### SUPERVISOR KEVIN JEFFRIES RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT #1



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# Jeffries Journal

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# Kevin's Corner

**Tank Battles:** For our rural or large lot land owners - the business of regulating homeowner septic tanks is about to become a bit more messy. If you own vacant land in a rural community that does NOT already have a city-style sewer collection system, you need to know that the State of California has decided that additional regulations need to be imposed that could drastically impact some landowners.

Our County Environmental Health Department has briefed my office that a statewide regulatory effort is underway that requires all counties to negotiate with the

local Regional Water Quality Control Boards (state created agencies) to implement new regulations that will impose minimum lot size requirements for anyone who owns a large vacant parcel and plans to split it into several lots and build a home or two (or more). Under the not-yet-released standards, a newly created lot will have to be a minimum of 2.5 acres per home, or be able to connect to a municipal sewer system. A newly created lot under 2.5 acres could possibly obtain approval, however a very expensive on-site advanced wastewater treatment system will likely be required to prove that the future home or business will not adversely impact the local ground water.



Related

Currently approved lots will be exempt from the 2.5 acre minimum, but an advanced on-site treatment system might still be required (\$\$\$). This is strange direction from a state whose other environmentally driven planning mandates on local government discourage large lots/sprawl and encourage higher density! Stay tuned – more regulations from above to come.

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**Budget 101:** I vaguely recall that during one of my early high school classes, we were taught how to manage a checkbook. One of the basic requirements the teacher shared with a classroom of pimple-faced teenagers was that you had to have enough money coming into the account to pay for the expenses going out of the account. That basic common sense instruction was one of the few things that stuck with me and has served me well – both in business and personally. What I continue to find intriguing and frustrating is how well government ignores that basic 8th grade teaching. Now to be fair, running a multi -billion dollar government entity is a bit more complicated, and a lot can go wrong and catch you off guard. The depth and length of the somewhat recent "Great Recession" caught a lot of families, businesses and government entities by surprise. But our California economy has been rebounding and helping many get out of the red and into the black. The big notable exception is government. Our county government has had several back-to-back deficits – using one-time funds and reserves to fill in the red ink holes. Now I'm not an economist, nor a CPA, but it seems logical to me that at some point the onetime funds and reserves will either not be enough or they will run dry. Either way, something has to be done, and done quickly (especially given that our economy runs in cycles and right now we are in the good times). Since the county budget is really too large to try to evaluate all at once in a single budget workshop, as we've done in the past, I came up with this brilliant idea (that I totally stole from the state legislature—one of the few things I thought they did right) to create smaller budget sub-committees, in order to allow the Board of Supervisors to drill down into the budgets of various county departments in a more methodical manner. Little did I know just how foolish that idea was! The phrase "tarred and feathered" comes to mind. What made it worse was that I lost my own cool in the process. To all you fiscal conservatives (Democrat, Republican or otherwise), I apologize for not winning one for the Gipper this time, but if you want to watch me crash & burn on the dais, check out the video at: www.supervisorjeffries.com, on our District 1 TV video clip.

Respectfully, Kevin Jeffries

#### The County of Riverside Regsitrar of Voters is seeking Election Officers

### Help deliver democracy... And make money doing it!

All Election Officers must be able to read and write English [EC12303(a)]

To be an Election Officer the following requirements must be met:

- Must be a resident of <u>California</u>
- Must be 18 years old on or before Election Day

Students 16+ may work as election Officers but have additional requirements.

Election Day begins at 6:15 a.m. and ends at approximately 9:00 p.m.

### APPLY TODAY

Each Polling place is staffed by 4 Election Officers and currently the stipends are:

- \$125 for Inspectors (Experience required)
- \$90 for Precinct Officers (Experience Not Required)
- You will also receive an additional \$20 stipend for attending the required Election Officer <u>Training class</u>. NOTE: You must work the election in order to be paid the training stipend.

For more information please go online to www.voteinfo.net/EOapp.asp or simply call (951) 486-7200, M-F, 8am-5pm.



# **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.



# Mark Balys, Commissioner Regional Parks and Open Space District Advisory Commission

### What does your commission do?

The Riverside County Regional Park and Open Space District provides a wide array of parks, community centers, recreation facilities, and historic sites that meet the needs of Riverside County residents and visitors. Our Regional Parks and Open Space District Advisory Commission is comprised of appointed volunteers representing each of Riverside County's five supervisorial districts. The Commission provides administrative input to Park District Management staff and makes formal recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding various matters impacting recreation throughout the county.

### What interested you in serving on the board?

Having retired from the Riverside County Planning Department after 35 years of service, I saw many changes in the county. Population and housing growth occurred along with the formation of new cities. The development of a comprehensive general plan, along with a multi-species habitat plan identified the geographic areas necessary for the protection of open space and endangered species. As our population grew, so did the need for parks and recreation areas and the ability to protect historic sites and sensitive areas. In addition to preserving wildlife habitat, our parks provide vital green space along with open areas, trails, and other facilities that are critical to providing Riverside County communities with places for families and friends to socialize, exercise, and relax. As a member of the Riverside County Regional Park and Recreation Commission, I am able to use my planning skills and knowledge of our county to provide input on the administration of our county-wide parks and recreation system.

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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.

# Moses-Schaffer Community Center Keeping Busy

Recently a NEW ice machine was delivered to the Moses-Schaffer community center in Good Hope. The old machine had been there for years and it was a anyone's guess if it was going to work on a daily basis.

(right) Also, GAMEDAY is bringing out many local residents to the center on Thursdays. Be sure you stop by and visit. If you have questions about what events are happening at the center please feel free to call (951) 943-9126 during regular business hours.



# Woodcrest Abandoned Building Demolished

Thanks to Riverside County Code Enforcement, the Woodcrest community was able to rid itself of an eyesore. The old abandoned flower shop and substandard house in back of it was demolished. The demolition of that old house and the flower shop has driven out the homeless that plagued the property.



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### **Riverside Town Hall Meeting**

(left) Supervisor Kevin Jeffries attends a town hall meeting with Riverside City Councilman John Burnard from Ward 7 on April 20th 2016.

Many thanks to all those who turned out to ask questions, and speak with staff from both City and County Departments.

### **RAN County & Regional Board**

(right) Supervisor Kevin Jeffries attended the recent Remote Area Network (RAN) Board meeting at Ben Clark Training Center. Other notable board members included, DA Mike Hestrin, Sheriff Stan Sniff as well as members from City of Riverside, Murrieta and the Coachella Valley as well.

The RAN Board deals with issues related to fingerprinting technology, processes and caseloads for Riverside County. A second board meeting with the County of San Bernardino immediately follows the first meeting.









### Over 20,000 attend Tamale Festival!

This years Riverside Tamale Festival was another one for the record books. With over 20,000+ attendees to the all day event it's clearly becoming the festival to be at in Riverside for authentic tamales, jugos (flavored waters) and music.

The annual tamale festival is the main fundraising event for the Spanish Town Heritage Foundation, which champions the legacy of the Inland Empire's first settlers and leading community efforts to restore La Placita de los Trujillo's.

If you'd like to learn more about the festival, become a sponsor for 2017 or simply book your tickets in advance go to www.riversidetamalefestival.weebly.com today. Our office was proud to

attend again this year and direct the county to be a sponsor.



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### Clean Extreme Lake Elsinore 2016!!

Approximately 750 residents joined with community leaders, elected officials, and residents to clean up Graham Avenue in the City of Lake Elsinore. Among the 45 projects, the Lake Elsinore library underwent a facelift with new coats of paint and a book mural on the external walls. The broken bricks in the front of the library were replaced with decomposed granite and drought tolerant plants.













# Non Profit Spotlight BRAILLE INSTITUTE



Braille Institute is a private, non-profit organization whose mission is to empower visually impaired persons to live independent and fulfilling lives. Their specially equipped mobile unit brings free services to the cities of Riverside, Lake Elsinore and Wildomar, as well as throughout Riverside County. Each year, Braille Institute helps thousands of seniors and others with low vision with access to adaptive devices, classes, audio books and technology training. They also partner with other agencies to bring their services to senior housing developments and senior centers.

For further information on the Braille Institute, call them at (760) 321-1111 or visit their website at <u>http://www.brailleinstitute.org/ranchomirage.html</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, DeLuz and Spring Hills.

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