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Jeffries Journal

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Kevin's Corner

No Good Deed Goes Unpunished! Your County government employs roughly 25,000 people to serve nearly 2.5 million residents. Some of the employee positions include sheriff deputies, code officers, social workers, doctors, nurses, veterinarians, attorneys, auditors, custodians, maintenance and transportation laborers, accountants, and just about every other job you can think of for this massive operation. The county also has lots of contracts with non-profits and local businesses for various services, including foster care homes, software providers, grant writing, community center programs, emergency shelters, juvenile justice programs, architects, engineers, and of course firefighting services through our CAL FIRE contract and ambulances via American Medical Response. These contracts provide valuable services that sometimes are major cost savers for taxpayers and other times are just more specialized than our existing staff is typically able to handle (e.g. our Planning Department has suffered a 63% employee turnover rate in 2 years, so we must retain outside help to keep things moving). Unfortunately, the heavy hand of our State Legislature is pushing a bill through to set up a series of new hoops and bureaucratic red tape to make it much more difficult for cities and counties to use non-profits and local businesses. While some big boy contractors could handle the new paperwork and reporting requirements, many of our contracts are given to small non-profits for whom this would be a very heavy burden. And while the goal in Sacramento is to staff all these functions with new government employees, the reality is that if the costs go up and the number of vendors/non-profits willing to participate goes down, some of these services might be at risk going forward. Assembly Bill 2557 has already passed the Assembly, and is now moving through the Senate.

Holy Freeway! Most of our local state owned freeways (10, 15, 91, 60 & 215) simply serve as parking lots during the heavy commuter hours. Those extended drives serve as a great time to get your knitting and/or homework done (just kidding). Our office has been receiving a significant number of calls and emails about one freeway that is now well known for its extensive potholes and deteriorating condition – that being the 215 between Perris and Riverside. The state of this state-owned freeway is embarrassingly bad. And since Caltrans is no longer in the business of building or expanding freeways, the least they could do is better maintain what they have! If you are so inclined, you can email Caltrans with a Customer Service Request (CSR) for any number of concerns, including obstacles on the roadway, potholes, landscape issues, signage, graffiti, homeless encampments, etc. CSRs can be submitted at: <https://csr.dot.ca.gov/>

Endless Litigation. For those of you who have worked in big government or a big business you likely already know that litigation (aka lawsuits) is a routine
(Continued on Page 2)

part of being in business. We are a society that rushes to court, particularly if a target is perceived to have “deep pockets”. Now before you write me a nasty gram, I am neither a defender of big business nor big government. Nor would I deny someone the right to be compensated for actual harm and injury. But in the case of your Riverside County government – the legal payout numbers are staggering and frustrating. Over a ten (10) year period (7/1/14 to 6/10/24), the total of all jury and settlement payouts (excluding legal fees) exceeded \$241 million! It’s an amount that makes your blood boil. Who were the top departments to be litigated over the 10 year period? Sheriff at \$99,633,565, Social Services \$57,466,570, Hospital/Health System \$38,523,859, and the Transportation Agency \$20,147,978. The top two peak payout years were 2014/15 (\$41mil) and 2018/19 (\$36mil). The good news for taxpayers is that with internal reforms and accountability pushed by the Board - the litigation awards and settlements have generally been decreasing each year (\$7 mil 2021/22 and \$4.5mil 2022/23). If this trend holds, the taxpayers of this county will be the winners, as your hard earned tax dollars can instead be spent providing actual services instead of attorneys.

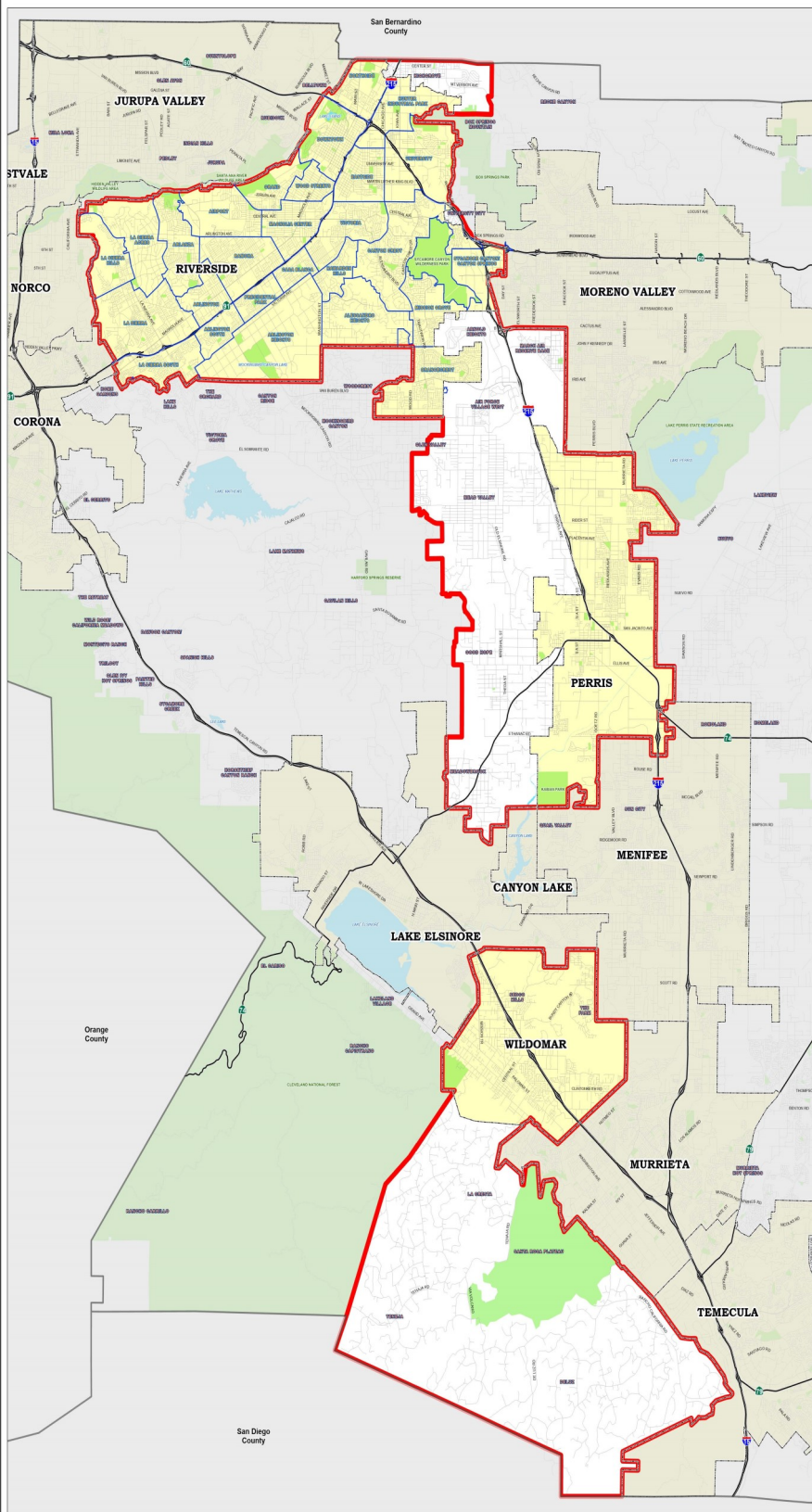
Can We Do Better? Every major election cycle, the Riverside County Registrar of Voters (ROV) has to roll out a massive county wide election network so that over one million voters in Riverside County can easily cast their votes. The pre-planning and logistics to make this all happen is significant. Then Election Day arrives, and the vote counting begins, which is immediately followed by questions. Sometimes they come from candidates and some from election integrity groups. Many times, the questions are valid, why did my neighbor receive three ballots? Why is a person who moved out of state receiving our ballots? Why do ballots cast by our military men and women get disqualified if they are late? We may not like the answers sometimes, but at least they are explained, and often with improvements sought. The next level of questions dives into technical issues involving voting machine technology, signature verification for mailed ballots, delivery issues involving the United State Post Office, chain of custody concerns for ballots, or requiring government issued IDs to vote. Unfortunately, many of these issues (including IDs at the ballot box) are governed by state or federal law, not the County. Regardless of which political party you identify with, or which candidate you support, you the voters need to have a reasonable level of confidence that your elections are being held fairly, honestly, and accurately. The Board of Supervisors has been repeatedly asked to NOT accept the certification of several recent elections and place those election outcomes on hold (impacting Judges, Congressional, and school board candidates to name a few). This is based on reports that it is possible, perhaps even likely, that some people are voting in on our elections that should not be. Doing so is a crime. But unless it is proven to be happening on a massive enough scale in our local communities and districts to change the outcome of an election, the thought of upending or suspending our right to vote scares the heck out of me. We absolutely need to continue to improve the quality of our voter rolls, and protect the integrity of our vote counting, but in the absence of any actual evidence of organized fraud or vote tampering, we must also protect and respect the results of our elections and our right to decide who represents us in our fragile Republic.

As always, I welcome your comments and feedback as to how the county can do better. I read just about every single email and respond back to many.

Respectfully,

Kevin Jeffries

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 1 County of Riverside



First District Profile



Kevin Jeffries was elected in November 2012 to represent the residents of the 1st Supervisorial District. In 2022 the district was redrawn, and now covers the entirety of the cities of Riverside and Perris, as well as the unincorporated communities of Highgrove, University City, Mead Valley, Good Hope, Meadowbrook, and the March Joint Powers Authority. In January 2025, the 1st District will also include portions of the City of Jurupa Valley.

- Roads
- Highways
- City Boundaries
- Neighborhoods
- District 1 Boundary
- Parks
- Waterbodies

Supervisor Kevin Jeffries
District 1
(951) 955-1010

Representing the Cities of:
Riverside
Jurupa Valley (portion)
Perris
Wildomar



As of April 2024, the lower area outlined in red, including City of Wildomar, La Cresta, De Luz, and Tenaja, has changed responsibility from our District to District 3, Supervisor Chuck Washington's office. His office can be reached at 951-955-1030 or District3@RivCo.org

Interested in serving your local community?

Perhaps you are more of a regional advocate?

If you live in or have a business in District #1, be sure to look below

at the list of openings we have below for local commissions.

If you feel you have the time to dedicate to making the district a better place feel free to apply online at www.supervisorjeffries.com, under Boards & Commissions

CURRENT OPENINGS:

Solid Waste - One (1) Alternate Representative

Assessment Appeals Board - Two (2) Members and One (1) Alternate

Riverside County Flood Control - Commissioner - One (1) opening

First 5 Children & Families Advisory Committee— One (1) Member

Good Hope Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) - One (1) Alternate

In Home Support Services (IHSS) - Recipient or Consumer of IHSS Services - One (1) opening

Flood Control District—Riverside Area (One (1) Member)

If you are interested in applying for any of these positions please see the link below:

<https://rivcodistrict1.org/sites/g/files/aldnop256/files/2023-08/Boards%20and%20Commissions%20Application%2C%208-22-23.pdf>

METROLINK

SENIORS/DISABLED/ MEDICARE

Receive 25% off multi-day passes and 50% off single-day tickets. Seniors ages 65 and over, and disabled/Medicare riders qualify for discount with proof of eligibility.



MOBILITY-4-ALL

Riders with a valid EBT card issued by the state of California are eligible for a 50% discount on any Metrolink ticket or pass. Valid on paper tickets purchased at ticket machines only.



STUDENT ADVENTURE PASS

Students ride free anywhere, anytime, with the Student Adventure Pass and a valid student ID. Download the mobile app to get on board.



CHILDREN

Ages 5 and under. Up to three children ride free with an adult using a valid ticket. Additional children pay youth fare.



CHOOSE THE DISCOUNT THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU

\$10 WEEKEND DAY PASS/KIDS RIDE

Families can take Metrolink to destinations across SoCal on a weekend day for only \$10 per adult, and kids ride free too (up to three with each paying adult).



\$10 HOLIDAY PASS

Unlimited travel all day to destinations across SoCal for only \$10 with our Holiday Pass. Metrolink operates on a special holiday schedule for six federally recognized holidays.



ACTIVE MILITARY

Receive 10% off One-Way and Round-Trip tickets. Please present a valid Common Access Card (CAC) to the fare Inspector upon request.



metrolinktrains.com/tickets

Cleaning Up Mead Valley!



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER

Report from Code Enforcement:

It took a team effort and a lot of persistence, but we got the job done! The massive homeless encampment and dumpsite on Martin Street east of Alexander Street in Mead Valley has been cleaned up.

This project was coordinated by Code Enforcement, the Sheriff's Department County Homeless Outreach Team, and Hashish Winstead from Supervisor Jeffries' office. We also received assistance from the Perris Sheriff's Station Special Enforcement Team, Animal Services, Waste Resources, Hope, Step Up, and Housing and Workforce Solutions. Numerous outreach attempts were made, with one individual willingly entering into a rehabilitation program.

Code Enforcement led the clean-up with County approved contractors paid for by ARPA funds, and a state funded vehicle abatement grant. Five recreational vehicles and three passenger vehicles were towed from the property.

A total of 235.2 tons of trash were removed from the location and disposed of at local County landfills. Waste Resources assisted with the removal of approximately 300 tires.

New to Mead Valley and Good Hope

Things are happening in Mead Valley and Good Hope, as we hosted a huge groundbreaking event for the new \$600 million Wellness Village and also celebrated the opening of our new pickleball courts in Good Hope and exercise stations at the Mead Valley Community Center!



LAKELAND VILLAGE UPDATES!

There has been a lot of work turning the old Butterfield School site into a community center we can all be proud of. We recently completed an upgrade of the landscaping, fencing (paying tribute to the old Butterfield Stage Trail!), and signage along Grand Avenue, work continues on the new sports field at the top of the property, and on August 6th we will have the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Lakeland Village Library (replacing the one at Lakeside High School)!



**IF YOU LIGHT IT
WE'LL WRITE IT**

**REPORT ILLEGAL FIREWORKS
IN RIVERSIDE COUNTY
1 (800) 950-2444**

4th OF JULY

More pets run away on the Fourth of July than on any other day of the year.

JULY 5TH is the busiest day of the year for animal shelters nationwide.

30% The increase in the number of lost pets between July 4th and 6th.

LOST
7.6 million animals are lost each year

Only 26% of dogs are returned to their owners

Over 35% of lost pets are euthanized annually

Tips to Keep Your Pet Safe on the Fourth:

The Fourth of July is a scary time for our furry friends. The high-pitched squeals, thundering booms and bright flashing lights of the fireworks can send even the bravest dog running. On the Fourth, pets need their master's help and reassurance to keep them safe and at ease.

Ensure your dog gets plenty of exercise during the day before the fireworks begin.

Make sure your dog has a collar and ID tag, and make sure their Tagg GPS Pet Tracker is fully charged.

Provide a safe place for them to retreat like their crate or bed and check on them every few hours.

Keep your pets indoors, lower blinds and close the windows so they won't be frightened by the noise and bright lights.

tagg THE PET TRACKER ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Learn more about pet safety at tagg.com

Highgrove Activities and Events

Leila Santamaria Center Manager
leila.santamaria@fsaca.org

Office Assistant II
Danielle Angell

Office Asst Volunteer Cynthia Kupfer

TO ALL PRESENT AND PAST
U.S. SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN
**WE THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SERVICES.**



May 27, 2024 Memorial Day - Hello Community Members, Remember and Honor those who have fallen. Building a Healthier tomorrow together. Protect your health. **KEEP YOUR Medi-Cal:** Contact your local county office online, by phone, email or fax, or in person - to report any changes to your name, address, phone number, or e-mail address. Visit dhcs.ca.gov/COL or call Medi-Cal Member Helpline at (800) 541-5555. C4Yourself Program to help our community families to apply for benefits available to them through Riverside County: CalFresh, Medi-Cal and Cash assistance. This secure website will send your application directly to the county for processing: www.c4yourself.com. County financial support programs, nutritional and medical assistance: 877-410-8829. CalFresh: If you need assistance applying, please visit FeedingAmericaE.org/CalFresh or call 951-359-4757**HEREO (Homebound Emergency Relief Outreach) - Once a month emergency food box for those who do not have transportation: Visit FeedingAmericaE.org/Find-Pantry or call 951-3594757.

Temperatures at 97 degrees and above officially activates Norton Younglove Community Center as a "Cool Center" from June 1, 2024 thru October 15, 2024 for vulnerable individuals, seniors, the disabled, and others in need of temporary relief from the heat. Visit capriverside.org or call 951-955-4900 for a list of Cool Center sites.



July 4, 2024 - Center is Closed



USDA Food Distribution: July 26th Friday 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM. Share Ride and Bring a Neighbor! Drive Through Pick Up. Serving Highgrove and Grand Terrace area. July 27th Saturday 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM: Joy of Giving Food Distribution.

UPCOMING
Events



July 13, 2024 Saturday 3PM Summer Vibes Market hosted by The 951 Night Market: Live Music, Performances, Shopping, Food, Bounce House, Dunk Tank, Opportunity of chance to win prizes and so much more!



July 27, 2024 Saturday 11:30 AM - 3:30 PM: Be A Part of Change 2024 Back to School Give Away. Community Health and Wellness Outreach One Stop Shop and much more! Hosted by SNT and Community in Unity.

Family Service

Association's Mission:

We address poverty, hunger, and health, from infancy to older adults, in families and under-served communities.



Norton Younglove Community Center

459 Center St. Highgrove, CA 92507

www.fsaca.org
951-241-7221

Current Programs

Tuesday Bingo



12:30 PM - 1:30 PM
4 cards for \$1.50 Includes refreshments



Polinesia Dance

With Lorena Tues, Thurs, Fri. Beginner 5 PM. Advanced 6 PM



Fitness

With Letty Mon thru Fri 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM \$6 per class



Voluntary Opportunity 951-241-7221

E-Taekwondo United Martial Arts

For all Ages Todas las edades. For detailed info Call: Master Elvis Chavez 909-578-4790.

www.etkdu.com
Evening Classes Mon & Wed

Lil Rhino's 3-6 yrs. old 6:00 - 6:30, 7 yrs. + Beginners (up to orange belt) 6:30 - 7:15, 7 yrs. + Advanced (green belt & Higher) 7:15 - 8:00 Our Mascot: Rhino - represents harmony and dominance when needed.

COGOP



Sunday Worship 10 AM. Thursday Bible Study 7:15 PM. For detailed Info call: Pastor John Braxton 951-400-3298

Emergency Food Box available Mon - Thurs for Riv. & Sbdno County Residents. To report a scam or for help if you or a loved one has fallen victim, contact the AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline: Call 877-410-8829

Lets Celebrate!

Whether you are having a wedding, birthday, anniversary, company or church event, our banquet hall is the place for you. Room capacity is 150 people at a rate of \$125 per hour, tables and chairs are included (Kitchen available for additional flat rate cost). Security needed with all rental event (additional cost). To reserve your party's date a \$200 non-refundable deposit is required. For further details contact the center at 951-241-7221.

Our Senior Nutrition program is currently offering hot meals to registered participants age 60 and above Monday to Friday, 11:00 AM To 12:00 PM

Enjoy our WIFI during your visit at the center



Child Development Center Has Openings!! Free or low cost Early Care and Preschool Programs call 951-342-3151.

Call our FSA Administrative Office 951-686-1096 for details on other program services provided: Clinical Services, Housing Services, and Hope Collaborative.





HIGHGROVE LIBRARY

Lunch at the Library Summer Program

JUNE 3RD - AUGUST 2ND

TUESDAY - FRIDAY
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Kids can visit select RCLS branches all summer long for STEM learning, special crafts, author visits, free food and books, and more!

CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY **LUNCH AT THE LIBRARY**

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. The Summer Food Service Program is a program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, administered in California by the California Department of Education. Lunch at the Library is a project of the California State Library, supported with funds from the State of California.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
www.rivlib.net | www.rivlib.net/latl
530 W Center St. Riverside, CA 92507
951-682-1507

RUSD **RIVERSIDE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM**



Looking to build your workforce?

SIGN-UP FOR THE EMPLOYER CONNECT PROGRAM

- PROVIDES HIRING ASSISTANCE**
- PAYS UP TO \$9,600 IN WAGE REIMBURSMENTS**
- NEW FULL-TIME HIRE TRAINING SUPPORT**

AVAILABLE TO BUSINESSES IN RIVERSIDE!

Scan to fill out the program form!

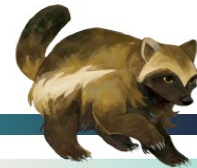
For more information, please contact

Quirina Ramirez
qramirez@riverside-chamber.com
(951) 683-7100 ext. 222

Kevin Jeffries
Riverside County Supervisor - District 1



JULY 2024 | EVENTS & PROGRAMS



CLA Lunch at the Library (LATL)
Partner Project is supported in whole or in part by funding provided by the State of California, administered by the California State Library.

LATL - Lunch at the Library

Weekly - Tuesday thru Friday
11:30am - 1pm

Join us Tuesday thru Friday
for a free lunch and activity!
Available for all RUSD students.

Meet the Author: Vahn Bender

Tuesday July 2nd
10:30 am

Join us in welcoming children's book author Vahn Bender! She will be providing a story time and reading one of her books.

Meet the Author: Evan Turk

Tuesday July 9th
10:30 am

Join us in welcoming children's book author Evan Turk! He will be providing a story time and reading one of his books.

TEEN PROGRAMS - ages 12-17

Tuesdays 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Learn how to make art from recycled crayons, wildflower seed balls, and repurpose an old tee into a tote bag!

Meet the Author: Isabel Quintero

Tuesday July 30th
11:00 am

Join us in welcoming children's book author Isabel Quintero! She will be providing a story time and reading one of her books.

TEEN PROGRAMS

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM
TUESDAYS, JULY 2ND, 9TH, 16TH

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

11:15AM
WEDNESDAYS, JULY 3RD, 10TH, 17TH.


BILINGUAL STORYTIME


2:00 PM
FRIDAYS, JULY 5TH, JULY 12TH, JULY 19TH

FAMILY ARTS & CRAFTS

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
SATURDAYS, JULY 6TH, 13TH & 20TH

CHECK US OUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

 @highgrovelibrary

 @highgrovelibrary

Read. Repeat. Repeat.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. The Summer Food Service Program is a program of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, administered in California by the California Department of Education. Lunch at the Library is a project of the California State Library, supported with funds from the State of California.



Summer Activities

Movie & Concert in the Park

GOOD HOPE COMMUNITY CENTER
21565 STEELE PEAK DR.
PERRIS, CA 92570

FREE FRIDAY, JULY 19 5:30 PM

BRING A CHAIR OR BLANKET TO JOIN US FOR TROLLS BAND TOGETHER, POPCORN, MUSIC, AND GAMES!

5:30 PM RESOURCE FAIR
6:00 PM BAND STARTS
+ MOVIE WILL FOLLOW +

Operated by:




Movie & Concert in the Park

MEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER
21091 RIDER ST, PERRIS, CA 92570

FREE! FRIDAY, JULY 12 6 PM

PLEASE BRING CHAIR OR BLANKET TO WATCH TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: MUTANT MAYHEM. FREE POPCORN AND CARNIVAL GAMES. FOOD VENDOR FOR PURCHASE

CONCERT STARTS AT 6 PM. MOVIE TO FOLLOW.

Operated by:








Visit all RivCoParks for FREE with the RivCoParks Library Pass!

Time spent in outdoor spaces improves physical, social, spiritual, and emotional health. The RivCoParks Library Pass program is a collaboration between RivCoParks and local libraries aimed at promoting literacy, outdoor recreation, and community engagement. Through this program, individuals and families gain access to a variety of benefits, including free admission to RivCoParks sites, special events, and educational programs.

For more information, including participating libraries, visit here: <https://rivcoparks.org/library-park-pass>