

# Headlines

Issue 81 • February 2024  
ehsd.org

**Renee Lawson Hamilton  
35 Years of Service**

**Famous Blasians**

**CalSAWS:  
the Power of 58**

**Quest for the  
Dragon Baby**





# JOIN THE POLL WORKER PROGRAM



## Calling Contra Costa County Employees for the 2024 Primary Election

★ The Elections Division is looking for motivated individuals, like you, to be poll workers for the upcoming Presidential Primary Election on Tuesday, March 5th. ★

The Elections Division is looking for motivated individuals, like you, to be poll workers for the upcoming Presidential Primary Election on Tuesday, March 5th.

The assignments throughout the county, but have particular needs in the following cities:

- Antioch • Knightsen • Bethel Island • Oakley
- Danville • Pittsburg • Discovery Bay • Richmond
- Hercules • San Ramon

As a poll worker, you will draw your regular county pay (for an eight-hour day), along with a stipend of \$125. Lead poll workers (Inspectors) will receive a stipend of \$230. Bilingual individuals are highly encouraged to participate and receive an additional \$10 stipend for speaking Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Tagalog, or Hindi.

### To participate, you must:

- Be a permanent Contra Costa County employee.
- Be a registered voter in any California county or legal permanent resident who would otherwise be eligible to vote.
- Be available to work from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm anywhere in the county on Election Day.
- Attend a 1-hour online training class and a 1-hour in-person training class.
- Receive approval from your Department Head or their Designee.

Apply at <https://www.cocoteam.us/ElectionCountyWorkerApplication.aspx>.

If you have previously been a poll worker and would like to work again, please log in to your account at [www.cocoteam.us](https://www.cocoteam.us) to indicate your availability. If you have issues logging in, call the Election Day Operations + Team, Contra Costa County Elections, at (925) 335-7800 (option 1) or email [eo@vote.cccounty.us](mailto:eo@vote.cccounty.us).

## EWTU Class Graduates



EHSD's most recent EWTU class began on August 28, 2023, and graduated Friday December 29, 2023. They completed training for both CalFresh and Medi-Cal Programs with Trainers **Krista Holguin** and **Elisa Subias**. They started their assignments at the Medi-Cal CalFresh Service Center (MCSC) on January 2nd, 2024. Congratulations and welcome to our new eligibility workers!

(L-R): **Alireza Mohamadmoradi**, **Brittany Stevenson**, **Hannah Pinelli**, **Venessa Chorro**, **Vignesh Naidu**, and **Savannah Baker**

*Welcome!*

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

EMPLOYMENT & HUMAN SERVICES  
*Building Brighter Futures Together*



# Showing Up in Blue

## Alliance Team Supports #WearBlueDay to Prevent Human Trafficking

By Mélody Saint-Saëns, Division Manager—Contra Costa Alliance to End Abuse

National Human Trafficking Awareness Day is recognized each year on January 11th. On that day, Blue Campaign invites the public to take photos of themselves, friends, family, and colleagues wearing blue clothing and share them on social media with the hashtag **#WearBlueDay**.

This year, the Alliance to End Abuse staff participated in the annual Wear Blue Day, sporting their best blue attire and posting on EHSD's social media accounts to stand in solidarity with survivors of all forms of human trafficking and to show their commitment to ending the exploitation of persons. The Alliance to End Abuse is a proud member of the Contra Costa Human Trafficking Task Force and Contra Costa Human Trafficking Coalition.

Located within the Office of Partnership and Engagement of the Department of Homeland Security, Blue Campaign is a national public awareness campaign that educates and engages the public, law enforcement, non-governmental organizations, state and local authorities, and the private sector, on how to recognize the [indicators](#) of human trafficking and appropriately respond to possible cases. Blue Campaign also develops general [awareness trainings](#), as well as specific educational resources to help reduce victimization within vulnerable populations. In doing so, Blue Campaign enhances the prevention of human trafficking and protection of exploited persons.



The Alliance to End Abuse team (L-R): **Mélody Saint-Saëns**, **Claudia Gonzalez**, **Oravanh Thammassen**, and **Laneisha Terrell**

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

# Blasians: The merging of Black and Asian History

By Alan Wang, Community Relations Media Specialist

Many people who identify as African Americans may be of mixed race, often a blending with European and/or Native American ancestry. Another historically interesting part of that mix is the result of the Chinese Exclusion Act which led to interracial marriages between Chinese and Jamaicans or other Virgin Islanders who were mostly of African ancestry.

In 1882, the U.S. Congress passed the [Chinese Exclusion Act](#) prohibiting immigration from China to the United States. This rejection led to several waves of early Chinese settlers who immigrated to Jamaica to fill the labor shortages in the sugar cane fields. These mostly bachelor Chinese immigrants married into the Jamaican population which resulted in notable Chinese-Jamaican offspring including super model Naomi Campbell whose grandmother's last name is Ming. Also, actor/model Tyson Beckford and Super Bowl Champion, Patrick Chung, of the New England Patriots are Chinese-Jamaican with Chinese grandfathers.

But even before the Chinese Exclusion Act forced Chinese immigration to Jamaica, there was a previous wave of Chinese immigration into the American South. Shortly after the Civil War, plantation owners hired Chinese laborers to fill the void left by thousands of freed slaves. Laws against interracial marriage prohibited these Chinese men from marrying white women, but it did not prevent them from marrying African American women. In 1880, the tenth [U.S. census](#) of [Louisiana](#) showed 57% of Chinese American men were married to [African American](#) women.

In more modern times, desegregation and the Civil Rights Act have allowed interracial marriages resulting in children of mixed African and Asian descent unofficially termed "Blasians." To the right are some notable Blasian celebrities you might recognize.



**1:** Naomi Osaka, professional tennis player has a father from Haiti and a mother from Japan. **2:** Tiger Woods, Professional golfer tied for most PGA Tour wins has an African American father and a mother from Thailand. **3:** Kimora Lee Simmons, American fashion model and fashion designer is African American, Korean and Japanese. **4:** Apl.de.ap (Allan Pineda Lindo) Filipino-born American rapper, singer and record producer, member of the Grammy Award-winning hip hop group The Black Eyed Peas. Apl.de.ap has an African American father and Filipino mother. He speaks Tagalog and Kapampangan. **5:** Tyson Beckford, actor/model (Chinese-Jamaican grandfather) **6:** Naomi Campbell (model) is of Chinese-Jamaican descent. Her Chinese heritage comes through her paternal grandmother, whose surname was Ming. **7:** Patrick Chung, New England Patriot, 3-time Super Bowl champion (with Dad and Mom) is a Chinese-Jamaican.

# Celebrating Lunar New Year in February

YEAR OF THE DRAGON  
2024  
HAPPY NEW YEAR

By Clifford Tracey, Temp Program/Project Coordinator

Chinese New Year, also known as Lunar New Year or Spring Festival, is the most important festival in the Chinese and Asian communities around the world.

The Lunar New Year is the festival that celebrates the beginning of a new year on the traditional Chinese lunar calendar. Festivities for Lunar New Year 2024 will start on Saturday, February 10th and end on Saturday, February 24th.

The Lunar New year has traditionally been a time to honor deities and ancestors, but over the years this period has evolved to become a time to celebrate, feast, wine and visit with families and friends near and far.

## Chinese New Year Traditions and Celebrations

Customs and traditions vary widely among all the different Chinese ethnic and Asian heritage cultures across the world, but the common theme among all is to see out the old year and welcome in the luck and prosperity of the New Year!

A few of the more common activities each family and household will carry out during the Lunar New Year include:

- Cleaning and decorating the home with red ornaments, fruit, candies, and flowers
- Paying homage to ancestors
- Family reunion dinner on Lunar New Year's Eve
- Exchanging red envelopes (with money!) and other gifts
- Lighting off firecrackers and fireworks (wherever permitted)
- Watching lion and dragon dances and other arts and cultural performances

## 2024 Chinese Zodiac Animal: Dragon

One important aspect of Chinese and Asian culture is the Chinese zodiac, a 12-year astrological cycle in which a zodiac animal is assigned to each year of an ever-repeating rotation. Signs or animals are determined by the lunar year in which you were born.

## 2024 is the Year of the Dragon!

For all those Dragons that were born in the years noted below, 2024 is your year!

(1940, 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000, 2012)



Different people born under each zodiac sign are believed to have different personalities that represent animals of the year. If you have a Dragon friend or family member, do they tend to demonstrate natural leadership, power, and charisma while being flexible, imaginative, spiritual, and lucky? This makes sense as Chinese dragons are wise, benevolent and powerful creatures!

## Share the Happiness.

It is also customary to greet friends, family, neighbors, and colleagues, spreading the warmth, prosperity, and happiness to all who are around us during this festive time.

Here are a few of the most common greetings you can use to wish others a Happy Lunar New Year:

### Happy New Year!

Mandarin: xīn nián kuài lè

Cantonese: san nin faai lok

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## Celebrating Lunar New Year in February

*Continued from previous page*

### **Happiness and Prosperity!**

Mandarin: gōng xǐ fā cái

Cantonese: gung hei faat choi

### **Good Health!**

Mandarin: shēn tǐ jiàn kāng

Cantonese: san tai gin hong

### **May All your Wishes Come True!**

Mandarin: wàn shì rú yì

Cantonese: maan si yu yi

*From the Community Relations Team, we wish everyone a Happy and Prosperous Lunar New Year of the Dragon!*

## What it Means to Have a Dragon Baby

**Theo Trinh**, ASA III in the Community Services Bureau, shares a quest with his wife, Diana, to parent a “Dragon Baby” during the Lunar New Year.

Having just settled into their new home, Theo and Diana are eager to start a family during the Year of the Dragon. The two married in 2022 and both are born in the year under the zodiac sign of the Horse. After doing a little research, Theo and Diana found out that this year was the optimal time to have their first child.

“Diana and I are both Horses,” says Theo. “We have checked and confirmed. A Dragon baby will be most ‘harmonious’ and ‘happy’ in a family with both parents that are Horses.”

Time is of essence as the lunar calendar for Year of the Dragon is from February 10, 2024–January 28, 2025. We wish Theo and Diana success in welcoming a Dragon Baby during the coming lunar year!



Theo and Diana were married in 2022. They are hoping to have their first child this year before the Year of the Dragon ends.



Theo and Diana at Disneyland in 2023

## Renee Lawson Hamilton Chance Meeting Sparks 35-Year Career

By Alan Wang, Community Relations Media Specialist

When the Intake staff at 151 Sand Creek Road, in Brentwood, need answers or advice about the County's wide array of programs, procedures and services, they turn to **Renee Lawson Hamilton**.

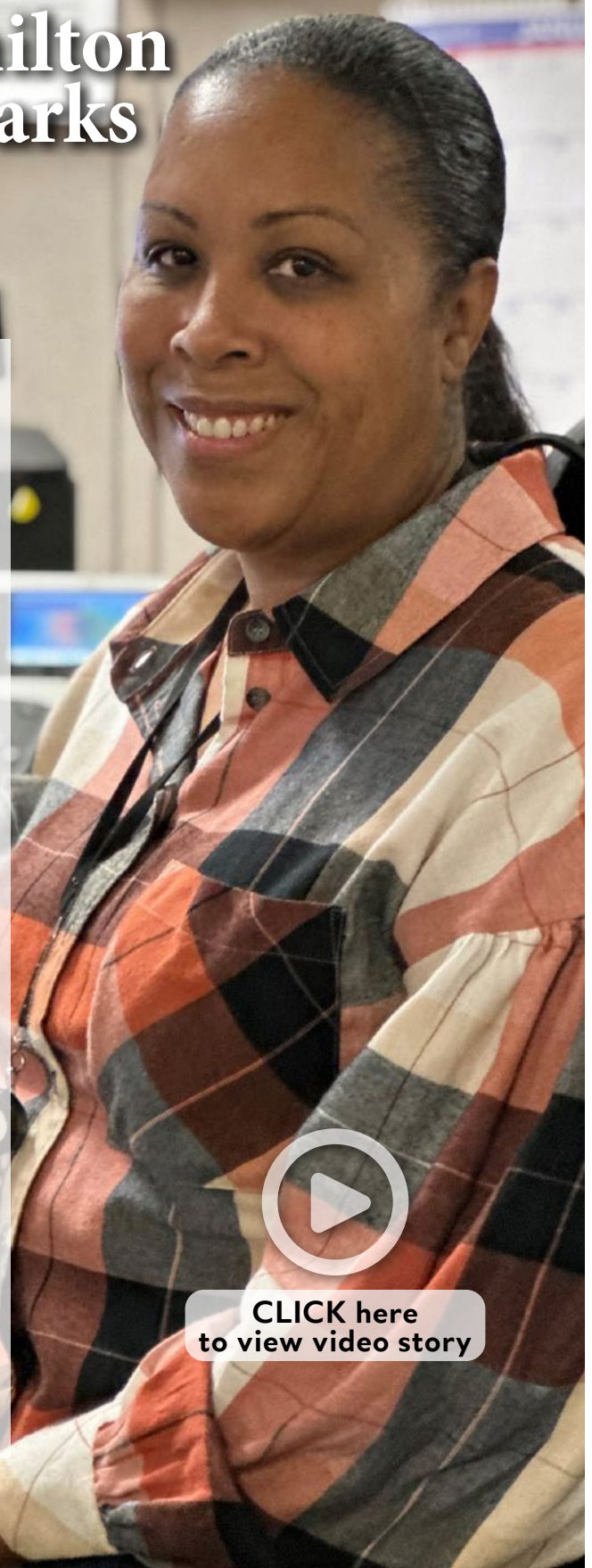
As a walking wealth of knowledge and experience with a calm motherly demeanor that sets the tone in the office, her co-workers fondly refer to Renee as their "Office Mom." Renee is a Workforce Services Medical Program Assistant who has been with Contra Costa County for 35 years. "When I first started, I was the young one. So now when they (colleagues) come in they say, 'Oh my God' and I say, 'I know. I've been with the County long before you were born,'" Renee says jokingly.

Renee's career path with the County has spanned a variety of jobs that have earned her respect as an experienced employee. "There's a lot of opportunity in the County," says Renee.

"Don't just stay in one spot just because it's a paycheck. There might be somewhere else where you're needed."

Renee started at the Sheriff's department after a chance meeting with a woman in an elevator. That woman turned out to be a Sheriff's department Lieutenant who went on to become Danville's first female police chief. **To hear more about the encounter that launched Renee's 35-year career, press the play button on the photo.**

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**CLICK here  
to view video story**



## Renee Lawson Hamilton Chance Meeting Sparks 35-Year Career

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### A LOOK AT RENEE'S 35 YEARS WITH CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

#### 1988-1998

Contra Costa Sheriff Department.  
Experienced Level Clerk  
Marsh Creek Detention Facility  
Records & Warrants, Martinez  
West County Detention facility, Richmond

#### 1998-2000

EHSD  
4545 Delta Fair Blvd, Antioch  
Experienced Level Clerk-Reception, Advanced  
Senior Level Clerk

#### 2000-2021

EHSD  
4545 Delta Fair Blvd, Antioch  
Lead Specialist temp position-Reception

#### 2001-2002

Back to senior position in reception

#### 2002-2005

East Bay Works  
415 Railroad Ave., Pittsburg  
Senior Clerk

#### 2005-2016

EHSD  
4545 Delta Fair Blvd., Antioch  
Eligibility Worker I, 2, & 3 (CalWORKs,  
CalFresh, Medi-Cal Field & Intake,  
Welfare-to-Work)

#### 2016-Present

EHSD  
151 Sand Creek Road, Brentwood  
Medi-Cal Program Assistant  
Intake (CalWORKs, CalFresh, & Medi-Cal)

EHSD congratulates all our 35-years of service honorees for reaching this milestone. We are grateful to Renee, **Mercedes Jaime** of Aging & Adult Services, and **Nannette Dupree** and **Gyrlenn Ertmer**, both of Children & Family Services, for their years of dedication, accomplishments, and service to our Contra Costa County residents. EHSD will celebrate all our Years of Service honorees who reached milestone years (10, 15, 20, 25, 30, and 35) from January through December 2023 at our annual awards event on February 8th.

*Building Brighter  
Futures Together*

# 4 Our Families Navigators Extend a Helping Hand at a Vaccination Clinic

By Al Gibson, 4 Our Families Navigator, WFS



To promote community health and wellbeing, 4 Our Families Navigators **Al Gibson** and **Natalie Aguilar** played a crucial role in supporting the vaccination clinic organized by Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS) at Highland Elementary School in Richmond on Thursday, January 18th.

The vaccination clinic aimed to protect residents against both Covid-19 and the seasonal flu. With the ongoing challenges posed by the global pandemic, the significance of accessible and community-centered vaccination initiatives cannot be overstated. Highland Elementary School served as a central location for residents to receive these essential vaccinations.

Al and Natalie brought their expertise and commitment to ensuring that individuals not only received the vaccinations but also had access to vital healthcare services. The duo focused on assisting individuals with Medi-Cal, helping make healthcare more accessible to those who may face barriers in navigating the system.



Natalie Aguilar and Al Gibson assisting at the vaccination clinic organized by Contra Costa Health Services.

The dedication of EHSD's 4 Our Families team exemplifies the spirit of community service. Their presence at the vaccination clinic reflects a commitment to the wellbeing of our residents, and their efforts contribute to the broader goal of building a healthier and more informed community.

*Building Brighter  
Futures Together*



## EHSD Live!



*Building Brighter  
Futures Together*

Be sure to tune in to **EHSD Live!** via Zoom on Thursday, March 14th, at 3 p.m. for the latest departmental updates, shout-outs and much more!  
*Look for the calendar invite and flyer in your inbox soon.*



## We Care...You Care

**We Care...You Care** is how we recognize our peers, emphasizing internal customer service. **We Care...You Care** nominations tie directly to one or more of our six Core Values. The program gives you the opportunity to show your coworkers how much you appreciate them. If you work with someone who deserves special recognition for internal customer service, check out the We Care...You Care link to the guidelines, then fill out a nomination form and submit it to the supervisor of the person you are nominating.

**We Care Guidelines:** [click here](#)

**We Care Nomination Form:** [click here](#)



# Our Purpose for Cultivating CalSAWS Community

By Tish Gallegos, Community Relations/Media Manager

The words “CalSAWS Conference” might conjure up mental pictures of a convention about the technicalities and mechanics of a new system that delivers benefit programs in every California County. The 2024 two-day gathering held January 25-26 in San Diego did in fact cover topics such as reporting, task management, training, and artificial intelligence. Yet, while celebrating the largest welfare system in the world, two of EHSD’s own reminded the 300+ CalSAWS Conference attendees WHY this statewide tool is in place. People.

First, EHSD Policy and Planning Division Manager Patty Perez talked about improving how we serve and honor our diverse communities across the state. Patty was a featured presenter at the JPA Member Representative and Board of Directors Meeting at the CalSAWS Conference where she outlined the thoughtful, groundbreaking activities that EHSD’s DEI Team has implemented throughout our department. Patty conveyed EHSD’s commitment to addressing the diverse needs of our community



**Marla Stuart**, EHSD Director and Vice Chair of the CalSAWS JPA Board of Directors, reminds attendees about the impact of the statewide automated welfare system.



**Patty Perez**, Policy & Planning Division Manager, sits on the DEI Update panel to report on EHSD’s DEI activities.

members, as well as the breadth and depth of the DEI team’s work. The innovative ideas and accomplishments she shared about these activities are likely prompting others to develop similar ones in their own counties.

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## Our Purpose for Cultivating CalSAWS Community

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As the Vice Chair of the CalSAWS JPA Board of Directors, EHSD Director **Marla Stuart** wrapped the CalSAWS Conference by delivering the Plenary Session: Using Automation to Bridge the Gap within Our Communities. Marla offered a compelling perspective about the wealth gap created by intersecting experiences of systemic inequality, trauma, and poverty. She provided data about who experiences poverty and an understanding of how. She also described the influx of people who come to us for services.

“Our whole reason for existence as the county welfare agencies and as CalSAWS is to serve these children and adults and families who experience the wealth gap in our state,” Marla explained. “It is hard to apply for our services – mentally, physically, emotionally, logistically, linguistically hard. By the

time people do apply for our services, they are often desperate.”

Marla detailed how BenefitsCal for community members and CalSAWS for our staff to manage cases are critical tools for helping people – providing automation that bridges gaps in our communities.

“Cultivating CalSAWS Community,” the conference theme, hints at how counties, CalSAWS, regulators, and advocates collaborate to alleviate the poverty experience. Its members are committed to improving and evolving the system. As the conference ended, Marla reminded all that the most important reason why is to positively impact the wellbeing of the families and individuals we serve throughout California.



“

*Poverty is often material scarcity piled on chronic pain piled on incarceration piled on depression piled on addition – on and on it goes. Poverty isn't a line. It's a tight knot of social maladies. It is connected to every social problem we care about – crime, health, education, housing – and its persistence in American life means that millions of families are denied safety and security and dignity in one of the richest nations in the history of the world.*

–Poverty, by America by Matthew Desmond

”



## SERVICE AWARDS | NEW EMPLOYEES | RETIREES

### SERVICE AWARDS

**35 YEARS**

Barbara A Opdyke, Clerk-Specialist Level, WFS  
Ralonda D Davis, Social Services Program Assistant, WFS

**30 YEARS**

Kathy Marsh, Bureau Director, CFS  
Veronica Monroy, Master Teacher-Project, CSB

**25 YEARS**

Carolyn Foudy, Deputy Director, AAS  
Elizabeth S Bush, Eligibility Work Supervisor, WFS  
Erica R Trujillo, Eligibility Work Supervisor, WFS  
Hamid Vahidizadeh, Social Services Staff Development Specialist, Admin  
Jamie K Davidson, Eligibility Work Supervisor, WFS  
John W Rees, Soc Svcs Program Analyst, WFS  
Keisha S Kelly, Social Worker III, CFS  
Tamara L Cunha, Social Services Program Assistant, WFS  
Victoria L Cunningham, Social Work Supervisor I, AAS

**20 YEARS**

Susan Bain, Director of Admin, Admin

**15 YEARS**

Samantha S. Perazzo, Clerk-Senior Level WFS  
Todd M Lenz, Soc Svc Program Analyst, CFS  
Maria D.R. Munoz, Soc Svc Program Assistant, WFS

**10 YEARS**

Antonay D Brown, Social Worker, AAS  
Chantia C Wade, Soc Svc Program Assistant, WFS  
Cheryl A Harvey, Medical Program Assistant, WFS  
Donald A Brown, Division Manager, AAS  
Elizabeth R Crowe, Soc Svc Program Assistant, AAS  
Farheen Samad, Soc Svc Program Assistant, WFS  
Janae P Moore, Soc Svc Program Assistant, WFS  
Pedro A Ramos, Soc Svc Program Assistant, AAS  
Sharee R McKey, Social Worker, WFS  
Robert E Raines II, Clerk-Specialist Level, WFS  
Kimlien T Pruner, Eligibility Work Supervisor, WFS

### RETIREES



Freda Augustine, Teacher – Project, CFS  
Lori Castillo, Division Manager, CFS  
Phillip Evans, Social Services Appeals Officer, Workforce Services  
Linda Linnell, Staff Development Specialist, Admin  
Kathleen McQuaid, Staff Development Specialist, Admin  
Roxana Perla-Bonilla, Translator, WFS  
Heidi Wintermantel-Stanley, Social Work Supervisor II, CFS



*New Employees listed on next page*

Are you planning a retirement celebration for a staff member and would like to present them with a retirement certificate? **If so, please contact Tish Gallegos at [tgallegos@ehsd.ccounty.us](mailto:tgallegos@ehsd.ccounty.us) or (925) 608-4808.**





## SERVICE AWARDS | NEW EMPLOYEES | RETIREES

*Continued from previous page*

### NEW EMPLOYEES

Nectarios Achilleos, Clerk Senior Level, Admin  
 Tammy Allen, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Massiel, Angulo, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Ashley Avie, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Manuel Ayala, Clerk - Experienced Level, AAS  
 Selene Calderon Perez, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Oriana Carney-Dunn, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Sandra Cross, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Miguel DeOsuna, Teacher Assistant Trainee -Temp, CSB  
 Tiyan Edmonds, Clerk - Experienced Level, Admin  
 Kelsey Entwistle, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Alicia Espinoza, Senior Staff Assistant, AAS  
 Karen Esquivel, Temp Clerk-Experienced Level, Admin  
 Halina Fortunato, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Fausto Fuentes, Social Worker III, CFS  
 Willetta Johnson, Clerk Experienced Level, CSB  
 Anna Larsen, Clerk - Specialist Level, CFS 1  
 Deanna Latney, Secretary Journey Level, AAS



Denny (Sai Ho) Lee, CN Food Operations Supervisor, CSB  
 Marina Lincicum, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Kathya Lipson, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Penny Luke Velasquez, Teacher Assistant Trainee - Temp, CSB  
 Jennie Ann Mendoza, Secretary Journey Level, WFS 1  
 Detra McClain, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Yelena Miakinina, Program Projects Coordinator, WDB  
 Stephanie Navarro, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Destiny Parker, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Cynthia Ramos, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Anai Rojas, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Ennica Smith, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Tamika Smith, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Danielle Sullivan, Clerk Experienced Level-Temp, CSB  
 Scott Thompson, Deputy Director, CSB  
 Clifford Tracey, Program Projects Coordinator - Temp, Admin  
 Erik Tunales, Eligibility Worker I, WFS  
 Cristina Ugaitafa, AAS Senior Staff Assistant, AAS



## Red Cross Honors EHSD



Last month, EHSD was named as one of the 2024 Honorees for the 7th Annual Partners Recognition Event, by the American Red Cross.

The American Red Cross has been a valued part of our community of first responders for emergencies, and it has been our privilege to closely partner with their team through the years and in 2023 with our joint drill exercises and operational meetings. With our missions closely aligned, the American Red Cross and EHSD together serve as an integral part of the shared safety net for our communities during disasters.

We will continue to work diligently to serve the community in this new year. EHSD and the American Red Cross will move forward in partnership to ensure the well-being of our community is best served.

EHSD is proud to be recognized as one of the 2024 Honorees.

## SPREAD THE WORD

### February 2024

- BLACK HISTORY MONTH
- TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH
- FEBRUARY 2 – Groundhog Day
- FEBRUARY 2 – National Wear Red Day
- FEBRUARY 8 – EHSD Years of Service event
- FEBRUARY 10 – Lunar New Year
- FEBRUARY 14 – Valentine's Day
- FEBRUARY 14 – Ash Wednesday
- FEBRUARY 16 – Youth Hall of Fame nominations due
- FEBRUARY 19 – Presidents' Day (holiday)
- FEBRUARY 28 – Linus Pauling Day



### Is there room in your home for one more?

Make a change in a child's life and become a Resource Parent/ Family for a foster child. Contra Costa County needs your support to provide care for children 0–18 years of age. Please join us for a virtual orientation and learn more about becoming a caregiver.



### FREE VIRTUAL ORIENTATIONS

February 1 or 15 • 4 to 6 p.m.

March 7 or 21 • 4 to 6 p.m.

April 4 or 18 • 4 to 6 p.m.



For more information about becoming a Resource Parent visit us at [www.ehds.org](http://www.ehds.org). If you belong to an organization or community group interested in learning more about Resource Family Approval/ foster parenting, we can schedule an individual session for your group, in English or Spanish.

To register for a class, please call (925) 655-4230 or email [ResourceFamilies@ehsd.cccounty.us](mailto:ResourceFamilies@ehsd.cccounty.us)

### March 2024

- NATIONAL SOCIAL WORKER'S MONTH
- NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH
- IRISH HERITAGE MONTH
- MARCH 1 – Employee Appreciation Day
- MARCH 8 – International Women's Day
- MARCH 10 – Daylight Savings Time Begins (spring forward)
- MARCH 10 – Ramadan starts
- MARCH 14 – EHSD Live!
- MARCH 17 – St. Patrick's Day
- MARCH 19 – Spring Equinox
- MARCH 23 – Purim
- MARCH 25 – Holi
- MARCH 29 – National Vietnam War Veterans Day
- MARCH 31 – Cesar Chavez Day

### We Care... You Care

CLICK here to learn more about nominating a coworker.

Updated We Care...You Care nomination form: [click here](#) and see page 11

### Want to know what else we're doing at EHSD?

Facebook and X @ContraCostaEHSD

Instagram @HumanaCosta

Like us on Facebook



FORMERLY KNOWN AS TWITTER



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

EMPLOYMENT & HUMAN SERVICES

Building Brighter Futures Together



The next Issue of *Headlines* will publish in early March. Email EHSD *Headlines* at [Headlines@ehsd.cccounty.us](mailto:Headlines@ehsd.cccounty.us), by February 20th if you have an upcoming event, article, or idea you would like to submit.