valley libraries closed for one or more days. County Library managers reassigned employees in those locations to other libraries, or employees chose to take time off. Interruptions in library shipping schedules occurred, along with program cancelations, and disruptions for library patrons at all of those locations by the PG&E power outages.

Public Works

The Public Works Department provides staff resources to the Operations, Logistics and Public Information Sections during an EOC activation. In the most recent PSPS, Public Works had 28 staff members cover various shifts at OES. We also had staff from our Facilities and Maintenance staff also responded to issues caused by power shutdowns and high wind. During the PSPS events, staff were topping off backup generators at various County facilities and locating additional backup generators for the City of Orinda’s EOC after their generator failed. Staff also located and installed a generator for a communications tower in Bay Point and looked for a backup generator for an assisted living facility located in the Town of Danville. Public Information staff answered media calls, updated the website, and sent out current information through the County social media accounts. It was a team effort. All staff were willing to help with whatever needed to be done, and their assistance appreciated.

Emergency Operations and Response Prevails

Despite the incredible number and scope of threats to businesses, homes, and lives, no lives were lost and damage was limited to a gas station, a two-story commercial building, two outbuildings, and a residence. All of the data gleaned from the event funnels back to the importance of having staff in the Emergency Operations Center to respond and coordinate quickly and preparedness for future emergencies.

When the Board of Supervisors ratified the proclamation of a local emergency, the Supervisors all echoed their pride in how the County worked together with multiple agencies and jurisdictions to keep residents safe and informed during an unprecedented local emergency affecting hundreds of thousands Contra Costa residents.

“The County prepares for emergencies. Our teams did the work they were trained to do. We are grateful that there was no loss of human life. We will continue to support residents and encourage you to stay prepared.”

– County Administrator David Twa

Board ratifies proclamation of local emergency
DoIT Wins GIS Mapping Award

Contra Costa County Department of Information Technology (DoIT) received the 2019 Innovation Award for Operational Effectiveness from the California County Information Services Directors Association (CCISDA) — the official organization of County IT Directors and Chief Information Officers (CIO’s) throughout the state of California. At the Fall Conference, CCISDA recognizes three Urban counties for their innovation and excellence in: Business Process, Collaboration, and Operational Effectiveness.

“The tell staff every day, we have a tremendous and rare opportunity to impact and make a difference for our Departments, Public Safety, and the 1.1 Million residents we serve through the use of technology,”

– Marc Shorr, CIO

DoIT News

DoIT’s GIS emergency dashboard showed real time data in EOC

The award was presented to Marc Shorr, CIO and Isaac Cabrera, GIS Administrator for the Contra Costa County Regional Emergency GIS Initiative. This initiative vision came as a result of DoIT’s support of the Butte Fire. The Regional Emergency GIS solution was developed to ensure all first responders across the County could see and use the same GIS data and tools when responding to emergencies.

To accomplish this, the GIS team started working directly with the Contra Costa County Sheriff Office of Emergency Services (Sheriff OES) on this vision and to assess the needs of Public Safety in an emergency situation. The team then developed an ESRI cloud-based application in the form of a dashboard. This dashboard shows “live” views of evacuation areas, county assets, power shut offs, and disaster sites, which the Sheriff OES and incident command can use for coordination and decision making.

DoIT was also proud of the strategic partnerships developed over the last year through the new GIS tool and expanded use of GIS to more partners in the County and State in the future.

Isaac Cabrera, GIS Administrator, and Marc Shorr, CIO

14
Administration Building Update

During the month of November, the glazing and enclosure of the Adminstration Building was a major focus as well as ongoing work to frame and drywall the interior walls. Framing for the large curtain wall windows for the Board Assembly Chamber and Main Entrance and Lobby at the south elevation was largely completed and the installation of glass commenced in December.

Site work to complete utility connections made significant progress on sanitary sewers, electrical, and water services. In the coming month, further completion of walls and paint proceeded from the first to second floor, and final connections for PG&E and water occurred.

Emergency Operations Center Update

Rain hit at the end of November, and the team was ready. Emergency Operations Center, (EOC), hardscape curbs began in earnest. Mockups for all of the site concrete were presented for approval and accepted. Work continued on the site with all underground tanks, domestic water, sewer, fire water, and fuel tanks. Bio swale concrete footings and retention walls began.

Intermediate and main cable rooms became ready in November. ATT, DoIT, and CCCSO IT teams began to rack, stack, and punch their equipment. ATT pulled all of their critical path product cabling and began their work in earnest assisting CCCSO with their uploads to their servers.

The windows and storefront systems were installed. Interior first floor window was punched and listed by HP. The first floor East followed a few days later on the punch list. Cleaning has begun in earnest on first floor West. Furniture comes soon.
Veterans from every era, going back to Pearl Harbor, joined as the County observed Veterans Day with a special commemoration on Tuesday, November 12, 2019. Board of Supervisor Chair John Gioia served as emcee.

“On this Veteran’s Day, we express our profound gratitude for the service and sacrifice to those men and women in uniform – past, present, and future,” said Chair Gioia. “As we speak these reverent words, we must remember to honor our obligation each and every day to these heroes who protect the ideals of freedom and democracy.”

Veterans Service Officer Nathan Johnson hosted the program. “Contra Costa County is home to over 55,000 veterans, we have one of the most active veterans service organization statewide. We have five generations of combat veteran’s living here. Today we celebrate and thank all veterans,” said Johnson, “thousands of volunteers, hundreds of non-profits and businesses, and dozens of events to meet these important needs...it takes an entire community for a veteran to heal.”

This celebration event featured a color guard ceremony, a special presentation, a commemorative poem, and keynote speaker Jeffrey Jewell. Jewel is U.S. Air Force Veteran who recently retired as the Director of the Concord Vet Center. He served veterans across Contra Costa County and said Veterans are among the most active volunteers to improve communities across the country.

“Spread the word. Share the incredible work. It is the responsibility of everyone to plant the seed. The seed for me was reading the book Fortunate Son by Lewis B. Puller,” said Jewell. “Today I challenge all of you and everyone listening on CCTV to plant the seed in your own way. There’s still a lot of work to be done, as veterans and their families need help. Our compassion. Our altruism. Remember that we can only have success through struggle. Let’s learn how to struggle together. Find success working together for this nation’s veterans. Words of Ronal Regan. Some people live an entire lifetime wondering if they have ever made a difference in this world, a veteran does not have this problem.”

Following the Veterans Day Celebration in the Board Chambers, the public celebrated at the Martinez Veterans Memorial Building at 930 Ward Street.
County Bans Sale of Tobacco and Cannabis Vaping Products in Contra Costa

The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved an ordinance in November banning the sale of all vaping products in the unincorporated parts of the county, making Contra Costa among the first jurisdictions in the state to enact such a ban.

San Francisco, Santa Clara County, and the cities of Livermore and Richmond have passed similar ordinances.

“This is truly about improving the public health of everybody,” said Board Chair, John Gioia.

The ordinance, which will be implemented and enforced by Contra Costa Health Services, applies to both tobacco and cannabis vaping products.

The passage of the ordinance comes amid a wave of serious vaping-related lung injuries and deaths across the country. The FDA, CDC, and California Department of Public Health have issued health alerts urging everyone to quit vaping altogether, no matter the substance or source.

The Board of Supervisors also voted to expand the prohibition against sales of flavored tobacco products, including menthol, to all unincorporated parts of the county. Previously, the county only prohibited sales of those products for retailers within 1,000 feet of a public or private school, playground, park or library.

Destination Weddings Take Center Stage On Valentine’s Day 2020

On Valentine’s Day, February 14th, the Contra Costa Clerk-Recorder will host wedding ceremonies at the picturesque California Theatre between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm. This event is co-sponsored by the City of Pittsburg and the Pittsburg Arts and Community Foundation.

The theatre seats up to 350 guests and the auditorium features a large art deco chandelier, Beaux-Arts architecture on the ceiling and an ornate pipe organ. There are a limited number of appointments available for this luxurious “Destination Wedding”.

“The California Theatre is a fantastic special events venue and we are excited to be able to share it with our couples,” Assistant Clerk-Recorder Barbara Dunmore said. “The theatre accommodates more guests than our office ceremony rooms, which means couples can have many guests attend their special day.”

“This is the historic gem of downtown Pittsburg. Highlighting the theatre is beneficial to the community,” said Janis Glover of the Pittsburg Arts and Community Foundation. The California Theatre, which celebrates its 100th anniversary in May, featured live vaudeville performances and silent films. In 2013, the theatre was completely renovated after water damage forced the theatre to close in 1954.

The city has nearby venues available for couples who wish to have a reception following their ceremony. Couples can also have music played, display pictures as a backdrop to the ceremony and use the theatre’s dressing rooms. These options require planning, so couples should make their appointment early to receive priority. Schedule online at www.contracostacore.us.

Before the ceremony, couples must obtain a marriage license at the main office in Martinez. The civil marriage ceremony fee is $60. A public marriage license is $86, a confidential marriage license is $90.

The Contra Costa Clerk-Recorder Division holds Destination Weddings each season. For more information, contact Joseph Barton, at 925-335-7900.
January marks the kickoff of the public phase of Census 2020 efforts. The County Complete Count Steering Committee has been planning and coordinating for months with partners and trusted messengers to reach hard-to-count populations in our county and ensure a complete count in 2020.

The Constitution mandates a count every ten years. Data from the census will affect Contra Costa’s funding and political representation for the next decade.

Hard-to-count populations prove critical to a successful, complete count. 20% of our County’s population live in hard-to-count census tracts. San Pablo, Richmond, and Pittsburg have the highest rates of hard-to-count residents. The County’s goal is to achieve a self-response rate of 76.9%, equaling 2010 efforts, and increase participation of our hardest-to-count communities.

What Can You Do to Help the County and the Public?

First, go to 2020census.gov to become knowledgeable and reach out to your department’s point of contact for Census 2020 with any questions.

Second, the Census Bureau has many job openings in Contra Costa County, particularly for Enumerators or Census Takers. These jobs offer great pay and flexible hours. Share with your networks. More information at: https://2020census.gov/en/jobs.

Third, if you work with community organizations, ask Census staff to help you incorporate messaging into existing communications, table at events, or speak to their staff or community members. Sign up at www.cococensus.org to become a partner.

Finally, any community member can volunteer to become a Census Ambassador. Your friends can adopt a block, hold a house party, send out social media messages, volunteer at events or Questionnaire Assistance Centers. Students of all levels are also encouraged to apply. Sign up to be a Census Ambassador or learn more at www.cococensus.org.
The County Election Division continues to look at ways to make the in-person voting experience better than ever in preparation for the 2020 election.

Since early 2019, Elections team members have searched for larger polling places, while maintaining high standards for site accessibility and similar proximity to local neighborhoods. The thorough analysis included working with County GIS team to study the area topography and identify the best spots for potential polling places. Factors in consideration:

- Well-known locations
- Available parking during day
- Room size for equipment and usability
- Availability on election days

The payoff of months of behind-the-scenes work will be an enhanced Elections Day experience for all.

“We’re looking to maximize our efficiencies without compromising our service to voters,” said Elections Outreach Coordinator Eren Mendez. “Our goal is to improve the voter experience. The end result will not only be good for our voters, but for our volunteer poll workers and the entire community.”

Contra Costa Elections Division used 267 countywide locations for polling places for the November 2018 election. Though staff continues to evaluate and survey locations for the March 2020 Primary Election, the new number of polling places estimated is 167 locations.

One type of building that the Elections Division is consciously trying to avoid, schools. In addition to increased safety concerns from teachers and parents due to strangers walking on campus during the school day, the Elections Division has also received push back because of the added crowds on campus.

Also gone are those locations that have become increasingly hard to reserve.

“We are consciously choosing locations that will ensure we do not lose the community spirit and community feel that voters appreciate,” Mendez said. “We’re approaching it by putting ourselves in the shoes of the voter.”

Looking ahead to an exciting year for elections, the need for quality volunteer poll workers remains high. County workers who wish to volunteer should go to www.cocovote.us and then click ‘Poll Worker Center’ tab.

Key Dates:

- January 16, Election Preview roundtables live on CCTV
- Last week of January, County Voter Information Guide mailed to all registered voters
- February 3, Vote by Mail ballots sent out
- February 17, Voter registration deadline
- February 25, Last day to apply for a Vote By Mail ballot
- February 27, 28, 29, March 2, Regional Early Voting locations open
- March 3, Election Day and Postmark Date for by mail

See if you’re registered, check your party registration, or find a polling place at www.cocovote.us.
Public Works News

Public Works Department Produces PSA on Polystyrene (Styrofoam) Ordinance

In October 2019, the Board of Supervisors adopted an ordinance to ban the use and sale of polystyrene (Styrofoam) food and beverage containers in all unincorporated communities. The ordinance is similar to Styrofoam bans implemented in 10 other cities within Contra Costa County. The ordinance will go into effect on May 1, 2020.

The Board of Supervisors passed the ordinance to reduce the detrimental impact that Styrofoam food and beverage containers have on the environment and wildlife. Styrofoam is not biodegradable or recyclable. Due to Styrofoam’s light weight, it is easily blown by wind into local creeks and other waterways ending in the ocean. It breaks into micro-pieces, making it more likely to be consumed by birds and fish.

To increase awareness of the May 2020 polystyrene ban, the Public Works Department partnered with Contra Costa Television (CCTV) to produce a 30-second public service announcement (PSA) video. The PSA targets local business owners in unincorporated communities and features Bull Valley Roadhouse restaurant in Port Costa.

“As business owners we can do our part in reducing trash and contributing to a healthier environment,” said Earl Flewellen, Co-Owner of Bull Valley Roadhouse.

The goal of the polystyrene ordinance is to reduce trash, increase recyclables, improve water quality, and protect the environment. Implementing the ordinance involves a multi-departmental approach, including staff collaboration with Public Works, Environmental Health Services, and community partners.

Improving the environment benefits everyone. For more information on the polystyrene ban and to watch the PSA video visit our website: www.contracosta.ca.gov/polyban.

Public Works Wins American Public Works Association National Awards

The Marsh Creek Road Bridge Replacement Project was awarded Project of the Year in the Transportation Less than $5 million category from the American Public Works Association. Neil Leary was the Project Manager and accepted the award on behalf of the Department.

Carrie Ricci was awarded Professional Manager of the Year Award in the Emergency Management Category. She was recognized for her work on the Morgan Territory Slide Project. Carrie was the main point of contact with the community, assisted with our emergency response to this issue, and coordinated daily communication with all stakeholders throughout the project.

During the 2017 winter storms, Public Works closed Morgan Territory Road due to a road slide. It fast-tracked the slide as an emergency project. The project was located in East County between Clayton and Brentwood. The objective of this project was to replace an existing structurally deficient and geometrically obsolete bridge with a new, wider, and 100-year flood-compliant bridge built to current safety standards, while accommodating through traffic (6,000 vehicles/day) and minimizing impacts to local stakeholders.

The project was completed within 10 months - a fantastic response to a difficult situation by many staff from several divisions - turning two seasons of work into one.
On November 19, 2019, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors honored Contra Costa Television (CCTV) on its twenty-fifth anniversary. The Board recognized the team for its award-winning commitment to public, educational, and government access and extended best wishes for its continued success in the future.

Board Chair, Supervisor John Gioia said, “Thank you, and thanks for your service all of you. It’s really about informing the public and keeping the public really educated and informed of what’s happening in the County.”

Board Chair, Supervisor John Gioia, Operations Director Chris Verdugo, Supervisor Diane Burgis

Part of the Office of Communications & Media, CCTV adopted the slogan “Making Television Part of the Solution” and for 25 years, the franchise government cable television has helped communicate County services and programs to the community.

CCTV live streams in high definition on its website and social media platform to the world. It reaches over 350,000 homes in Contra Costa County on the Comcast and Astound cable systems. It also reaches Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo, San Francisco, Marin, Napa, Solano and Sonoma counties on the AT&T U-Verse system. CCTV airs the Board of Supervisors and District meetings, community meetings, events of countywide interest, local sports, and locally originated programming, thus playing a key role in transparent and open government.

“As technology has evolved, CCTV has also evolved to meet community needs with access to programming on television as well as the internet with video on demand,” said Susan Shiu, Director of the Office of Communications and Media. “We will continue to inform the public, educate voters, connect residents with the County’s services and programs, and support the wellbeing of all of our community members.”

Today, CCTV currently broadcasts six channels:-

CCTV, City Channel, Ed TV, Community Access, Hercules Community TV, and Delta TV. The Contra Costa Television network provides public, education and government access services for users in Contra Costa County in the cities and towns of Antioch, Clayton, Danville, Hercules, Martinez, Moraga, Pleasant Hill, and San Ramon. CCTV serves the community with news about jobs, programs, events and public safety and emergency information, as well as supports the video technology and production needs of the County and its many departments and offices.

“We started this 25 years ago with the idea of bringing information to Contra Costa County residents that they weren’t going to get anywhere else... We started with coverage of the Board of Supervisors meetings, but quickly expanded to tell the stories of County departments and programs and our communities. We still do that today.”

Chris Verdugo, CCTV Operations Director

CCTV has won recognition for award winning programming, in particular Veterans’ Voices, serving as the voice of Veterans in the County. Recent awards included the Western Alliance Video Excellence award in 2018 and 2016, and the California State Association of Counties 2015 Merit Award.

Watch the commemorative video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yhbwSJ3gQHA.
El Sobrante Library Grand Opening

The El Sobrante Library and the adjoining Nancy Fahden House reopened to the public after a grand opening celebration on Saturday, November 23. Board Chair, Supervisor John Gioia and the Contra Costa County Library marked the occasion with a community ribbon-cutting ceremony. The all-day event included library tours, performers, a scavenger hunt, storytimes, and special guests.

The Library closed after it sustained major damage in a February 2018 fire. The severe smoke, fire, and water damage required stripping down the building to the studs for renovation. The Library, constructed in 1961, also underwent asbestos abatement, accessibility improvements, and plumbing and electric systems code upgrades.

The completely remodeled Library has new windows on all sides including two walls of windows and six skylights that allow natural light into the building. The roof, paint, carpet, furniture, shelving and books are all brand new. The remodel also includes new bathrooms, a new meeting room and all new computers.

“The County is proud to re-open our completely remodeled library that better meets the needs of the El Sobrante community with state of the art technology and improved meeting space. In addition, the adjacent Nancy Fahden House will provide greater community space for local non-profits,” said Chair Gioia, who represents El Sobrante.

New Library Website & Catalog

The Contra Costa County Library has a brand new website and catalog. The platform offers an updated look and feel and allows mobile responsiveness for an improved user experience on a computer, tablet, or phone. Some of the new features include:

- Modern design
- Simple navigation
- New events layout
- Improved search capabilities
- Ability to create reading lists, rate books and find reading recommendations from others

Visit ccclib.org to explore everything the Library has to offer.
Welcome Winter Safety Season

Now’s a good time to think about the unique winter-weather-related risks we face here in the county, and what we can all do to help keep ourselves and our neighbors safe.

Begin Here:

- Check your fire alarms and plan date to replace
- Have an emergency evacuation plan and exercise to ensure everyone finds a safe spot
- Always sleep with your bedroom doors closed
- At the first sign of fire, evacuate and call 911
- Turn off tree lights and water Christmas Tree

Cooking Safety Tips:

Do you enjoy cooking? Do you want to keep your family safe? If you answered yes to both of these, here are some safety tips for you to enjoy:

- Keep a fire extinguisher handy in your kitchen
- Never use water on cooking fire: cover pot, fire extinguisher, or baking soda
- Stay in the kitchen while frying or boiling any type of food
- Keep your stovetop clear when cooking
- If baking, maintain an eye on your oven; never leave house with food cooking
- Slowly add food to the pan when using cooking oil
- Unplug small appliances when not using them
- Wear close-fitting clothing when cooking to avoid catching on fire
- Never keep your grill inside of your house

For more on winter safety tips, you may visit www.cccfpd.org.
Preparing for Energy Independence in County Operations

The Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) in the fall posed difficult challenges. The PSPS events required County departments to modify service, and some employees dropped their regular duties to assist with emergency operations. Experts agree that more extreme heat, drought, and wildfire will damage our climate for years; PSPS events are the future.

How can Contra Costa County fulfill our mission of serving the public in the face of energy uncertainty?

The County is implementing a plan to help use energy more wisely in our facilities and be less dependent on electricity from the power grid. This Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Plan has five pillars:

1. Install more solar energy on the roofs and parking lots of County buildings
2. Provide energy storage that we can use as backup power at some of our facilities, not diesel-powered generators polluting the air and creating health problems
3. Save money by installing efficient technology and taking advantage of programs that compensate us to reduce energy use in times of highest demand
4. Increase the number of electric vehicles in the County fleet and facilities for charging those cars. Electric vehicles are less expensive to maintain than traditional internal combustion engines and less damaging to air quality
5. Build green. Both the of the designs for the new County Administration Building and the new Emergency Operations Center produce near net zero carbon emissions, meaning more energy and water efficient, providing better indoor air quality, and lessening the impact on the environment. Both will offset electricity use with solar panels. These guidelines pertain to all remodels and new construction

Frank DiMassa, County Energy Manager, oversees the Distributed Energy Resources Plan. Feel free to contact Frank with questions or ideas.

For more information on the County’s sustainability work, contact Jody London, at Jody.London@dcd.cccounty.us, Sustainability Coordinator.

GRANTS FOR CLEAN CARS

Are you interested in trading in your old car for a new electric vehicle? The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is inviting income qualified Bay Area residents to apply for the Clean Cars for All grant program, which provides incentives to retire older vehicles and replace them with a clean air vehicle or Clipper Card for public transit. Residents may choose from several options to replace their scrapped vehicle.

The average Clean Cars for All incentive is $7,500 but up to $9,500 is available for eligible applicants. Applicants must live in the Bay Area, and their household income must fall under a specified limit based on their household size. Furthermore, the vehicle to be scrapped must be at least 15 years old and registered in California. Bay Area residents may check the program website or complete an application to verify their eligibility.

For more information about how to apply or to find out more about Clean Cars for All, please visit www.baaqmd.gov/cleancarsforall.
How An EHSD Mom Inspired Her 49er Son To Give Back

Growing up in Antioch, former San Francisco 49er Jeremy Newberry was keenly aware many families in Contra Costa County were in crisis. “My mother has the biggest heart. She would come home with stories of families, and half the time she was crying and upset. So many people needed help,” said Jeremy. His mother, Cheryll Newberry, is a retired Contra Costa County Employment and Human Services Department (EHSD) Eligibility Worker.

“I’ve had so many coaches over the years that taught me life skills and how to be a man,”
– Jeremy Newberry

When Jeremy finished a successful NFL football career, he gave back to his childhood community. Teaming with friend and Antioch High School football teammate Daniel Trujillo, they founded Newberry’s B.L.O.C.K (Benefiting Leagues Offering Children Kindness), a non-profit EHSD partner that gives underprivileged children a chance to participate in youth sports.

“Just knowing the statistics gave us the inspiration to do something for these kids,” says Trujillo who became an EHSD Eligibility Worker with an assist from Jeremy’s mom. “A lot of foster kids and impoverished children don’t get a chance to play sports because their families are dealing with social issues.”

“I’ve had so many coaches over the years that taught me life skills and how to be a man,” said Jeremy. “This gives them another family outside of the family they don’t have. Most of my best friends in life are people I played sports with.”

La Shirley Bolton is a foster mother of four children who are participating in the Delta Valley Wolfpack Youth Football League as football players and cheerleaders. Newberry’s BLOCK picked up the tab – almost $3,000 – for their fees and equipment.

The premise behind B.L.O.C.K. is sports can transform lives by teaching work ethic, confidence, leadership, dedication, self-improvement, teamwork, discipline, respect, and integrity. BLOCK also donates hundreds of toys to EHSD children through VESTIA (Volunteer Emergency Services Team In Action). EHSD Social Workers can access B.L.O.C.K. and youth sports scholarships by calling (925) 783-6050.

Top Left: Cheryll Newberry’s career as a Contra Costa EHSD social worker inspired her son, Jeremy, to give back to the community.


Bottom Left: Jeremy also invites Liberty High School Athletes to work out and train at his personal fitness center.
National Adoption Awareness Month

Adam and Nicole Davis always imagined having a family. But they could never have imagined their path to parenthood. The couple married later in life and struggled with infertility issues. After several years of trying and a devastating miscarriage, they were thrilled to welcome a healthy boy.

Further efforts to grow their family resulted in heartbreak and health complications. As the couple leaned on their faith during this difficult time, they received a heartrending request from their son. He badly wanted a brother. He always understood he has two siblings. Then, their son added to his wish list. He asked for a younger brother and an older brother. They thought, how can we do that?

The family found the answer in adoption. They had a family connection to the boys who later became their sons. The couple met the boys the first in July; they were certain of adoption by their second meeting. “Nine months later,” Nicole said, “they were ours.”

The process was surprisingly smooth. They gave two people in particular credit: Social Worker Gyrllenn Ertmer and the biological mother. “She’s [Gyrllenn] fantastic,” said Nicole, “firm when she needed to be but also very encouraging.”

Santa Lands at Buchanan Field Airport

Once again, Santa Claus and his Elf flew in to Buchanan Field to spread holiday cheer far and wide. On Saturday, December 7, hundreds of good girls and boys lined up eagerly awaiting Santa’s arrival. This year was via the Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF) sled with red lights blinking.

As rain was in the forecast, Santa took pictures inside the Crowne Plaza Hotel at the Airport. Everyone was full of smiles as they delivered letters and told Santa their Christmas wishes. The annual Santa event was free to the public and the Airport provided a keepsake picture with Santa for all.

Santa requested donations for the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano at the event. The Airport and the community enjoyed the holiday spirit, while raising hundreds of pounds of food & hundreds of dollars in donations for the food bank of Contra Costa & Solano.
The Juvenile Hall Auxiliary (JHA) is one of the oldest non-profits in Contra Costa County, founded by women providing supportive resources for at-risk youth incarcerated in Contra Costa County at the Juvenile Hall facility.

The annual Holiday Christmas Closet is their largest fundraiser. This year they received a $40,000 in-kind donation of new holiday decorations, which was the largest donations ever from a local Martinez family, and allowed the holiday season to start with the spirit of giving. Generous supporters of our mission have extended that generosity by shopping daily at the Hall Closet.

This holiday season, they partnered with community organizations to raise funds for holiday treats. Faith-based groups and schools helped with Halloween treats and the Thanksgiving family basket give-away. JHA and “Passion on the street,” a local Martinez non-profit, collaborated to provide a special holiday gift to all the youth in Juvenile Hall. They closed the year on a high note with the annual tradition of caroling Christmas Eve at 10:30 am at the Juvenile Hall with community volunteers.

The funding provides a unique opportunity to assist the Probation Department and fulfill their mission to provide resources for at-risk children. JHA provides life skills program and mentorship opportunities as well. The JHA recently has absorbed the Cop for Kids program, which will be another avenue for JHA to reach at-risk youth while adding another branch of law enforcement partners.

Please consider volunteering, donating, or supporting our store by shopping at the Hall Closet. Visit the Hall Closet at 100 Glacier Dr, Martinez, CA 94553.

Juvenile Hall Auxiliary Annual Christmas Closet Fundraiser

The Juvenile Hall Auxiliary (JHA) is one of the oldest non-profits in Contra Costa County, founded by women providing supportive resources for at-risk youth incarcerated in Contra Costa County at the Juvenile Hall facility.

The annual Holiday Christmas Closet is their largest fundraiser. This year they received a $40,000 in-kind donation of new holiday decorations, which was the largest donations ever from a local Martinez family, and allowed the holiday season to start with the spirit of giving. Generous supporters of our mission have extended that generosity by shopping daily at the Hall Closet.

This holiday season, they partnered with community organizations to raise funds for holiday treats. Faith-based groups and schools helped with Halloween treats and the Thanksgiving family basket give-away. JHA and “Passion on the street,” a local Martinez non-profit, collaborated to provide a special holiday gift to all the youth in Juvenile Hall. They closed the year on a high note with the annual tradition of caroling Christmas Eve at 10:30 am at the Juvenile Hall with community volunteers.

The funding provides a unique opportunity to assist the Probation Department and fulfill their mission to provide resources for at-risk children. JHA provides life skills program and mentorship opportunities as well. The JHA recently has absorbed the Cop for Kids program, which will be another avenue for JHA to reach at-risk youth while adding another branch of law enforcement partners.

Please consider volunteering, donating, or supporting our store by shopping at the Hall Closet. Visit the Hall Closet at 100 Glacier Dr, Martinez, CA 94553.

Combined Charities

Contra Costa County Employees have generously participated in the annual Combined Charities Campaign for many years and continued a worthy tradition of helping others in our community in 2019. The drive finished with 384 donations from 187 employees; online pledges surged this year. The final tallies were $50,980 in online pledges and $20,853 in paper pledges, equaling at grand total of $71,833.

Winners of the drawing:
- Movie tickets: Alesia Alvarado, Assessor
- Chevron gift card: Leticia Gallegos, EHSD
- Amazon gift card: Carl Roner, Public Works

This year’s theme was “Giving Others a Hand Up” because, as County employees, we do it every day. The participating federations represented a broad array of organizations working to improve health and wellness, fund research to cure diseases, reduce homelessness, cut poverty, provide youth programs, assist people in crisis, and protect the environment.

Department of Information and Technology will run the campaign in 2020. Thank you to all of the department coordinators for their efforts to fundraise. Thank you to donors for your kindness and generosity to those Contra Costa residents in need.
7th Annual Shop with the Sheriff

On December 16, 2019, the Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff held its Shop with the Sheriff. This annual fun and festive program provides deserving children with an opportunity to receive Christmas gifts and to buy presents for their family members. Nearly 30 children from West Contra Costa County participated.

Shop with the Sheriff paired the children with Deputy Sheriffs of all ranks for a unique shopping experience and holiday fun. The children rode in patrol vehicles, in procession to the Walmart at the Hilltop Mall in Richmond, where they were greeted by Santa Claus and received a holiday gift bag full of presents. The children were then provided with a gift card to shop for their family members. After shopping, the children went to the recreation center in Bayo Vista for gift-wrapping and lunch.

Thank you to the generous donors and all those who make Shop with the Sheriff a memorable holiday experience for the deserving children.

“The Shop with the Sheriff event is a great way for us to bond with children and youth,” said Contra Costa Sheriff David Livingston. “It is our way of giving back to the community. It is by far one of our favorite days of the year.”
WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER

January 21, 2020
11:00 A.M.

Board of Supervisors Chambers | 651 Pine St., Room 106, Martinez, CA 94553
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment &amp; Human Svc. Cont.</th>
<th>20 Years</th>
<th>20 Years</th>
<th>20 Years</th>
<th>20 Years</th>
<th>20 Years</th>
<th>20 Years</th>
<th>20 Years</th>
<th>20 Years</th>
<th>20 Years</th>
<th>20 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vicki C Carr-Lee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deborah R Drake</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christine D Craver</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradley R Michaels</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda A Trombetts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jon D Ebeling</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shawn D Delatorre</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheila Walker</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tina M Thompson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trina M Dukes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marie-Julie S de la Fuente</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yolonda Grandberry-Kelly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edyth V Williams</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlene A Thomas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan M Palfini</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yolanda M Williams</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Services Department</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristine K. Elford</td>
<td>40 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazel A Maldonado</td>
<td>40 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fara J. Villa</td>
<td>40 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yolonda R Glasco</td>
<td>35 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flordeliza S Eaton</td>
<td>35 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven A Cloutier</td>
<td>35 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deborah A O’Hara</td>
<td>30 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosario-Angelies Castro</td>
<td>30 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathy C Bennett</td>
<td>30 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheryl A Berriman</td>
<td>30 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawn E Dailey</td>
<td>30 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heather M Leary-Arango</td>
<td>30 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydee Tuson Ong</td>
<td>30 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luz D Baldosa</td>
<td>30 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gregory Pilarski</td>
<td>30 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhonda F Walker</td>
<td>30 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renita R Kincade</td>
<td>30 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James W Kenshalo</td>
<td>30 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domingo V Ang</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rita Reilly</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Via Linder</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry S Gurule</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol A Mott</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosemary Leta</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edralin B Baiza</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosa P Alejandre</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatima D Matal Sal</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donna R Ramirez</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonia Sutherland</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marguerite Lee</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joni Dongalio</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowell D Cervantes</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bertha A De La Paz</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Desoer</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Astrid V Gutierrez</td>
<td>25 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christina D Mickelson</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaf T Lair</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David F Duet</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diana D Tinker</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aneela Ahmed</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Chen</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donna E Yassin-Kaufman</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regina M. Brown</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lulu Xie Huang</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedrita M Clairborne</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beverly K Sousa</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jose L Avila</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandra Scroggins</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latricia M Johnson-Terry</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad Pierce</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricia M Creel</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avtar Singh</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sherry F Cacacho</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tina M Vanwoolbeck</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Information as reported to County Clips by departments. All departments were invited to submit recent retiree information. Some departments may have not done so.
Save the Date:

27th Annual Cesar Chavez Celebration

Tuesday
March 31, 2020
11am - 12pm

Board of Supervisors' Chambers
651 Pine St.
Martinez, CA 94553

¡Adelante por nuestra comunidad!
Move our community forward!