

# CURRENTS



## Meet Your Match



It's called the EV Advisor, but we like to think of this new customer tool as the ultimate electric vehicle match maker. Showing off this new mobile-friendly resource are Utility of the Future's Jimmy Vasquez and Customer Energy Services' Diana Sefcik.

# A Perfect Pairing Is Just a Few Clicks Away

The Sanchez Family of Suffern is loving their new Tesla. You could be loving your new electric vehicle (EV), too. Let our EV Advisor help introduce you to your perfect match.



Connecting the dots is easy when you're paying attention. That's why we're spending less time guessing what our customers want and more time asking them. The bottom line? Customers are looking to us for help in becoming more energy efficient. During an online community survey conducted last month, the majority of participants said energy efficiency and sustainability should be O&R's leading initiatives.

"It's exciting to be lining up new services that directly correspond to what customers are telling us they want," explained Customer Energy Services Specialist **Nikki Dubé**, who oversees the ORYou Exchange, O&R's online community for customer feedback.

The new service Nikki is referring to is the EV Advisor, an easy-to-use tool that pairs customers with EVs that best fit their lifestyle. "With the results of a quick survey, the advisor recommends appropriate makes and models, calculates potential fuel savings, shows nearby public charging locations, and demonstrates the environmental impact of making the switch to an EV," explained Customer Energy Services Senior Specialist **Diana Sefcik**.

Diana has been working with Utility of the Future Project Specialist **Jimmy Vasquez** to create the EV Advisor interface, which is available at [myORUstore.com](http://myORUstore.com). "Everyone's budget, commute and overall expectations are different. That's why the best way to bring people on board with EVs is to show them how it can fit their individual needs. There really is an EV out there for everyone," said Jimmy.

The beauty of EVs is that it's a net gain all around. Ditching fuel for electricity can save drivers hundreds of dollars annually while shrinking their carbon footprint in a way that's almost unparalleled to any other single lifestyle change. "If customers are looking to make the leap, we're here to help them land comfortably behind the wheel of the car that's right for them," Diana added.

## THREE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT AN EV LIFESTYLE

1. Most electric cars have a range of 85-370 miles, although these numbers are quickly growing.
2. An estimated 99% of all charging currently happens at home or at work.
3. EVs require less ongoing preventative maintenance (i.e. oil changes and tune-ups) compared to traditional vehicles. That's because EVs are made with significantly fewer moving parts.

## LEARN MORE AND GO FOR A TEST DRIVE!

You can access the EV Advisory at [ev.myorustore.com](http://ev.myorustore.com) and get behind the wheel of your top picks at our upcoming Ride & Drive events from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on **Thursday, September 12** (9 County Park Lane, Warwick), **Friday, September 13** (exclusive employee event at SVOC) and **Saturday, September 14** (9 County Park Lane, Warwick).

Keep an eye on **Conor** and **eBoards** for sign-up details.

# Injury-Free for Almost 30 Years!

The two teams you see here on this page together have gone almost 30 years without a single recordable injury.

The secret to their success, according to Substation Electrician

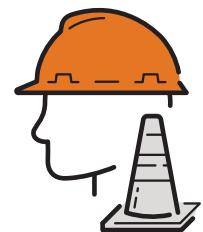
**Fabian Estrada** is, in fact, no secret at all. From Fabian's perspective, the groups' success is built on communication and a comfort level sharing information between tenured members of the team and those newest to Substation Operations.

"When I first moved over into Substations, I was made to feel completely comfortable asking questions. Because we run into

a lot of dynamic circumstances, there's a lot of peer checking and conferring with our colleagues who've been around for a while and have a wide range of experience with the different scenarios we come across," explained Fabian.

**There's no ego and  
there's no fear when  
it comes to asking  
for advice. - Fabian Estrada**

Let's give it up for Northern Substation Operations and Relay Substation Operations for showing us all how to ride teamwork all the way to zero harm!



## NORTHERN SUBSTATION OPERATIONS



Pictured here at Northern Substation's celebratory luncheon are, from left, RJ Mowrer, Tony Kurtz, Cedric Bush, John Furey, John Rogers, Rodney Mullings, Ron Gurda, Anthony Sabino, Jeff Stewart, Tom Kavanah, Bob Sanchez, Jared Predmore, Michele Hanebuth, Warren Sommers, Dave Erickson, Fabian Estrada, Ken McTighe, Steve Prall, Frank Peverly and Vishal Patel. Not pictured: Scott Caruso, Rhonda Crabtree, Jim Heimbuecher and Derrick Ramos.

## RELAY SUBSTATION OPERATIONS



Pictured here at Relay Substation's celebratory luncheon are, from left, Chris Gamb, Tony Kurtz, Joe Dowling, Chris Valure, Ryan Hado, Mike Osborn, Regina D'Apice Artie Rendina, Dave Rogers, Bruce Pollack, Hilly Waldman, Eric Oppenheim, RJ Mowrer, Bob Sanchez, Tom Kavanah, Michele Hanebuth, Dave Erickson, Jim Mason, Vishal Patel, Frank Peverly and Rodney Mullings. Not pictured: Scott Caruso and Ken McTighe.

# Help End the Overdose Epidemic

Drug poisoning is the number one cause of unintentional death in the U.S. According to the National Safety Council, 61,311 people died in 2017 from drug overdoses, many from prescription opioid medicine.

**Here are five things you can do to help put an end to drug abuse and its devastating consequences.**

1. Never share prescription painkillers and don't leave them anywhere they can be easily accessed by others.
2. Return unused painkillers to the pharmacy, don't keep them lying around.
3. Educate yourself on the signs of addiction and programs available to help, including our own **Employee Assistance Program (EAP)**, which is available to all employees and their family members. EAP can be reached 24/7 at **845-357-7005**. You can also contact O&R's Employee Wellness team for guidance at **845-577-2513**.
4. Honor those who've died from overdose and show support for ending this tragic epidemic by wearing purple on International Overdose Awareness Day, which is held annually on **August 31**.
5. Attend Employee Wellness' Addiction and Opioid Abuse Lunch & Learn at 12 p.m. on **Thursday, September 19** in the Spring Valley Auditorium. Mark your calendars now and keep an eye on **Currents** and **Conor** for details.

## Join Team Owen

Walk with Field Operations Planner **Keith Wallenstein** and his wife **Sarah** at Van Saun Park in Paramus on **September 15** to help raise funds for the neonatal intensive care unit at Hackensack Meridian Children's Hospital.

Keith says the care provided by Hackensack's Joseph Sanzari's Children's Hospital saved his son Owen's life. **Owen** was born on May 16, just shy of 29 weeks, weighing 2 lbs., 6.5 oz. After two and a half months of care, Keith and Sarah were able to bring Owen home.

Please check **Announcements/Events** on **Conor** to donate or sign up for the walk. O&R will cover the registration fee for all employees, family members and friends who join. Follow the link from **Conor** and enter code: O&R.



## An Update on Smart Meters

Our deployment numbers are looking good! So far, we've completed smart meter installation in New Jersey and are closing in on the finish line for Rockland County, with 99.7% of electric smart meters and 94.6% of smart gas modules installed. In Orange and Sullivan counties, we have deployed 35.7% of electric smart meters and 44.7% of smart gas modules.



Installation is underway in Circleville, Chester, Middletown, Sugar Loaf, Cuddebackville, Huguenot, Warwick and Florida.

AMI support team members are currently testing the integration of our smart meter data into our Outage Management System (OMS). They're also finalizing plans to deploy smart meters to our large commercial and industrial customers.

## Tee Up with IBEW to Support Local Veterans

IBEW Local 503's 20th Annual Golf Outing will be held on **Friday, September 6** at the Stony Ford Golf Course in Montgomery. Proceeds of this annual event support the Orange County Veterans Food Pantry.

Check **Announcements/Events** on **Conor** for the registration form. You can also contact the **Union Hall** at 845-294-1337.

## Enjoy "Wild" and Free Access

Here are a couple of upcoming opportunities to enjoy free admission to Wildlife Conservation Society Parks for you and up to three guests:

- August 24 - 25: Bronx Zoo
- September 14 - 15: New York Aquarium

**Did You Know?** Your employee ID can score you discounted and even free access to dozens of activities. Search **Culture Card** on **Conor** to discover the many museums, zoos, gardens, and historical sites that offer special deals for O&R and Con Edison employees.

## Come Meet CLARO

Find out more about our newest employee resource group (ERG) at CLARO's upcoming meet and greet.

**When:** Friday, August 16 / 12 p.m. – 2 p.m.

**Where:** Blue Hill; 4th Floor Board Room

**RSVP:** CLAROERG@coned.com

Search **ERG** on **Conor** for learn more about CLARO and all of our ERGs.