## SUPERVISOR KEVIN JEFFRIES RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT #1



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### Jeffries Journal

Volume I, Issue 4

May 2013

#### **Kevin's Corner**

One of the primary reasons I ran for Supervisor was my belief that the county has not been doing enough to create jobs here in Riverside. In a recent survey, the Riverside area was listed as the least friendly region of the least friendly state in the nation for job creation! I learned during my service in Sacramento that there isn't much a single person can do there to fix our state's hostility to job creation, but at the county level, there are many things we can do to make the county friendlier to those who want to start or expand businesses and create new jobs.

Some of these things are bigger than others. On a small scale, our office has been aggressively working with the county offices that process business and building permits to make sure that applicants are being treated fairly and expeditiously. I won't support every new development or business proposal that comes before me, but I believe everyone is entitled to a quick response without being overly burdened with unnecessary costs along the way. We have already seen some early successes in helping these individuals and businesses get through the process.

During my campaign, I promised to repeal the illegal "sun tax" on solar power producers—a tax so high that thousands of jobs had been prevented from starting because the companies couldn't afford to do business in our county. I'm very pleased to announce that this past week, with my encouragement, the Board of Supervisors voted to settle the lawsuit against the tax, and replace the likely illegal tax with a lower fee, that is high enough to pay for the impacts of these solar plants into the future (it is still one of the higher fees in the state), but low enough that these green energy companies can now proceed with their applications and start putting people to work in Riverside County!

I am also moving forward with my pledge to "free the food trucks" in Riverside County. Los Angeles, Orange County, and San Diego County all allow these gourmet food trucks to conduct business in their counties, but Riverside County is still in the dark ages, requiring a special event permit for every day they wish to operate.

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#### Kevin's Corner - Continued from Page 1

I've been approached by many constituents who have wanted to purchase a food truck and start their own business, but have been frustrated by the county's ridiculous regulations. On Tuesday, June 25th, we will now be hosting a free food truck festival from 8am-2pm right in the parking lot of the County Administration Building in Downtown Riverside. On that same day, I intend to announce my proposals to legalize gourmet food trucks in Riverside County that will protect public safety and public health, but make it possible for people to create new jobs and feed Riverside residents some of the gourmet food options all our neighbors have enjoyed for years.

Two opportunities for local businesses (or potential businesses) to learn ways to expand and build/sell/hire more are coming up in June. On Thursday, June 6, from 9-11:30, I am hosting a World Trade and Investment Summit in Lake Elsinore, where you can come learn how to obtain financing for exports and how the county can assist you in finding targeted markets for your products. And on Thursday, June 27th, from 8am to noon, you can attend the Riverside County Small Business Expo in Moreno Valley, where county and state agencies will help small businesses learn how to contract with government agencies, get certified as vendors, and give tips on how to take advantage of some of the upcoming growth, particularly in the transportation sector.

Information on all three events (food trucks, trade, and small business) is on the back page of this newsletter, or you can contact our office at 951-955-1010.

Sincerely,

Kevin Jeffries

#### First District Youth Advisory Council Recruits Students

High school students are being sought to volunteer for Riverside County's First District Youth Advisory Council.

Participants in the Youth Advisory Council earn community service hours for their schools and help Supervisor Kevin Jeffries identify issues that are important to local youth.

Participation on the council also gives high school students an opportunity to become involved in the countywide Youth Advisory Commission, which

The First District youth council has participated in the creation of a student resource fair, a book drive and help out at various community events. Applications are now available for the 2013-2014 school year. All high school students in the First District are eligible to apply.

advises the Board of Supervisors on policies that affects teens.

For more information or to apply, contact Kayla Benites at (951) 955-0618 or at KBenites@rcbos.org

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#### **Supervisor Success Stories**



Each month this column will highlight recent successes in Supervisor Jeffries' Office, whether it is assistance for a single citizen dealing with the county bureaucracy, a change in county policy to improve our community, or a promise kept by the Supervisor.

#### Promise Kept!

Job creation was one of the key issues driving Kevin's campaign for Supervisor. One specific promise he made was to "repeal the sun tax" that had been levied on solar energy producers in the county, stalling the creation of thousands of jobs in the county.

On June 21st, the Board of Supervisors voted to settle the lawsuit with the solar industry, repealing the unfair and likely illegal tax, and replacing it with a lower fee that will pay for the impacts of the development, but still allow these businesses to move forward with their projects and begin creating new jobs in Riverside County.

#### **Lakeland Village Safety Improvements**

Making public safety his number one priority, Supervisor Jeffries wanted to address the numerous traffic collisions (including several fatalities) occurring on Grand Avenue in Lakeland Village. While he is working on several long-term solutions to the safety issues, Supervisor Jeffries also wanted something done immediately. As a result of his discussions with County Transportation officials, during the first week in May, four digital speed display signs were posted on Grand Avenue. These signs are far from a complete solution to the problems on Grand, but they do help to assure that drivers are aware of the speed limit and focus drivers on safer driving until we can implement permanent safety improvements.

#### Community Clean-ups

In the past few weeks, several major clean-up efforts have been made in the 1st District. Two planned public Dumpster Days were held in Mead Valley and Good Hope / Meadowbrook, where hundreds of residents brought in over 75 tons of trash and 52 tons of tires to be disposed of. When our office received a call about the increasing amounts of garbage accumulating in a section of Temescal Canyon near the I-15, our staff worked with Code Enforcement, who brought an inmate clean-up crew out there and collected a full truckload of garbage, debris and 30 tires from the side of the road and vacant lots along Temescal Canyon Road between Lawson Road and Dawson Canyon Road.

#### Let Your Voice Be Heard On Local Transit Issues

Mass transit serves many in our community, from college students to senior citizens, to those who cannot afford their own vehicle to get to work. In the few months I have been in office, we have heard many concerns about the need



for more bus routes and bus stops, especially in areas like Mead Valley and Temescal Canyon (where there are no stops at all).

RTA is currently undergoing a Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) which includes a community survey aspect. The survey and COA website are now available and can be accessed by clicking the following link: <a href="http://www.riversidetransit.tmdinc.net/">http://www.riversidetransit.tmdinc.net/</a>.

I would encourage you to please visit the website and fill out the survey whether you currently ride the bus or not. RTA wants to hear not only how they can better serve current customers, but also how they can overcome barriers that prevent non-riders from taking the bus. More surveys filled out give RTA a more complete understanding of our region's transit needs.

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#### County Boards and Commissions Appointee Profile

Each month, the Jeffries Journal will highlight one of the Supervisor's nearly 100 appointees on Boards and Commissions in the county, to provide an insight into the kind of service opportunities that exist, and the people who have chosen to serve.

#### Amie Kinne Riverside County Parks District Advisory Commission

Amie was first appointed to the District Advisory Commission in 2012, and is a resident of Temescal Canyon. Under the jurisdiction of the Parks and Open Space District, The DAC generally meets bi-monthly on the first Thursday of the following months: January, March, May, July, September and November. The agenda gives the meeting location. Occasionally the meeting date will change, and the agenda will reflect the new date. For more information about the commission, you can visit their website here: www.rivcoparks.org/about-us/district-advisory-commission/district-advisory-commission-main/



#### What does your commission do?

The purpose of the Commission is to advise and make recommendations to the Board concerning the planning, acquisition, development, and use of parks and open space in unincorporated portions of Riverside County. Additionally, the Commission is to advise the Board on matters relating to the acquisition, development, maintenance, and promotion of regional recreation trails in the County, and matters relating to the conservation and propagation of fish and game in the County.

#### What interested you in the commission?

My interest in serving is attributed to my strong connection with nature and the outdoors. After serving on the Trails Committee for numerous years, I wanted to help give people the opportunity to enjoy outdoor space beyond trails (although they're very important to me). I am proud at how hard everyone works to make this a better community and am excited for projects coming in the future.

#### Advisory Committee on Substance Abuse - Opening

Membership for this committee is comprised of professionals from the following groups: social services, education, law enforcement, health and the judiciary. If you represent one of these five professions and are interesting in serving on the Advisory Committee on Substance Abuse, please contact Robin Reid in my office at (951) 955-1010



Supervisor Jeffries
speaking at the
Temescal Valley
MAC and the
Lake Elsinore
Citizens Committee
Meetings in May.



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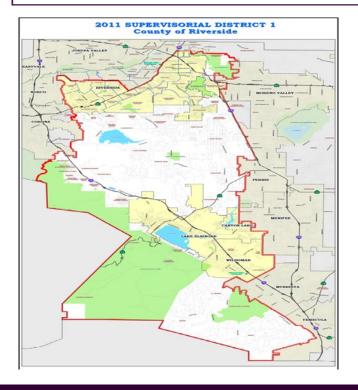
#### Non Profit Spotlight

The Riverside Area Rape Crisis Center (RARCC) is proud to celebrate its 40th Anniversary this year! RARCC Serves the Communities of Banning, Beaumont, Corona, Jurupa, Lake



Elsinore, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Norco, Perris Valley, Riverside and Temecula. Founded in 1973, RARCC provides services to victims of sexual assault and their families. These services include a 24-hour crisis hotline, hospital and/or court accompaniment, and in-person crisis counseling. RARCC also provides Primary Prevention Community Education Outreach programs. The Agency sees approximately 25,000 children and adults annually as part of their Community Education programs presented throughout their service area of Western Riverside County. These presentations run the full spectrum of age groups from preschoolers to senior citizens. They can include self-defense classes for children and women, My Strength Clubs for high school boys, Be Strong Clubs for high school girls, In Touch With Teens for both boys and girls, What Constitutes Sexual Harassment, and presentations that promote the development of pro-social skills aimed at preventing violence of all types by all people.

The RARCC also provides a variety of volunteering opportunities that include certification as a Crisis Counselor, becoming a member of the Agency's Speakers' Bureau, serving on internal committees, assisting with fundraising or serving as a member of the Board of Directors. If you are interested in volunteering, obtaining more information or scheduling a presentation, contact the Agency at (951) 686-7273, or, visit www.rarcc.org, or, even better, stop by their office at 1845 Chicago Ave., Suite A, Riverside, CA 92507 and meet their incredible staff.



#### First District Profile



Kevin Jeffries was elected in November 2012 to represent the residents of the 1st Supervisorial District on the Riverside County Board of Supervisors. This district covers the cities of Riverside, Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake, and Wildomar, and unincorporated communities including Woodcrest, Lake Mathews, Mead Valley, Temescal Valley, Good Hope, Lakeland Village, El Cariso, Meadowbrook, La Cresta, and DeLuz

# Upcoming Events June 2013





