SUPERVISOR KEVIN JEFFRIES RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT #1

# Jeffries Journal

Volume II, Issue I

January 2023



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### Kevin's Corner

**The Big Beef.** One of the most common gripes shared with my office is about the homeless/street people. Huge sums of state and federal tax dollars have floated down to counties and cities to house the homeless in shelters and motels and everything in between. When you see the down & out sleeping or panhandling on the streets today, I would argue that many or perhaps most have turned down housing assistance and other offers of service. It could be because they have severe mental health issues (which we can't force them to obtain help), or they simply prefer living on the street (which just sounds wrong, but again, we also cannot force them to obtain help). We still desperately need housing for those willing to accept help, but barring a change in state laws and court granted rights and protections, I believe local government is quickly reaching a point where it cannot do much more to help those who do not want help, like the ones we most often see wandering in and out of the street like zombies or yelling at people on sidewalks. Are we really okay with creating a permanent court-sanctioned homeless class?

Changing of the Guard – sort of. The 2020 census and resulting redistricting has now officially moved numerous County Supervisor boundaries. The communities in Temescal Valley, Lake Elsinore Valley, Canyon Lake, Woodcrest, and Lake Mathews have ALL moved into the 2<sup>nd</sup> District, represented by Supervisor Karen Spiegel (2<sup>nd</sup> Dist. phone # 951-955-1020, https://rivcodistrict2.org/). If you reside in any of the communities above and would prefer NOT to receive this newsletter going forward, please hit the **unsubscribe** button at the bottom of this e-mail. The City of Perris, and the community of Highgrove will join the entire City of Riverside and the communities of Mead Valley, Good Hope and Meadowbrook in the new revised First District. To further complicate the transition, if you reside in Wildomar, La Cresta, Tenaja or DeLuz, you remain in the old First District until Jan 2024 at which time you will switch over to the revised 3<sup>rd</sup> District. Now to be clear, I'm not walking away from any of the transitioning communities that elected me in 2020. However, Supervisor Spiegel is the most recently elected Supervisor from those communities, and she will be taking the lead. I will be the "back up" guy. To see the new 2022/2024 boundary maps, click here.

**Budget & Pensions.** The good news is that your county budget is doing very well. Taxpayers are generating lots of revenues (property taxes, sales taxes, DMV taxes, etc.). If you add these increases to the special COVID Cash that the federal government printing presses have sent to local counties and cities, the numbers jump even more. Unfortunately, just as rising inflation is hurting families, the cost of doing business for the County has also skyrocketed. The cost to build new fire stations, pave streets, or build day care centers have gone through the roof. The other downside is that we know this big revenue jump is very likely a "one-time" scenario. The State of California is already facing a revenue drop approaching \$20 billion, and the California pension system (CalPERS) is facing a very large drop in its investment portfolio, which typically translates into higher "contributions" (read: larger checks) from local governments to make up the difference. One of my jobs during my last two years in office will be to make sure our county spending is kept

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under control, use chunks of any surplus funds to build up rainy-day reserves, pay down debt, and try to restrain new spending to "one-time expenses" so that we do not obligate our county to ongoing expenses with one-time revenues. With our growing population (30,000 +/- every year) and the resulting growing demands for increased services, it's going to be a real challenge to hold it all together!

<u>Victims Looking For Justice</u>. On December 28, 2022, Riverside County Sheriff Deputy Isaiah Cordero, 32, made a traffic stop and was murdered by a repeat offender. According to a Press Enterprise article, San Bernardino County Superior Court records indicate the killer had at least 12 criminal convictions, including five felonies with the latest conviction being kidnapping and assault with a deadly weapon. According to our County Sheriff, a San Bernardino County Judge had recently instead of sentencing him to 25 years to life in prison — lowered his bail, which allowed him to go free.

And speaking of going free, here in Riverside County the Riverside County District Attorney's office has publicly reported that "...over the past 10 weeks Riverside County Superior Court judges have dismissed more than 1,000 criminal court cases. In October, the court stated that 2,800 pending cases were set for trial. As of Dec.16, 2022 there are about 2,200 backlogged cases and Superior Court judges have dismissed 1,098 criminal matters.

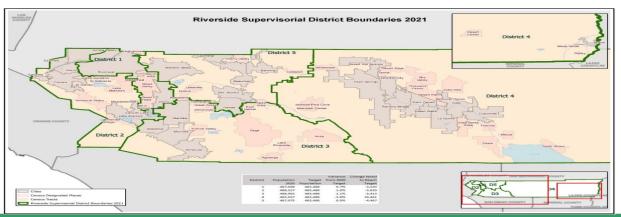
On Oct. 10, 2022, Riverside County Superior Court judges started to dismiss criminal cases based on a lack of available trial courtrooms. Case dismissals continue to occur daily across the county. These cases are both misdemeanor and felony cases and include nearly all crime types. About 83 felony cases have been dismissed so far. Felony cases dismissed include charges such as attempted murder, assault with a deadly weapon, sex crimes, child abuse, domestic violence, and more".

This unacceptable situation for our growing county (and especially for victims seeking Justice) is not something within the control of the Board of Supervisors. However, it is my understanding that our local State Senator Richard Roth (a retired Air Force General and Attorney) is going to take our battle to the State Legislature. He will likely need our backing when the time comes.

Are You Ready to Lend a Hand? Listed in this newsletter are several opportunities for citizens to get involved with various local government commissions or committees. Many cities have their own opportunities, and the state of California has opportunities to make a difference. See some of our County Commission/Committee openings here: <u>https://rivcodistrict1.org/District-Info/Boards-Committees-Commissions</u>

**During my final two years** – I hope to finally find the answer(s) to the one big overarching question I have been asking nearly every year since taking office... *What do we (Riverside County) want to be when we grow up?* (Balanced, relaxed, recreational, educated/skilled, wide-open, Not L.A., etc.).

#### Respectfully, Kevin Jeffries



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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 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:** Good Hope Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) - One (1) Member Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) - One (1) Member, Two (2) Alternates Advisory Council of Aging- One (1) Opening In Home Support Services (IHSS) - Recipient or Caregiver of IHSS Services — One (1) opening Behavioral Health Commission - Family Member - One (1) opening **Riverside County Flood Control Commission—Zone 1** One opening (see below) Community Action Partnership—One (1) Alternate **Open Position: Flood Control Commissioner** The First District has an opening on the Riverside County Flood Control Commission representing Zone I. Commissioners serve as unpaid volunteers, attend a minimum of one annual meeting, review the District's Annual Budget and Regional Drainage Plans. For more information visit the Districts website at <u>www.rcflood.org</u>. To apply please submit the online application available at www.supervisorjeffries.org IURUPA EASTV ERSIDE ONE 2 PERRI MENINE MAR MURRETA ZONE 7

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### GOOD NEIGHBOR BROCHURE FOR SHORT TERM RENTALS WELCOME TO RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Our communities consist of permanent and seasonal homeowners who enjoy living in a tranquil environment. Please read this brochure for an enjoyable stay.



ENJOY AND BE COURTEOUS!





#### HOMEOWNERS AND RENTERS ARE ADVISED THAT THE FOLLOWING RULES WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED:

NOISE: County Ordinance No. 847 regulating noise includes quiet hours between the hours of 10pm and 7am. No amplified sound may be audible inside a residence. PARKING:

Renters and their guests should park in the rental garage, driveway, or on the property. No street parking will be permitted. TRASH:

Trash and refuse shall not be stored within public view except in proper containers for collection. DOGS:

All dogs are to be on leashes whenever they are in unenclosed areas. Barking dogs often result in neighbor complaints. Failure to comply with the above may result in a citation, fines, or expulsion from the rental property for the renter or their guests. Refer to County Ordinance No. 927 for more

information.

Loud music, rambunctious parties, streets filled with cars parked in front of neighbors homes and driveways are prohibited by County Ordinance and will not be tolerated.



BE SAFE AND RESPECTFUL!



Riverside County residents can call toll-free 24/7 (951) 955-2004 or (760) 393-3344 to report violations of the rules.

### What is Zero Waste Hero?

From January 1 – 31, 2023, Riverside County Department of Waste Resources (RCDWR) will be hosting a social media campaign on Instagram and Facebook geared toward educating and encouraging the Riverside County community about waste reduction. Participants will have the opportunity to enter weekly drawings by completing virtual, easy challenges that promote a low/zero waste lifestyle. Participants who remain engaged for the month-long series of challenges will be automatically entered into our grand prize drawings. Drawing prizes will only be awarded to Riverside County residents.

For more information visit: www.rcwaste.org/outreach/ZWH



### Riverside County Seeks Volunteers for 2023 Homeless Count The count helps ensure communities get the funding needed to find long-term solutions to homelessness

Volunteers are encouraged to sign up now for the 2023 Point-in-Time Count, an annual survey of homeless adults and youth in cities and unincorporated communities across Riverside County.

We are in need of volunteers for the 2023 count, which is scheduled for Jan. 25, 2023. Volunteers from nonprofits, churches and other groups will fan out across Riverside County's 7,300 sq. mile landscape.

Organizers say widespread participation from those who know their communities and who can communicate with the homeless is essential to obtaining an accurate count.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development requires communities that receive funding, including Riverside County, to perform the count. The funds provide support and services, including housing, to help end homelessness.

Training is required prior to the count. Volunteers must also have a smart phone or tablet to conduct the survey, be able to walk up to two hours and must be 18 or older. Volunteers ages 16 -17 must be accompanied by an adult.

The general Point-in-Time Count is scheduled for Wednesday Jan. 25 while the Youth Count is scheduled Wednesday Jan. 25 through Friday, Jan. 27, 2023.

## For more information or questions, please contact:

#### 951-358-3844 <u>RivCoPIT@Rivco.org</u>



## Riverside County Library System Updates

Take the challenge with your library this year! Read along with us as we pick new themes each month to help you reach your reading goal, expand your selection, and even be in with the chance of winning some prizes. For January, we suggest a book about DIY or self-help, and a science fiction book to celebrate science fiction day on January 2nd.

Zip Books are returning to the system! From January 3, you can now request a brand new book straight to your door at no charge (just bring them back to the library when you're done). To find out more about how Zip Books works, visit our website or ask in your library.

The spring literacy class session registration opens **January 2**, so make sure to check out the class listing here: <u>bit.ly/Spring2023Schedule</u>. We will be adding on monthly digital literacy workshops and, starting in March, some in-person conversation groups.

And finally, something new is approaching. What could it be? Keep your eyes peeled on our website and social media next month for some appmazing news!



### Naming of Community Facilities in Lakeland Village

On the November 29, 2022 Board Agenda, Supervisor Jeffries requested approval to recognize community members, for their years of dedicated service and approve the naming of local community facilities & amenities in their honor. On December 7, 2022, Supervisor Jeffries unveiled the items to the community at the Lakeland Village Community Advisory Council Meeting.

#### "Sandlin / Neal Community Room & Theater" at the Lakeland Village Community Center

Grace Lynn Sandlin, co-founder of Studio 395, inspired, supported, and served her community through art programs and non-profit organizations. Studio 395, the original and current operators of the Lakeland Village Community Center, have been influential in the community. Grace passed away in November 2020 but the vision she inspired in the community is alive and still growing today. Dorri Neal, was the Principal of Butterfield Elementary School in Lakeland Village from 1993 to 2010 and retired from the Lake Elsinore Unified School District in 2018 after a career of 39 years. The school closed in 2010 and in 2015 the County purchased the school property and transformed it into a community center for the Lakeland Village Community. Naming the community room at the Lakeland Village Community Center after both Grace



Sandlin and Dorri Neal is a tribute to what an impact these women have had to the community.



"LeBlanc Pickleball Courts" at the Lakeland Village Community Center The LeBlanc family first settled in Lakeland Village around 1944. Richard LeBlanc has demonstrated a longtime commitment to the greater Lake Elsinore Valley. After serving in the Korean War, Richard returned to own and operate a local service station, served for many years as a youth baseball coach, Lakeland Village Volunteer Firefighter (including during the deadly 1959 Decker Wildland fire), Lake Elsinore boating and water ski enthusiast, and then to operate the first tennis courts in the Lakeland Village Community. Richard and Judy LeBlanc were one of the first to build a private pickleball court in the Lake Elsinore Valley and became very strong advocates for the addition of public pickleball courts when the Lakeland Village Community Center was in the initial design concept phases. Naming the pickleball courts after Richard & Judy LeBlanc will recognize their decades of dedication to the community of Lakeland Village.

#### "Dawson Beach" at Perret Park in Lakeland Village

Peter Dawson has been enjoying the Lake in Lake Elsinore since 1964 and has been a resident and boating and marine business owner of Lake Elsinore since the 1970s. Peter has been a strong, unwavering advocate for protecting and preserving not only the Lake but also private property rights and lake access in Lakeland Village. Naming the beach at Perret Park in Lakeland Village after Peter Dawson is fitting for all his has given to protect and promote the lake.



#### Lakeland Village Line H Project as the Commissioner Christine "Chris" Hyland Stormwater Drainage System



Christine "Chris" Hyland moved to Lake Elsinore in 1989 proudly served as Zone 3 Commissioner to the Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District from 2007 through 2017. Her advocacy and leadership were instrumental in the realization of the \$5 million Arroyo Del Toro project in 2014, which protects the Elsinore Valley Cemetery and portions of State Route 74, and the \$13 million Lakeland Village Line H Project, which provides flood protection for many Lakeland Village residents located between the National Forest foothills and Lake Elsinore, roughly between Adelfa Street and Blackwell Blvd. She also guided the District's efforts to develop the Lakeland Village Master Drainage Plan and the design and construction of many additional facilities in the Zone. Sadly, Chris Hyland passed away on July 27, 2019.

## Good Hope Festival of Lights

Christmas at Good Hope/Meadowbrook was celebrated with the Festival of Lights and Cookies with Santa. The drive-thru event was well attended even though it was a very wintry night. More than 150 families had the opportunity to take photos with Santa Claus and enjoy cookies while listening to Christmas music and admiring the Christmas decorations and thousands of lights. The children who attended the event were more than happy as they received toys in advance from Santa.
Many thanks to Restoration Agape for organizing and partnering with District #1 on this amazing event, Fire Station #9, Riverside County FM staff, local businesses, Spark of Love, and local volunteers for making this event a success.



## Mead Valley Festival of Lights

This year, more than 650 people attended the Mead Valley Festival of Lights. Families had the opportunity to take photos with Santa Claus and were able to enjoy cookies and churros while admiring the Christmas decorations and the thousands of lights that illuminated the parking lot of the Mead Valley Community Center. Each child received a toy and had the opportunity to deliver their letter to Santa.

Many thanks to The Grove Community Church for partnering with District #1 and hosting this event, to the volunteers from Citrus Hill High School who did an amazing job decorating and putting up the lights. A special thanks to the Riverside County FM team for their support, the Mead Valley Library, and of course Spark of Love for donating the toys.



### Lakeland Village Winter Wonderland Event

On December 9, 2022, roughly 200 families attended the Lakeland Village Winter Wonderland at the Lakeland Village Community Center. The evening was topped off with the annual lighting of the Christmas tree with Santa! Riverside County Code, Animal Services, Library Mobile Connect, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District, Boys & Girls Club, Pato Banton & Antoinette, Prahamama, Zumba, KM Dance Productions, and Victory Outreach Church participated and provided entertainment, activities and giveaways. *A very big THANK YOU to Studio 395, for putting together a great community event!* 



### Perret Park Improvements

Perret Park, a beautiful park by the lake in Lakeland Village, has had some recent updates completed by the Riverside County Facilities Management Department. The most recent being the basketball court at Perret Park was resurfaced. Over the last couple of months the park tables and benches were replaced and the parking lot was resurfaced.







## Woodcrest Library Cookies with Santa

On 12/14/22, over 100 people attended the Cookies with Santa at the Woodcrest Community Library. Children of all ages got to meet Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus, eat candy canes, have hot chocolate and cookies, craft activities, and hear from the local King High School Choir. In addition to all the great activities, toys were collected, for the Spark of Love Toy Drive.





## Deleo WinterFest

The Temescal Valley Community, on December 17, 2022, at Deleo Regional Park enjoyed a fun holiday event. Activities included sledding in real snow, crafts and games, cookie decorating, roasting s'mores, drinking hot chocolate and hot apple cider, and riding a train. In addition to those wonderful activities, the community also got photos Santa.











## **SAVE THE DATE!**



#### WHEN? January 31, 2023 from 4:30-7:30 PM WHERE? 1299 Galleria at Tyler

- Free Admission for Job Seekers
- Discuss Available Positions and Submit Your Resume In-Person to **Potential Employers**
- Obtain Valuable Interview and Job Search Experience from Seasoned Professionals
- Learn How to Build Your LinkedIn Profile and Sharpen Your Resume





Beginning August 1 through June 30, 2023, RTA is offering 25-cent bus rides to youth, seniors, disabled and veterans on all bus routes, including CommuterLink! While on board, enjoy free Wi-Fi, USB charging ports, comfortable seating, friendly drivers, and, as always, our commitment to safety wherever you're headed.

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Just show your valid ID to receive the discounted fare.



RIVERSIDE



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FATHERS OF RIVERSIDE COUNTY



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