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



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# Jeffries Journal

Volume I, Issue 10

#### November 2013

## Kevin's Corner

### Thanksgiving

With the Holidays upon us – your focus is most likely on family and friends and not politics (good for you!). So in the spirit of THANKS with a touch of personal and politics – Here's what I'm thankful for...

- I'm thankful for the voters who have given me the chance to represent the 1<sup>st</sup> District.
- I'm even thankful for the voters who didn't vote for me but who are giving me the chance to prove myself.
- I'm thankful that I already feel like I've been able to accomplish more in 11 months within this non-partisan Board than I was able to accomplish in six years of partisan gridlock in Sacramento!
- I'm thankful for my fellow Board Members, who have been willing to consider the new ideas and reforms we have put forward, and can disagree with each other with civility and respect.
- I'm very thankful for my staff but if I say more they will want a raise for working 6 days a week.
- I'm thankful for the agency heads that keep me informed and are willing to implement reforms to improve customer service and protect taxpayer funds.
- I'm thankful for the many county employees who are dedicated, professional and customer service oriented.
- I'm thankful for all the non-profit organizations who are doing their part to help Riverside County in ways the government either can't or won't.
- I'm thankful that the private sector is finally showing signs of some recovery, though we still have a long ways to go, and there is still much we can do to make it easier for employers to bring new jobs to our communities.
- I'm thankful for all the business employers who have chosen to build and expand their businesses here and create jobs.

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

• I'm especially thankful for my wife Chris, who has stuck with me through over 31 years of marriage, and who has done a wonderful job of standing by me in my public service, as well as doing an amazing amount of work keeping our private businesses alive and well.

There are many other things I am thankful for, but since one of the other things I am always thankful for is people who keep their speeches, comments, presentations, and articles short, I will stop here. With all the holidays and receptions and vacations ahead, I'm not sure if we will have a December edition of this newsletter, so if I don't get the opportunity, I hope you and your family have a blessed holiday season and look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in the New Year.

Sincerely,

#### **Kevin Jeffries**

PS: Please consider coming to our Board of Supervisors Holiday Reception and Toy Drive on Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, from 4-6 here on the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor of the County Administrative Center in Downtown Riverside. **(Please see our flyer at the end of the newsletter)** We are partnering with the Sparks of Love Toy Drive, so if you are able to bring an unwrapped toy or sporting goods equipment, it is much appreciated (though certainly not required).



## Help Free the Food Trucks-Hearing December 10th!

Regular readers of this newsletter know that Supervisor Jeffries has made it a priority to eliminate the anti-small business regulations that make it almost impossible to own and operate a food truck in Riverside County. In the Board of Supervisors meeting today, they voted to set an official hearing on December 10th to change this ordinance and start licensing and regulating food trucks in Riverside County. This will help residents who wish to own a truck, as well as non-profits, schools, and businesses who wish to have a food truck (or food trucks) at their events or facilities to help raise money or to simply feed their employees without having to wade through the county bureaucracy every time they wish to do so.

This proposal would NOT simply legalize every truck in Southern California. Riverside's ordinance would have the strictest standards in the state, and would not grandfather in the old "roach coach" style trucks from the 70's and 80's as other counties have done. Every truck would be required to comply with the California Retail Food Code, with modern refrigeration, three compartment sinks, employee food handling certifications, letter grade inspections from the Department of Environmental Health, and other safe-guards to protect public health and safety.

If you are a resident of Riverside County and are a person who would like to own a food truck, or are a non-profit that would like to host fundraisers with food trucks, or a business who would like them to be able to come to your facility, or you are just a resident who would like to see more interesting food options in the county, please sign the petition at http://www.change.org/petitions/riverside-county-board-of-supervisors-allow-mobile-food-trucks-in-riverside-county-ca. You can also find information there on how to contact your supervisor directly and ask them (politely, please!) to support our efforts to Free the Food Trucks! And if you are free to come to the Board of Supervisors meeting on December 10th to speak on behalf of the ordinance, that would be appreciated as well!

#### HOLIDAY SHOPPING SAFETY

As the Christmas holiday approaches we know that many of our residents will be traveling out of town to visit family and friends. We would like to remind all citizens of some basic safety tips that can help keep you and your valuables safe and may keep you from becoming a victim of crime.

#### Here are some safety tips when out shopping:

· Park in well-lit areas

- $\cdot$  Shop with a friend or family member, it is safer and more fun.
- $\cdot$  If you're shopping with large amounts of cash, spread it out in two locations. For example: your purse and wallet or your pocket and hand bag.

• Always keep your purse and wallet on you; never leave it unattended in the shopping basket.

· Keep your receipts separate from your merchandise bags in case they

are stolen; you will have proof of purchase and ownership.



• Don't let the customer behind you make you feel rushed. Take the time to put your money and receipts away before leaving the counter.

· Have your keys ready when you leave the store, so you are not distracted while digging for them.

• Put the purchased items in your trunk. Don't leave them exposed on your seats in the vehicle or the rear of an SUV. Keep the purchased items covered up.

• Pay attention to your surroundings. Don't be afraid to report suspicious activity in the parking lot or store, call 911.

· Make sure you always lock your vehicle when you get in it or when you walk away from it.

## 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.

## *Elsinore Valley Cemetery District Tim Underdown, Trustee/Chairman*

#### What does the Lake Elsinore Cemetery District do?

The Elsinore Valley Cemetery District is a public cemetery that offers affordable burials to the residents and taxpayers within the district. Our mission is to focus on the memorial needs of our community with honor, dignity compassion and care in an environment of beauty and serenity. A person must meet the requirements in the California health & safety code for burial eligibility. When a person meets eligibility, the cost of service is determined by residency. Charges for each case may be different. Please contact the cemetery office at (951) 674-2418 for the exact charges.



#### What interested you in serving on the Lake Elsinore Cemetery District?

What interested me in becoming a trustee is when I heard that Riverside County was looking into merging the Elsinore Valley Cemetery District with the Wildomar Cemetery District. I decided to apply and try to become a trustee to get a better understanding of why the two unique cemeteries would want to merge. Once appointed I started attending cemetery conferences, special district conferences, trainings and workshops that focused on special districts in California and now hold several certificates of completed training for special districts. I have been attending these workshops now for 5 years as a trustee and am currently chairman of the board for Elsinore Valley Cemetery District. Recently we voted to change from a three member board to a five member board to better serve the public. We have also recently contracted Denice Enoch's as our new District Manager to better serve the public. She brings many years of experience with her and has brought our cemetery to a place we want to be for the future. Our biggest event of the year is of course Memorial Day. We hope everyone can join us on this day so you the public can see first hand what a great job and how much pride our groundsmen take in caring for this beautiful cemetery.

Respectfully, Tim Underdown, EVCD Trustee/ Chairman

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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.

#### Major Drug Bust!

After years of problems of drug activity in Lakeland Village, Supervisor Jeffries personally asked the Sheriff to investigate one particular problem area. Riverside County Sheriff's Department's Lake Elsinore Station followed up with directed enforcement operations in the area. As a result of this action, 25 arrests were made, 18 citations were issued, and 8 vehicles were impounded. The Riverside County Gang Task Force and Southwest Corridor Narcotic Task Force assisted in the enforcement effort.

#### **Turkeys for Hungry Families**

Using discretionary funds from his 1<sup>st</sup> District budget, 400 (12lb-14lb) turkeys were distributed to poor families in the community through 10 organizations in the 1<sup>st</sup> District, including the Arlanza Community Center, Casa Blanca Home of Neighborly Service, Community Settlement Association in Riverside, Good Hope Community Center, HOPE in Lake Elsinore, Janet Goeske Center in Riverside, Centro de Niños through Latino Network in Riverside, Mead Valley Community Center, Newman Center in Riverside, Queen of Angels in Riverside, and Whiteside Manor in Riverside.

#### Pet Hospital Assistance

Amber's Pet Hospital has provided emergency veterinary services to the Temescal Canyon area from their location on Pulsar Court in the Wild Rose Industrial Park for several years. When a new larger space opened up fronting Temescal Canyon Road, they jumped on the opportunity not only to upgrade their space, but to increase their offerings by providing overnight kennel services. However, with their existing lease term ending and the Holidays rapidly approaching they needed to move quickly.

They reached out to Supervisor's Office and County Planning Staff and were able to receive approval by the Planning Commission on November 20<sup>th</sup> --less than 30 days after filing a complete CUP application! The matter is scheduled to be heard by the full Board on December 3<sup>rd</sup> which would allow nearly a full month for this business to relocate, permit and construct tenant improvements and continue to provide services to their customers throughout the Holiday season.

**Jeffries Journal** 

## Non Profit Spotlight HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat for Humanity Riverside is part of a global, nonprofit housing organization operated on Christian principles that seek to put God's love into action by building homes, communities and hope. Habitat for Humanity Riverside is dedicated to eliminate substandard housing locally and worldwide through constructing, rehabilitating and preserving homes; by advocating for fair and just housing policies; and by providing training and access to resources to help families improve their shelter conditions. Habitat for Humanity was founded on the conviction that every man, woman and child should have a simple, durable place to live in dignity and safety, and that decent communities should be a matter of conscience and action for all.



Habitat for Humanity Riverside has an open-door policy: All who believe that everyone needs a decent, affordable place to live are welcome to help with the work, regardless of race, religion, age, gender, political

views or any of the other distinctions that too often divide people. In short, Habitat welcomes volunteers and supporters from all backgrounds and also serves people in need of decent housing regardless of race or religion. As a matter of policy, Habitat for Humanity International and its affiliated organizations do not proselytize. This means that Habitat will not offer assistance on the expressed or implied condition that people must adhere to or convert to a particular faith, or listen and respond to messaging designed to induce conversion to a particular faith.

For more information, visit <u>http://www.habitatriverside.org/</u>



#### **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, Tenaja, and DeLuz

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#### **Jeffries Journal**

RIVERSIDE COUNTY SUPERVISOR KEVIN JEFFRIES AND HIS YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL AND THE MEAD VALLEY COMMUNI' INVITE YOU TO ATTEND THE 7TH ANNUAL

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#### Mead Valley BREAKFAST WITH SANTA & HIS ELVES

#### December 7, 2013 9am -12pm

Mead Valley Community Center 21091 Rider Street Perris CA, 92570

#### **FREE ADMISSION!!**

Bring your camera to take a picture with Santa!!

The Riverside County Board of Supervisors Cordially Invite You To A Holiday Open House L Toy Drive

Riverside County Administrative Center, 5th Floor 4080 Lemon Street Riverside, CA 92501

> December 16, 2013 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Hors d'oeuvres & Refreshments will be provided

Immediately Following - Please join the Supervisors as they attend the Riverside County Sheriffs Annual Holiday Blue Light Ceremony on the First Floor at the County Administrative Center at 6pm. The Ceremony honors all Riverside County officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

We are joining with Riverside County Fire Department in supporting the Spark of Love Toy Drive at our reception. It is not a requirement for admission, but if you are able, please bring a new unwrapped toy or sports caujingment for underprivileged children in our region. If you are unable to attend the reception, donations are accepted at all CDF /Riverside County Fire stations throughout the county.





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