# SUPERVISOR KEVIN JEFFRIES RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT #1



### Inside this issue:

| Kevin's Corner | 1 |
|----------------|---|
|                |   |

| Kevin's Corner | 2 |
|----------------|---|
| Continued      |   |

| Student of the Year | 2 |
|---------------------|---|
| Awards              |   |

| Student | of the | Year |  |
|---------|--------|------|--|
| Awards  | cont.  |      |  |

| County Boards | & |
|---------------|---|
| Commissions   |   |

| Supervisor | Success |  |
|------------|---------|--|
| Stories    |         |  |

| Success Stories | 6 |
|-----------------|---|
| Continued       |   |

| Non Profit of the | 7 |
|-------------------|---|
| Month             |   |

| District | Profile | 7 |
|----------|---------|---|
|----------|---------|---|

| <b>Jpcoming</b> | District | 8 |
|-----------------|----------|---|
| Events          |          |   |

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# Jeffries Journal

Volume 2, Issue 6

June 2014

# **Kevin's Corner**

During my many years as a Riverside County Volunteer Firefighter, the volunteer fire engine I was often responsible for staffing was regularly dispatched to other communities because the local fire engine had been sent to a nearby fire. Our job was to fill in and help protect the community until the local fire engine could return. While we were at whatever community fire station we had been assigned to, we had a motto: "Leave it better than you found it." Basically, clean-it-up and fix-it-up before you leave.

In the political world of elected officials (politicians), you can find some similarities. Wouldn't it be interesting if the oath of office that every elected official took included a requirement to Leave it Better Than You Found It? Pretty much every elected official inherits the decisions and the consequences of the policies and priorities that the previous official set in motion. Those decisions typically started with budget votes. What to fund – what to cut? Police, fire, schools, roads, parks, jails, trails, graffiti removal, animal control, community centers, libraries, health services, recreation – the list goes on. Should taxes be raised? Can consolidations save taxpayer funds? Should a specific service be provided by government employees, or a private business, or perhaps a non-profit?

Our quality of life is also impacted by short and long term planning. Where should new homes be built, where should office and retail stores be located, and what about the large warehouses? Are we going to add parks and community centers? Will the roads and freeways handle the increased traffic? Leave It Better Than You Found It isn't easy and it is rarely cheap.

Riverside County, like many other counties and cities, is coping with many of the very budget and planning decisions described above. The decisions made today can have lasting impacts – much like the budget and policy decisions made during the recent "Great Recession" are significantly impacting today's services to our growing communities. For example, supporting the current spending plan for jails in this county could handcuff (pun intended) Supervisors' budget decisions for at least the next five years, with all new revenues in the county going to the Sheriff. But we are being told that we need to do this now because, for a variety of reasons, the county failed to build new sufficient jail space in the last 20 years.

To be clear, this column is in no way intended to be an indictment of my predecessor or of my fellow Board Members today that served before I got here. There are many good things that exist in this county because of the hard work they have done in the past. For instance— the improvements you see being built on the 91 and 215 today were set in motion years ago. And the difficult work my predecessor and the Board did on pension reform saved this county from a near certain budget collapse in the not-too-distant future. But the pay raises given in those same negotiations are starting to kick in now, which directly affects the money we have available today. It is what it is, and all of these actions create the situations and opportunities, that we are faced with today, and it is up to you and me to attempt to set the course for the future.

Continued on page 2

Page 2 Jeffries Journal

Kevin's Corner continued...

My recent vote to oppose the county budget was not about opposing an irresponsible budget that was imbalanced, or relied on new taxes and fees like those I used to fight against in the Legislature—because this budget was neither of those things. My vote was about the need to begin changing our budget direction away from the crisis management model that has dominated the last seven years or so (largely by necessity), and shift towards a budget that puts our communities first. A budget can simply preserve the status-quo and maintain government institutions in the same fashion they have operated for 20 years, or the budget can be a policy vehicle to change priorities, push for reforms, consolidations, accountability, and a renewed focus on serving and/or protecting our neighborhoods.

I recognize that the fiscal realities of today don't allow a massive shift in priorities in a single year, but I believe it is important to start that process, even if it is just the creation of a subsistence level of funding for community services in this county that we can build on in the future. Some will be upset by my dissent on this budget, while others will wonder, "what took you so long?" Regardless of the comments I receive, or concerns that are expressed, I am committed to representing the voters to the bureaucracy — not the other way around. In this way, I hope to some day leave the 1st District and this county better than the way I found it.

Respectfully, Kevin Jeffries



Manuel Real Elementary in Mead Valley

# Student of Year Awards

In collaboration with the principals, teachers and counselors, Supervisor Jeffries was excited to honor one student from each grade in participating elementary schools as well as one senior from each participating high school in District 1.

Staff attended and presented each student with a certificate and gift card (\$5 to each elementary student and \$25 Amazon gift card to each senior). Congratulations to all recipients.

Page 3 Jeffries Journal

# **Elementary Schools**

#### Columbia Elementary

Kindergarten- Abigail Ordaz-Ist Grade- Jane Epifanio 2nd Grade- Pedro Rodriguez 3rd Grade- Valerie Martinez 4th Grade- Angelee Thavisay

### **Cornerstone Christian**

Kindergarten- Nicole Bocalig Ist Grade- Sienna Linares 2nd Grade- Garrett Phelix 3rd Grade- Selena Richardson 4th Grade- Daniel Rodriguez 5th Grade- Dominic Cortes

#### Lake Hills Elementary

Transitional Kinder- Genesis Berganza Kindergarten- Natalie Chhim First Grade- Macy Lee Second Grade- Marissa Torres Third Grade- Royce Felten Fourth Grade- Sally Huynh Fifth Grade:- Summer Dill

### Lake Mathews Elementary

Kindergarten- Dashiell DeAnda Ist Grade- Juliet Tilden 2nd Grade- Allie Elizarraras 3rd Grade- Andrew Rudd 4th Grade- Julia Thompson 5th Grade- Rachel Meloni 6th Grade- Kirollos Soliman

### Lakeland Village Middle

Ist Grade- Katelyn Loeung 2nd Grade- Mariyah Macedo 3rd Grade- Parker Ghent & Elizabeth Medina 4th Grade- Karen Dilley & Jon Lower III 5th Grade- Kayla Marie Cook-Steagall & Evan Janse 6th Grade- Danah Davis & Hector Orozco

7th grade- Citlali Romero & Diego Lopez 8th Grade- Brian Lloyd P. Battad & Mikaela Fischer

### **Woodcrest Elementary**

Kindergarten- Crystal Valladares Ist Grade- Ayodele "Dele" Odulate 2nd Grade- Paul Mungia Jr. 3rd Grade- Peyton Dyer 4th Grade- Nickolas Sanchez 5th Grade- Annalise Waggener 6th Grade- Amber Crowder

### **Manuel Real Elementary**

Kindergarten- Natalia R. Garcia Ist Grade- Julian I. Marrujo 2nd Grade- Diego Mercado 3rd Grade- Jocelynn R. Henderson 4th Grade- Cristina Ramos 5th Grade- Kate A. Rojas

### **Mead Valley Elementary**

Kindergarten- Alexandra Perez Ist Grade- Samantha Carrier 2nd Grade- Nataly Gonzalez 3rd Grade- Jacob Herrera 4th Grade- Desmond Leary 5th Grade- Roberto Perez

### **Temescal Elementary**

Kindergarten- Sammie Fikse Ist Grade- Cooper Ruiz 2nd Grade- Julian Rayford 3rd Grade- Aubree Corral 4th Grade- Madysen Legere 5th Grade- Michael Reider 6th Grade- Gracie Lantz



Woodcrest Elementary

# **High Schools**

California Lutheran School Emma Plocher

Elsinore High School Nathan Turner

John W. North High School Liang Zhou

**Keith McCarthy Academy** Lauren Peick

La Sierra High School Simon Kersse

Martin Luther King High School Jessica Chaoui

Ortega Continuation High School

Rolando Quintanilla De Rosa

**Arlington High School** Sidney R. Aguirre

Cornerstone Christian Megan Pastrallo

Poly High School Philine Endres

**Riverside Christian School** Elise Schaefer

RUSD Educational Options Center, Riverside Virtual

Janna Corby -Potter

**Temescal Canyon High School** Brienne Finch

Woodcrest Christian High School Elijah Danielsen Page 4 Jeffries Journal

# **County Boards and Commissions**



# **Commission for Women** *Cheri Curzon, Commissioner*

### What does the Commission for Women do?:

The Commission for Women serves as an advocacy group for the issues surrounding women in our communities. The Commission engages in forums to foster discussion about current and pressing issues faced by women today.

### What encouraged you to get involved with the Commission for Women?:

I was involved in two other organizations that advocate for women, the YWCA of Riverside County and the Riverside Area Rape Crisis Center. At that time, I helped each organization with events. The Riverside County Commission for Women wanted to put on a child safety event and I was contacted to see if I wanted to help organize it. Not long after the event, I saw an article in the PE where, then, Supervisor Bob Buster was looking for a Commissioner for the First District. The Commission's goals and activities went hand-in-hand with my interests regarding women, children and families in our communities. The application process went smoothly and I was appointed, one of two new Commissioners for District One in 2004.

The experience of being a Commissioner for the past nine years (two as the chair) has been an honor and privilege that I will cherish always. Though I will miss being on the Commission, amazing women are representing all the other Districts and I know Supervisor Jefferies will replace me with someone just as passionate.

Page 5 Jeffries Journal

# **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.

### New Signs Welcome Residents, Highlight Community Center.

The communities of Mead Valley and Good Hope were recently the recipients of new signs which welcomed visitors to the community of Mead Valley, displaying the current population as well as the elevation of the valley.

In Good Hope, news signs were installed to show residents and newcomers alike how to locate the Good Hope Community Center on Steele Peak Drive, next to the county fire station.

Many residents have contacted our office to express their thanks for advocating for the new signs. As one resident stated, "It's been a long time coming!"





## **Mead Valley Community Center Gets Funds to Fix Day Care Center**

The Mead Valley Community Center is a beautiful building and the park outside is very popular, but there have been ongoing problems in fully utilizing the facility. One of the last remaining issues is that despite the \$20+ million price tag, the attached child care center was not designed to meet state licensing specifications. With the construction budget exhausted and ongoing disputes with the contractor, a new source of funding was needed to fix the child care center so that this vital service can once again be provided for the community.

Last week, Supervisor Jeffries, working with the EDA Facilities Management team, was able to help obtain a \$300,000 grant from state tobacco tax dollars through the First Five Children and Families Commission to fix and furnish the center and bring it up to state standards, so that child care might finally be available by the end of the summer!

Page 6 Jeffries Journal

# Supervisor Success Stories cont...





**Additional Parking Added To Park And Community Center** 

Transportation & Land Management Agency (TLMA) recently added another first district project to the completion list with paving improvements and the addition of new parking stalls at the Good Hope Community Center and Park. This is the first phase in the much anticipated renovation of the existing park. Plans for the new park design are set to be released soon which have included direct input from several local residents.

Management of the Community Center and Park recently was also transferred over to the Riverside County Parks Department and increased programs are on the horizon.



Page 7 Jeffries Journal

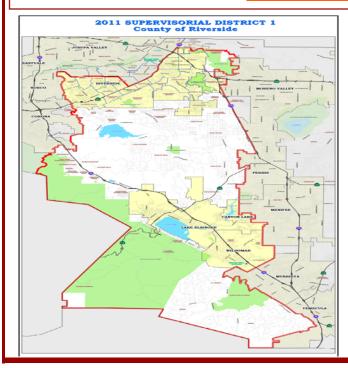
# Non Profit Spotlight WILDOMAR ROTARY



Founded in 2008, the Rotary Club of Wildomar is a diverse group of community leaders, entrepreneurs and concerned citizens dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in Wildomar and beyond. The Rotary Club of Wildomar has participated in many community projects, including providing dictionaries to 3rd graders in Wildomar schools, sponsoring students for RYLA camp, Dignity Bags for Women Against Child Trafficking, filling backpacks with food for local students, Rotarians at Work Day, Bicycle Safety events, sponsor for Canine Support Teams service dogs and much more.

Rotary Club of Wildomar was awarded Non-Profit of the Year for 2011 and 2013 by the Wildomar Chamber of Commerce. The Club meets on Thursdays at 11:30am at Stadium Pizza, 32278 Clinton Keith Rd, Wildomar. Guests are welcome. You'll have fun meeting and networking with local people who uphold high professional standards and ethics, while knowing you're making good things happen in Wildomar and around the world. On Thursday, June 26, 2014, Canine Support Teams will be visiting the Club with a local veteran and his new service dog that has been sponsored by the Rotary Club of Wildomar. Also, mark your calendars for April 11, 2015 for the Club's signature event, the Ultimate BBQ Showdown East vs. West BBQ competition.

www.clubrunner.com/wildomar



### 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 Page 8 Jeffries Journal

## We're on the MOVE MONDAYS HURSDAYS

9:30 am - 10:30 am Good Hope Community Center 21565 Steele Peak Perris

11:30 am -12:30 pm Rob Reiner Cent 2221 S. A Street Parris

1:30 pm to 3:00 pm Wildomar Senior Center 32325 S. Pasadena Street Wildomar

### TUESDAYS

9:00 am - 11:00 am

Deleo Park 25655 Santiago Canyon Road Temescal Valley

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Aguanga Post Office 45140 Highway 79 Aguanga

information contact the Perris Library at 951-657-2358

### **Western County** Bookmobile 2014 Schedule

### WEDNESDAYS

9:00 am - 11:00 am Brookfield Park Winchester & Pourroy Winchester

2:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Project Lift Resource Center 29210 Goetz Road Quail Valley

10:00 am - 12 noon

San Jacinto Community College Menifee Campus 28237 La Piedra Road Menifee

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm Val Verde Elementar 2656 Indian Avenue

### FRIDAYS

10:00-12:00 p.m.

Country Villa Senior Apartments 10250 Country Club Dr Mira Loma

1:30-3:30 p.m. Lake Mathews Fire Statio 16453 El Sobrante Road







at the Western Riverside Animal Shelter

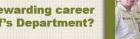
Two separate weeks!

Week 1: July 14-18

The Zany Zoo



Looking for a rewarding career with the Sheriff's Department?



**Riverside County Sheriff's Department** RESOURCE AND CAREER FAI

JULY 12, 2014 ~ 8:00AM - 12:00PM

PALM DESERT STATION

73705 Gerald Ford Dr., Palm Desert CA 92260

PRESENTATIONS WILL BE EVERY 30 MINUTES

Speak with Sheriff's recruiters, along with other current employees to learn more about open opportunities with the Sheriff's Department.

Many positions are available, such as Deputy Sheriff Trainee, Correctional Deputy, Correctional Cook, Accounting Assistant, Office Assistant, and other clerical support positions.

**OPENINGS ACROSS THE COUNTY** IN PALM DESERT, INDIO, BLYTHE, AND THE RIVERSIDE AREA

Interested applicants must pre-register at:

HRSheriffRecruiter@rc-hr.com or at 1(888) JoinRSD



www.JoinRSD.org FOR MORE INFORMATION SCAN QR CODE



