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## San Joaquin County to Celebrate Star Wars Day on May 4th! County Employees Encouraged to Have Some Fun and Promote a Positive Workplace

**STOCKTON** – The force is strong in San Joaquin County as they celebrate Star Wars Day on May 4th while inspiring County staff to have some fun and promote a positive work environment.

Several County Departments have stepped up to the challenge and have created unique ways to commemorate "May the Fourth Be With You" like hosting Star Wars themed community events, dressing as a favorite character, hosting themed games and potlucks, or decorating their offices.

In addition, below are some Star Wars Day community events where residents are encouraged to participate:

- Stockton Metropolitan Airport: Chewbacca, Han Solo, R2D2, C3PO, and Yoda cardboard cut-outs will be on display at the Stockton Metropolitan Airport on May 4. The Airport asks residents to dress up in their favorite Star Wars costume, take pictures with these movie icons and email their best picture to info@flystockton.com to be entered into a photo contest for prizes.
- San Joaquin County Employment & Economic Development Department: Is hosting a Star Wars themed "All County Department" job fair on May 4<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. 2 p.m. The event will be held at the Stockton WorkNet Office located at 6221 West Lane 95210. For more information visit: <u>www.sjcworknet.org</u>. San Joaquin County is hiring! Visit this <u>link</u> to apply.

The original May 4<sup>th</sup> celebration began a long time ago, in a decade far far away when the movie Star Wars: A New Hope (Episode IV) was released in 1977 and won over the hearts of millions. Shortly after, *Star Wars Day* was born as an informal grassroots holiday by and for fans who wanted to come together and celebrate the universe of Star Wars. The fan community chose May 4 because of the pun "May The 4th Be With You," a play on the series iconic phrase "May The Force Be With You." The observance is celebrated each year by millions of people in communities worldwide.

"It's so great to see everyone come together to partake in the fandom of Star Wars," said Supervisor Robert Rickman, Chair of the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors, who proposed the idea. "What better way to celebrate the most out-of-this-world holiday than by joining forces and finding fun ways to connect with coworkers, boost employee morale, and encourage comradery at the office. After all, "May The Force -or Fourth- Be With You" is a lighthearted reminder of the interconnectedness of people and the inherent force of positivity."