SUPERVISOR KEVIN JEFFRIES RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT #1

Jeffries Journal

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Kevin's Corner



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As we kick off the new year (which in government lingo is "mid-year" for budgeting purposes) and the beginning of my 2nd term in office, I need to mention a few items.

First, the loss of my friend and fellow Board member John Benoit. If you hadn't already heard, over the holidays John lost his battle with cancer. John retired from the Highway Patrol and entered the political arena many years ago. Besides having served as a Volunteer Fire Captain, he served as a School Board member, State Assemblyman, State Senator and of course as our 4th District County Supervisor. John was going to become our senior Board member when Supervisors Tavaglione and Ashley retire at the end of next year. John will be missed, and my sincere condolences go out to his family. It will likely be several months before the Governor appoints a replacement for his district.

A little bit of good news – I'd like to announce that we have filled our vacant legislative/ field position formally held by Kristen Huyck, who left our office to go to Riverside Unified School District. Please welcome Tricia Almiron to the First District. Tricia is a resident of the First District, a small business owner and has a strong background in local government, including transportation and a host of other policy areas. She will be a great addition to the team and will mostly be visible in the communities of Temescal Valley, Lake Mathews, Woodcrest and the greater Lake Elsinore Valley.

Tricia joins your First District team of: Jeff Greene Chief of Staff (he's the outdoor hiking, hunting, camping guy, and the guy you yell at if you can't get assistance from anyone else), Robin Reid (she's all things health and social services – keeping an eye on the largest part of the county budget), Kerstin Justus (the scheduling guru, gate keeper – keeps the trains running on time in our offices), Bob Magee (he reviews all large development proposals - good & not so good), Tom Ketcham (our go-to guy in Mead Valley, Good Hope, Meadow-brook and portions of Woodcrest) and Araceli Ruiz (she is not only my assistant, but is our liaison to many of the community service clubs and organizations in the City of Riverside). With our county government employing nearly 22,000 employees spread across dozens and dozens of county departments, each member of my staff has a number of departments that they monitor and work with in order to improve services to the public and monitor budgets.

2017 will be both a challenging year and a year for new opportunities to improve services, oversight, and efficiencies. The County budget is roughly \$5.3 billion per year and has significant budget challenges going forward. I always welcome your personal feedback (from taxpayers, residents & employees) as to what can be done better or needs to be completely revamped.

Respectfully, Kevin Jeffries

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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.

Street "A" Open To General Traffic Soon

In 2009 the City of Riverside closed Dufferin Avenue to through Traffic, angering many of the area residents including the Village Grove Community. During the 2012 campaign Kevin Jeffries committed to these residents that as part of any new proposed development he would require the building of a road to get traffic from McAllister to Van Buren to get around the Dufferin blockage.

And so true to his word, he required CV Communities to obtain right-of-way and build a road as part of the first phase of their Citrus Heights development. As his first term came to an end the pavement was completed on Citrus Heights Drive (formerly Street "A") and the street is scheduled to open soon!

Promises made...promises kept!



Temescal Valley Freeway Clean Ups

The Temescal Valley is home to some of the heaviest industries in our region: mining, batch plants, various manufacturing operations, and of course the landfill. In addition to the numerous jobs these industries generate, they also generate traffic. The residents of Trilogy in particular had complained for some time about the trash, debris and overall unsightliness of their stretch of I-15 and the on & off ramps at Temescal Canyon Road.

Waste Management Inc. adopted this stretch of highway several years ago and has crews out there doing clean up bi-weekly. Additionally, Assemblywoman Melendez's office has requested that Caltrans sweep the on & off ramp areas to keep this corridor better maintained. At the request of this office, they now service this area every three weeks with special attention being given to the holiday season.

We are blessed to be working with such great partners.

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.

Mr. Dildar Ahmad, M.D. Riverside County Behavioral Health Commission

What does your board do?

The Riverside County Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) is an advisory body, composed of volunteers appointed by the Board of Supervisors, who work in conjunction with the Riverside University Health System – Behavioral Health to ensure citizen and professional input and involvement in all aspects of Department Services. BHC members serve for a three-year term and are governed by the California Welfare and Institution Code §5604 and the Ralph M. Brown Act.



What interested you in serving on the board?

I have over 20 years' experience in health systems and public health with expertise in substance use and prevention. I am currently a practicing toxicologist and member of the Mental Health Addiction Network and an associate of the American College of Medical Toxicology. I feel my background and expertise will be beneficial to the Behavioral Health Commission.



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Local Community Events in District #1

Christmas Dinner at the Ysmael Villegas Community Center in Riverside included local singers and great food.



Las Posadas in Riverside was a big hit with local residents who attended. Crafts, food and fun for all was had.



Latino Networks Annual "Nuestra Navidad" breakfast was standing room only once again this year for 2016. Great food, silent and live auctions were held in addition to the special treat of the Centro De Nino's who came to sing Christmas songs to all in attendance.



LATINO NETWORK EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL uestra Navidad WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2016 • 7:30 AM TO 9 STRATTON COMMUNITY CENTER Tickets available through Eventbrite http://2016nuestranavidad.eventbrite.c Or Ofelia Valdez-Yeager valdezyeager@sbcglobal.net

Local Community Events in District #1

Breakfast with Santa Claus in Mead Valley was a great success with over 1500+ residents attending. Pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice and milk were all on the menu to enjoy. Kids were able to partake in carnival games, a craft fair and of course, visit with Santa Claus.

Dr. Javier Rios' office raffled off two kids bicycles for two lucky winners as well. Big thanks to all the volunteers and center staff who helped make this annual event another huge success.



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Local Community Events in District #1

With Santa

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SNOW DAY with Santa was a great event for those living in the Temescal Valley. Real snow, Christmas music, vendors, train rides and of course Santa himself were all the rage for kids and adults this year. Thankfully the weather was cold enough the snow lasted long enough for all the kids to play in. Saturday DECEMBER

Many thanks once again to all of our staff and volunteers who came out and made this event a great one.







Cookies with Santa Claus at the Woodcrest Library was also a hit with local residents and kids alike. Santa himself was on hand to visit with kids who came in with their Christmas wishes. Cookies and games awaited the kids once they told Santa their wish lists. Parents were treated to a special performance of the King High School Choir, who stopped by to perform several Christmas classics. Many thanks to all the staff at both the library and EDA who assisted with set up and coordination of this event.

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Local Community Events in District #1









Breakfast with Santa Claus in Good Hope was one for the ages as Santa arrived on a Riverside County Fire truck in lieu of his sleigh. Upon his arrival he was greeted by local kids and parents alike.

Pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice and milk awaited those who showed up in addition to carnival games and jumpers. Of course, Santa himself was present to hand out toys to those who visited with him and crafts for those of all ages were available afterwards too.

Many thanks to Spark of Love and Grove Church for the donation of over 450 toys to our local community.



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Non Profit Spotlight Exceed - A Division of Valley Resource Center



EXCEED's mission is to provide service and advocacy which creates choices and opportunities for adults (18-65) with developmental disabilities to help them reach their maximum potential. EXCEED provides pre-employment training, employment placement services, vocational training and job coaching to qualified clients.

EXCEED partners with California Department of Rehabilitation, Inland Regional Center, City of Riverside, City of Lake Elsinore and private companies to provide employment opportunities to individuals who are at or below poverty level, low to moderate income level, underserved, and developmentally disabled. The training and supportive work environment assists this population in their pursuit to gain independence and allows them to give back to their community.

For more information on EXCEED, visit their website at: <u>http://www.weexceed.org/</u> or contact them at (800) 647-3451 for a tour of one of their facilities.



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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