SUPERVISOR KEVIN JEFFRIES RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT #1

Jeffries Journal

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Kevin's Corner

Start Your Weed Wackers---With the recent heavy rains, aside from the beautiful wildflowers in our community, you may have also noticed the excessively tall and thick weeds that have taken hold. In just a month or so, we will be moving into our wildland fire season, and these lush fields will become tinder dry. It is imperative that landowners quickly start their weed abatement efforts, and remember—those using mowers with metal blades need to be very cautious about actually starting a fire while cleaning off their property. If you have questions or concerns be please sure to contact your local fire department about best practices.

The Other Weed. The Board of Supervisors recently held a public workshop on the pros and cons of the Adult Use of Marijuana Act (Prop-64), which was approved by California (and Riverside County) voters in the November election. After hearing public testimony, Supervisor Chuck Washington and myself were selected by our Board Chairman to head up an ad hoc committee to evaluate and propose the next steps for our county. The issue is should the county regulate and allow for cultivation, processing, and/or distribution, as allowed under the new state laws, with various taxes and fees to be applied (if approved by our local voters), or should we simply continue to restrict (ban) all or some of the above? All 28 cities in our county also face similar decisions. Stay tuned!

Homeless. I just want to express my appreciation to Riverside City Mayor Rusty Bailey and the city councils of Riverside and Lake Elsinore for working with the county and other agencies to develop sub-regional solutions to tackle our ongoing homeless issues. As we are all learning, you cannot use local law enforcement to arrest your way out of the homeless problems, even if state law allowed it. Housing, healthcare, and mental health issues are just a few of the services that need to be provided in a coordinated manner, and they all come with a steep price tag.

Budget Cuts. If you have been following the county financial picture, you know that our county budget is in pretty serious trouble. Our criminal justice system (Sheriff, jails, District Attorney, Public Defender, Probation) are all facing increased workloads, increasing expenses, a new flux of low-level offenders NOT being sent to state prisons anymore, and of course limited tax dollars to pay for it all. Next year we will be opening a new county jail in the Coachella Valley, and that comes with a very hefty multi-million dollar price tag to staff it. Our County Fire Department (staffed by state firefighters) is also going to incur a \$22 million dollar annual increase because of pay increases granted by the state. Add to that some significant new budget threats from Sacramento, and it is pretty much the perfect financial storm.

For those of you who live in our unincorporated communities (outside city boundaries), the county budget cuts could impact you much more severely (Sheriff, Fire, Code, Animal Services – just to name a few). My calls to immediately start cutting <u>non-essential</u> unnecessary spending <u>a year ago</u> was dismissed as foolish and spreading panic at the time. While we would still be facing cuts today, had we actually started scaling back our spending and hirings a year ago – I believe we would be a little better off today.

Respectfully, Kevin Jeffries First District Supervisor

County Boards and Commissions Appointee Profile

Each month, the Jeffries Journal highlights some 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.

Sterlon Sims Secretary, Mead Valley MAC Board



What does your board do?

I currently serve as Secretary for the Mead Valley Municipal Advisory Council (MAC). The MAC provides feedback and advice to the County Supervisor on a variety of concerns that arise within Mead Valley. The MAC reports on project planning, public health, safety, welfare, public works, and other issues. We also listen to concerns from residents and business owners regarding County services such as transportation, code enforcement, and sheriff. The MAC is an all-volunteer board appointed by the County Supervisor.

What interested you in serving on the board?

I have been a resident of Riverside County for over 20 years and I have always been interested in serving my community. When I learned of the opportunity to serve on the Mead Valley MAC, I eagerly volunteered. I have served on the board of a non-profit housing developer and chair of an HOA. I have worked for the Economic Development Agency's Community Services Division for more than ten (10) years, including the Community Development Block Grant and Emergency Solutions Grant (Homeless Program). I believe my enduring desire to serve the community combined with my experience could be an asset to better serve Mead Valley, its residents, and businesses. I encourage everyone to volunteer their time in any capacity including serving as a MAC board member.



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Supervisor Success Stories



Each month this column highlights 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 RTA Bus Stop @ Lakeland Village Community Center!

Residents looking to get to the Lakeland Village Community Center can now take the RTA bus to and from the center. The new stop was recently installed in front of the center, on Grand Ave. Great things happening at the Community Center, stop by and visit us!



Good Hope / Meadowbrook Community Clean Up...Huge Success!! The recent community clean up on March 25th, 2017 in Meadowbrook was a huge success! Participants started lining up as early as 5:30am to ensure their spot in line. Several residents came through as many as four times with trailers filled with old tvs, tires, furniture and more. Many thanks to all the residents who participated in this event, and a big thank you to our Waste Resources team as well as Waste Management, Inc.

If you missed this one, don't worry, another is coming in November. Stay tuned!



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Photos from the Latino Network's Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE) Youth Leadership Program attending the HOPE Latina History Day Conference on March 10, 2017. This year nearly 30 Latina high school students from Alvord and Riverside Unified Schools District schools participated in the HOPE Latina History Day Conference at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles. Araceli Ruiz, the Supervisor's Board Assistant, was one of the chaperone volunteers who joined the young ladies at the Riverside Metro Station, to board the train to Grand Central Station in Los Angeles for the conference.

Riverside Latino Network HOPE Debrief at the Riverside Art Museum



At the HOPE debriefing, the Latina students spoke on what they learned and on memorable experiences from the conference, as well as the HOPE Program. Topics included college preparation, financial empowerment, enhanced civic participation, and promotion of healthy living.



Alzheimers Inland Empire Grand Opening in Riverside

On March 16, 2017, Riverside County District 1 staff attended the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting of the Alzeimers Inland Empire office at their new location on 2002 Iowa Ave., STE 107, Riverside, CA.

Program Spotlight DIVISION OF VICTIM SERVICES

Riverside County District Attorney – Division of Victim Services

The Riverside County District Attorney - Division of Victim Services has specially trained and experienced Advocates to work with victims, witnesses and their families throughout and beyond the criminal justice process. Their goal is to ensure that victims are treated fairly and that their voice is heard. Advocates can assist with the following services: information on crime victims' rights, guidance in dealing with the court system, assistance

in completing and filing applications for crime victim compensation, providing contact information for local resources and counseling referrals, emergency assistance, and ongoing support.

The week of April 2-8, 2017, is National Crime Victims' Rights Week. Several candlelight vigils will be held throughout the County of Riverside that week in honor of crime victims and their families. See the attached flyer for details.





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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Tuesday, April 4th - Indio Palm Desert Civic Center Park 43-900 San Pablo Avenue Palm Desert, CA. 92260

Wednesday, April 5th - Temecula Temecula City Hall 4100 Main Street

Temecula, CA. 92590

Thursday, April 6th - Riverside Riverside County Historic Courthouse

4050 Main Street Riverside, CA. 92501

Riverside County District Attorney's Office Memorial Wall Dedication 3960 Orange Street Riverside, CA. 92501

Sponsored by the Riverside County District Attorney's Office and the Riverside County Family Justice Centers



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OUTLETS

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CONGRESSMAN KEN CALVERT ANNOUNCES 35th Annual Congressional Art Competition

This year marks the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Congressional Art Competition, An Artistic Discovery. Each year Members of Congress hold contests within their districts to choose winning pieces of art by high school students. Since this competition was created in 1982, hundreds of thousands of high school students have participated at the local level. The winning student from each district is invited to Washington, DC for the ribbon-cutting ceremony, and will have his or her artwork displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year.



Guidelines

- Only high school students residing in the 42nd Congressional District may enter.
- ✤ A student release form must be attached to the art work submitted.
- ✤ All artwork must be original and may not violate any U.S. copyright laws.
- ✤ All artwork must be two-dimensional.
- Artwork, when framed, can be no larger than 28" high x 28" wide x 4" deep.
- Acceptable categories include: Paintings, Drawings, Collage, Prints, Mixed Media, Computer generated art, and Photography.
- The deadline for submission is Thursday, May 4, 2017.
- For more information: <u>http://www.house.gov/content/educate/art_competition/</u>

Submit all artwork entries to:

Congressman Ken Calvert

C/O Congressional Art Contest

4160 Temescal Canyon Road #214

Corona, California 92883