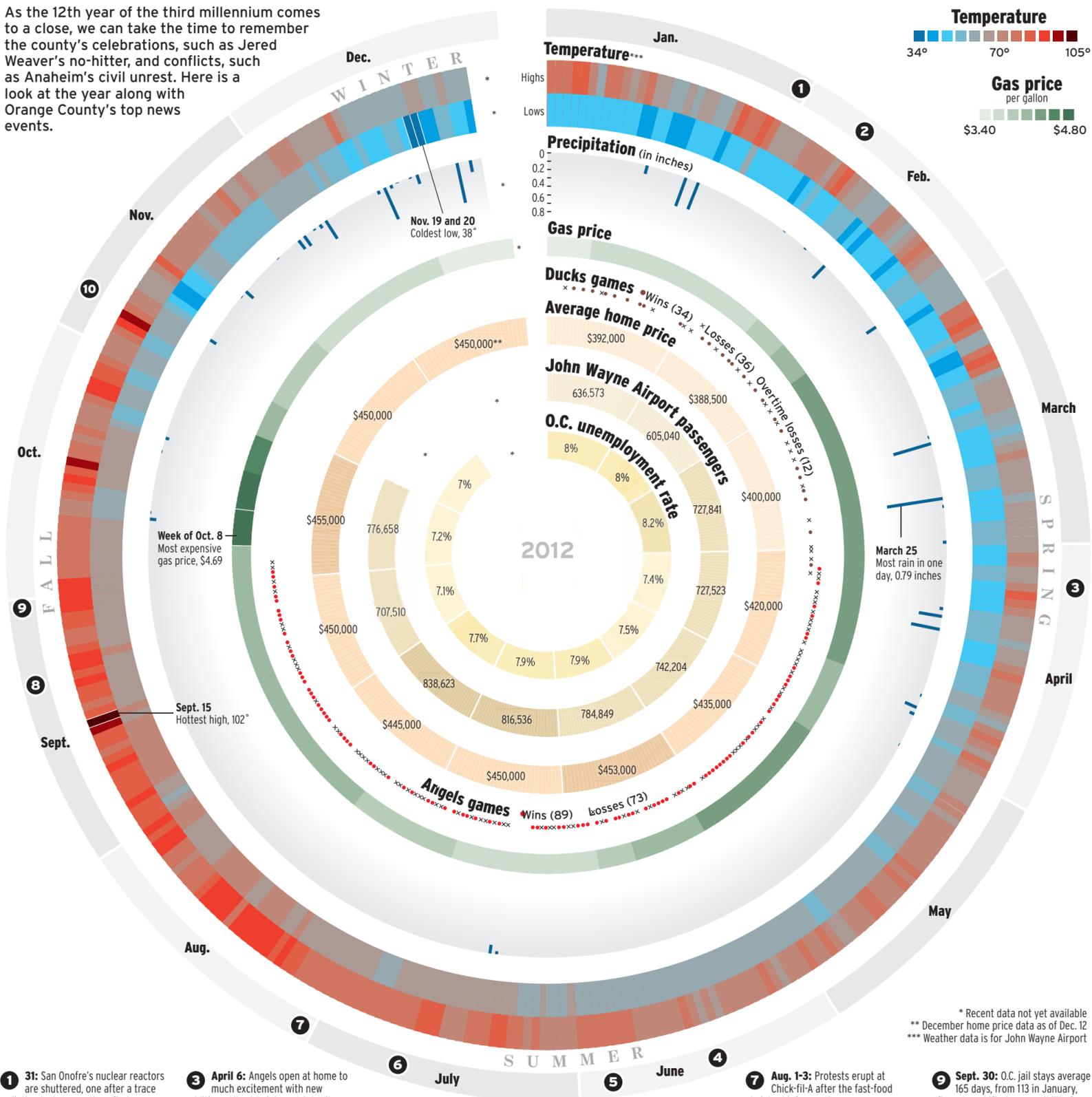


LOCAL

RING OUT ORANGE COUNTY'S 2012

As the 12th year of the third millennium comes to a close, we can take the time to remember the county's celebrations, such as Jered Weaver's no-hitter, and conflicts, such as Anaheim's civil unrest. Here is a look at the year along with Orange County's top news events.



* Recent data not yet available
 ** December home price data as of Dec. 12
 *** Weather data is for John Wayne Airport

Top 10 events of the year

- 1 **Jan. 31:** San Onofre's nuclear reactors are shuttered, one after a trace radiation leak. Inspections find unexpected wear among thousands of steam generator tubes. Nuclear regulators are reviewing an Edison plan to restart one reactor at lower power.
- 2 **Feb. 7:** Marine Sgt. Manuel Loggins is shot and killed in his car, with his daughters in the backseat, by Deputy Darren Sandberg. Authorities say Sandberg was protecting his life and the girls. A D.A. probe found no criminal wrongdoing.
- 3 **April 6:** Angels open at home to much excitement with new additions Albert Pujols and C.J. Wilson. As the season evolves, star moments come from Jered Weaver's no-hitter and Mike Trout's base-stealing and home-run robbing.
- 4 **June 15:** Disney hosts a grand re-opening of California Adventure after a five-year, \$1 billion makeover that includes a new entrance, 1920s Buena Vista Street and the 12-acre Cars Land. The expansion makes Disney O.C.'s largest employer.
- 5 **June 27:** Gov. Jerry Brown signs the state budget two hours before the deadline. The plan closes a \$15.7 billion deficit by assuming that voters will pass the governor's tax initiative, which was validated in November.
- 6 **July 21:** Two officer-involved fatal shootings spark Anaheim unrest. Demonstrators hold silent walks and rowdy rallies, block streets and damage property. Groups question police using rubber bullets and pepper balls. The D.A. is investigating.
- 7 **Aug. 1-3:** Protests erupt at Chick-fil-A after the fast-food chain's chief executive opposes gay marriage and supports "the biblical definition of the family unit." Customers counterprotest; same-sex marriage advocates stage a "kiss-in."
- 8 **Sept. 21:** NASA's youngest shuttle Endeavour soars in a final flight above Disneyland and the Huntington Beach Pier while ferried atop a specially equipped 747 jet before landing at LAX and showing in the California Science Center.
- 9 **Sept. 30:** O.C. jail stays average 165 days, from 113 in January, after a law shifted responsibility for thousands of inmates to counties from the state. O.C. now houses more inmates, more of whom have violent crime histories.
- 10 **Nov. 6:** While Democrats nationwide celebrated Barack Obama's re-election, Democrats here cheered a narrowing GOP advantage in O.C. aided by a growing Latino and Asian electorate and redistricting changes.

Sources: Register archives, National Weather Service, Automobile Club of Southern California, John Wayne Airport, DataQuick, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, Anaheim Ducks, NHL.com, MLB.com
 Maxwell Henderson and Sonya Quick / The Register

What fiscal cliff means for poor

The numbers, quite simply, are appalling. There is Second Harvest, one of the largest food banks in Orange County. It serves 240,000 hungry people every month. Yes, every month. Then, too, there is the Orange County Rescue Mission. It served 1,286,599 meals to hungry people over the past 12 months. Do the math. Any way you add it up, it is an



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entire families - mothers, fathers and children, who live day-to-day in motels, in garages, in a friend's extra bedroom or camped out where they think no one can see or find them. I bring this up only in the context of the so-called fiscal cliff that Congress appears prepared to send the country plunging over come Jan. 1.

embarrassingly huge number of people in need for any community. We are talking here not just of individuals, but of

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PAC money tied to trash hauler

By **MORGAN COOK** and **MIKE REICHER**
ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

O.C. WATCHDOG

Two political action committees with links to CR&R Waste and Recycling Services have spent thousands to re-elect public officials who supported lucrative contracts with the company, public records show. Between April 1 and Oct. 30, the political action

committees spent more than \$33,000 to support - and on one occasion oppose - candidates running for the Costa Mesa Sanitary District and city council seats in Rancho Santa Margarita and Tustin. Most of the money went to support incumbent candidates who voted on CR&R contracts during

their most recent terms in office, according to public records. The candidates voted to maintain or extend the trash hauler's contracts without opening the process to bidding. These two contracts have so-called evergreen clauses that automatically renew for terms of five or six years, without additional votes or competitive bids.

SEE **WATCHDOG** • PAGE 10



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