SUPERVISOR KEVIN JEFFRIES RIVERSIDE **COUNTY DISTRICT #1**



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Jeffries Journal

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June 2024

Kevin's Corner

New Building Fees: Following my article last month about RCTC looking at a sales tax proposal this November, yet another regional independent agency is looking to raise more money in the form of developer fees to also build roads and improve transportation. The Western Riverside Council of Governments has a board made up of representatives from each city in Western Riverside County and four of the five members of the Board of Supervisors. They manage the Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF), which is a tax/fee on almost every new development in the region, which is intended to ensure new development pays for the increased traffic it creates (on top of the Developer Impact Fees paid by developers to cities or the County). They are doing a comprehensive "nexus" review of the fees tied to each type of development (residential, commercial, retail, warehouse, etc.) for the first time since 2017, and significant increases are expected. I still don't understand how they can argue that warehouses have the lowest impact and should pay the lowest fees, but you can read their report and submit comments until June 10th here: https://www.wrcog.us/201/Studies-Documents

Animal Crisis: Your county government has a responsibility to provide animal control services to the unincorporated (non-city) residents of the county. This involves having Animal Services officers respond to loose, injured or deceased animals, neighbor disputes over barking dogs and crowing roosters, and lots of staff to operate County animal shelters. Decades ago, the County decided it would make financial sense (due to economies of scale) to allow local cities to contract with the County to provide those services within city boundaries. Fast forward and certain outcomes of contracting are not going well. The costs of labor and benefits for those employees have skyrocketed from those early days, the cost and complexities to staff and operate shelters has gone off the charts, and sadly the overall animal population being turned in to County shelters has gone through the roof. The shelters are overflowing despite repeated efforts to find people willing to adopt (not to mention special efforts to work with rescue groups and out-of-state adoption programs). New contract rates are being developed to hopefully help the County recover its true costs for service, but if the adoption rates do not improve and the shelters continue to be at or beyond capacity (and financially strained) – one could argue that the time may be upon us to ask all or most of the contracting cities to start making plans to build and operate their own city-based shelters. Perhaps even the local regional organization "WRCOG" could champion more jointly operated city shelters going forward. Whatever the answer, some quick solutions need to be found.

Nothing Is Really Free – Not Even Sunlight. Many years ago, the County jumped onto the solar band-wagon, allegedly to 1. Obtain clean power, 2. Reduce demand on the electrical grid and 3. To enjoy reduced electric bills. All three appear to have come true - well sort of. The problem is, that once you factor in the actual cost to finance and construct all those large solar panel clusters in or around County facilities, the environmentally green solar deals turn to financially red deals. In fact, despite the realized savings in the energy bills, the past construction costs and the annual debt service currently results in a net loss to the county of over a million dollars per year for soaking up the sun! (Continued on Page 2)

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New Outdoor Food Court in Mead Valley! A little over a week ago, a new County-sponsored food truck/food court had a "soft opening" with about 15 food trucks and vendor tables on hand. This impressive outdoor site is located on the southwest corner of Cajalco Road and the 215 Freeway, and accessed off of Harvill Ave. in Mead Valley (between Perris and Riverside). The 5 acre site is fully fenced, with portable restrooms, night lighting, shaded seating, dedicated on-site parking, security, and room for dozens of licensed food trucks and other vendors. The main goal is to provide a safe, controlled, and organized site that wouldn't require residents to stop on busy roadsides or in residential neighborhoods just to get a quick meal. For those looking for a more relaxed, quieter environment, we still encourage folks to share the love with our brick and mortar restaurants in the area, particularly those family owned eateries that are the backbone in many communities. You will find some pictures of the still unfinished new Mead Valley Outdoor Marketplace soft opening on page 6 of this newsletter.

Hefty Pay Raises for We, but not for Thee! Being an elected official is a choice. You enter the political arena knowing the workload and the pay. You work hard and generally spend a lot of money in an election to land the job so you can serve the public. To then turn around and seek a large pay increase seems—well—tacky. Yes, I am a stick in the mud, and I realize very well the amount of responsibility that comes with these jobs and the all-consuming demands on your time that come with it. But unlike the professionals in various County Departments, elected positions are not jobs to be sought as stepping stones in your income and career ladder, and they do not need to be paid as such. Elected officials shouldn't have to take a vow of poverty, and we don't want a situation where only the wealthy or retired can afford to serve in elected offices, but in a County where the median income is less than \$40,000, it is hard to justify new salaries that will range from just over \$200,000 (for elected Supervisors) to \$350,000 (for District Attorney and Sheriff). And to have future pay raises kick in any time we grant an increase in the salary range for our own Chiefs of Staff or Chief Deputies seems—well—tacky. I voted no, and I will once again refuse to accept the pay increase.

As always, feel free to drop me an email with suggestions to improve county services, or to vent!

Respectfully,

Kevin Jeffries



Do you have one minute a month to help make Riverside County better? The County of Riverside is working with Flash Vote to gather valuable input from residents to inform decisions on programs, policies and budgets. The sign-up process takes less than one minute and the individual information collected by Flash Vote is never shared with the County, nor anyone else. When residents sign up, they can determine if they want to receive the surveys by email, text or phone. Residents will receive a notification whenever there is a new survey, and they will have 48 hours to participate before voting closes. Once a survey is closed, everyone who participated will automatically receive a summary of the overall results and be able to see how their responses compare to the group. Results are anonymous. The county encourages residents to sign up now at http://flashvote.com/rivconow or call (775) 235-2240 to participate by phone or text only.

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SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 1 **County of Riverside** LAKE ELSINORE Orange County

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.



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

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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
Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) - One (1) Alternate
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

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

 $\frac{https://rivcodistrict1.org/sites/g/files/aldnop256/files/2023-08/Boards\%20and\%20Commissions\%}{20Application\%2C\%208-22-23.pdf}$

METROLINK



metrolinktrains.com/tickets

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Cleaning Up Mead Valley!





Mead Valley had both a
Hazardous Waste Collection
Event and a Community
Cleanup on May 18th.
Almost 300 residents
participated, bringing in
over 80 tons of trash,
4.5 tons of mattresses, over
2 tons of e-waste, and
400 tires. Thank you to
Waste Resources, Waste
Management, and all who
participated!







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Mead Valley Food Truck Marketplace "Soft Opening"











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Good Hope Happenings

Scenes from the Mother's Day Brunch, hosted at the Moses-Schaffer Community Center in Good Hope





350 trees were given out to residents of Good Hope and Meadowbrook in a partnership with "The Tree People" and Community Improvement Funds





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Highgrove Activities and Events

Leila Santamaria Center Manager leila.santamaria@fsaca.org

Office Asst Volunteer Cynthia Kupfer



May 27, 2024 Memorial Day Hello Community Members, Rememb Honor those who have fallen. ing a Healthier tomorrow together. Protect your health. KEEP YOUR MedCal: Contact your local county office online, by phone, email or fax, or in person to report any changes to your name, address, phone

dress. Visit dhcs.ca.gov/COL or call Medi-Cal Member Help-line at (800) 541-5555. C4Yourself Program to help our com-munity families to apply for benefits available to them through Riverside County: CalFresh, Medi-Cal and Cash as-sistance. This security for processing: when edvourself comrectly 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 FeedingAmericalE.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 FeedingAmericalE.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 capriver-side.org or call 951-955-4900 for a list of Cool Center



USDA Food Distribution: June 21st Friday 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM. Share Ride and Bring a Neighbor! Drive Through Pick Up. Servicing Highgrove and Grand Terrace area. June 22nd Saturday 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM: Joy of Giving Food Distribution.









June 8, 2024 Saturday 8 AM to 3 PM - Hosted by Mindful Connection/The 951 Night Market Free Community and Health Outreach event: Run/Walk, Mental Health Resources, Music, Live Entertainment, Shopping- Kid Zone, Food and so much more!





by SNT and Community in Unity.

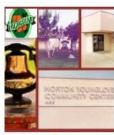
Family Service

Association's Mission:

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







orton Younglove Community Center www.fsaca.org 459 Center St. Highgrove, CA 92507 951-241-7221

Current Programs

Tuesday Bingo



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



Polinecia Dance

With Lorena Tues ,Thurs, Fri. Beginner 5 PM. Advanced 6 PM E-Taekwondo United Mar-tial Arts

For all Ages

Todas las edad-es. For detailed info Call: Master Elvis Chavez 909-578-

4799. www.etkdu.com Evening Clas-ses 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 Mas-cot: Rhino represents harmony and dominance when

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

Let's Celebrate!

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 pro-gram services provided: Clinical Services, Hous-ing Services, and Hope Collaborative.



COGOP

needed.



Fitness

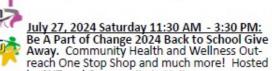
With Letty Mon thru Fri 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM \$6 per class



Voluntary Oppor-tunity 951-241-7221

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. & SEdno County Res-idents. "To report a scam or for help if you or a loved one has fallen vic-tim, contact the AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline: Call 877-410-8829



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Riverside County Veterans' Advisory Committee Presents: egislative Breakfast"

Friday, June 14th, 2024 @8am

*******PLEASE ARRIVE EARLY*****

Location: American Legion Post 328, 3888 Old Hamner Rd, Norco, CA 92860 entation #1: Mr. Travis Lidstrom, Outreach Specialist of VA **Vet Center, Corona**

Topic: "All About VA Vet Centers"

- VBA Benefits Explanation & Referral



Presentation #2: "Women Veterans Recognition Ceremony"

Calling all Women Veterans



Please come out to be honored & recognized as we did last year! Please submit for your certificates:

www.milvet.org/womenvet24



This event is "Open to the Public" - Attendance is Free

Point of Contact: Artie Allen 301-364-8040 Cell RivCo.VAC@gmail.com Webpage: https://rivcoveterans.org/veterans-advisory-committee



caring people willing to be part of a team of volunteers trained to provide emotional and practical support to the victims of traumatic events.

I have the heart to serve and would truly help others. I found it I know I make a difference." TIP Voluntee

A TIP VOLUNTEER will be called to emergency scenes by local law enforcement, firefighter/paramedics, and hospital personnel to comfort those who are traumatized.

No experience necessary

99 June 2024 TRAINING SCHEDULE **KPC Medical Center** 28400 McCall Blvd. 6/20 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Thursday Menifee, CA 6/21 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Saturday 6/22 All classes must be attended Sunday 6/23 9:00 am - 2:00 pm Wednesday 6/26 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm 6/27 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Thursday 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm Friday 6/28 Saturday 6/29 9:00 am - 5:00 pm 951-698-2453 Staff@tiprivco.org

www.tiprivco.org





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Summer Activities







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