SUPERVISOR KEVIN JEFFRIES RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT #1

Jeffries Journal

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Changing of The Guard

Kevin's Corner

I've previously written about how our two senior members of the Board of Supervisors, John Tavaglione and Marion Ashley, plan to retire at the end of next year. While writing this update, we are all still waiting for Governor Brown to appoint a new replacement Supervisor for the eastern part of the county (Supervisor Benoit passed away this past December, and state law gives the Governor the sole authority to make the appointment). Now, on top of all those changes, our appointed County CEO, Jay Orr, has also announced that he will be retiring this summer. With his retirement (and a rumored few other senior staff positions as yet unannounced), combined with the changing of three elected Board members - your county is going to undergo (for better or worse) some significant policy, political, and leadership changes. Some of you will counsel me that big changes have been long overdue, while others will counsel to keep a steady course. Riverside County is the 4th largest county in the state and the 10th largest in the nation. Our budget and services are severely strained (understatement), many of our roads and freeways are at or above maximum capacity, and our largest export to nearby counties is workers (commuters). I think it is safe to say that we need a little bit of bold thinking about our future direction.

Firefighting & Fees

As Riverside County prepares for a potentially ugly fire season, you may know that your county fire department, and many local city fire departments (excluding Corona, Murrieta & Riverside to name a few) are managed and staffed by CAL FIRE Firefighters (state employees). Between county fire stations and contract city fire stations, the unified (state/county/cities) fire department operates nearly 100 fire stations all across our county. The professional services provided by our state employees is second to none. The contracting entities pay for the actual costs to have our fire stations staffed (typically 3 firefighters 7 days a week) by the state. The cooperative contract enjoys the benefit of having access to state staffed wildland fire engines, firefighting helicopters, air tankers and inmate fire crews.

One downside to this contract arrangement is that the state also levies an "Admin Fee" on top of the actual costs to serve the county and cities. That fee has now reached roughly \$22 million a year! With our ongoing county budget crisis (caused in part by unfunded and underfunded state mandates), just a portion of that \$22 million could make a big difference for some county services that are otherwise likely to be slashed.

In addition to the growing Admin Fee, the State Legislature also imposed (roughly 5 years ago) a "State Responsibility Area" (SRA) Fee/Tax that runs roughly \$150 per home for those who reside in many rural areas. To add insult to injury - the SRA fire fee can NOT be used to fund firefighters to actually fight fires in our communities, but only for fire prevention activities. While local homeowners have been paying this tax for years now, only a very, very small portion of those tax dollars have been reinvested and spent back in Riverside County for actual fire prevention efforts. This month, Supervisor Tavaglione and I will be meeting with the State Director of CAL FIRE to convey the absolute need for Sacramento CAL FIRE to cooperate with our county and local cities and make sure that your tax dollars are being put to work here locally and not being deposited into a black hole in Sacramento.

As always, your comments and suggestions are welcome. And yes, I do actually read and often reply to them (except the really offensive nasty-grams).

Respectfully, Kevin Jeffries



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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.

Carl "Bruce" Shaffer Planning Commissioner County of Riverside, District #1



What does your commission do?

Thank you for the opportunity to serve First District residents, businesses, and stakeholders as the newly appointed Planning Commissioner.

My career is hallmarked by being accountable, transparent, and committed to conducting thoughtful measured recommendations. Planning Commissioners have the civic responsibility to implement Riverside County's planning and development policies and regulations. Planning Commissioners must consider private property rights, land use compatibility, public amenities, infrastructure, as well as, sustaining healthy human and natural environments for future generations.

What interested you in serving on the commission?

Remaining actively present, responsive, and relevant during my term as First District's Planning Commissioner is my pledge. My desire to serve is ground with ten years of local private land development experience, over twenty years of regional and international government experience in areas of community planning, federal land management, resource conservation, and public private partnership. My educational background and certifications with American Institute of Certified Planners, as well as, my certification as a mediator with the National Conflict Resolution Center and Southern California Federal Executive Board has kept me active as a neutral facilitator.



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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.

More Paving Completed In District #I

Recently our TLMA Department finished paving the second segment of Hunter Road in Mead Valley. The first segment was completed in 2016 and many residents anxiously awaited the second half of the paving to be completed this year.

Several residents called to say "thank you" for completing the project. With the road now paved, they will be able to access their homes without having to dodge holes, mud and risk getting stuck midway down the road.

A big "thank you" goes out to our County crew which made this possible for our residents!







Hunter Road, all paved!

Resident Emails District #1 For Assistance

Utilizing one of many methods to contact our office for assistance, a resident of District #I recently emailed us from of our website to request assistance in dealing with Riverside County Code Enforcement. The resident had received a citation for not cleaning up their property. They were attempting to clean up the property but they needed a permit from Building and Safety to complete the process. They



could not obtain the permit because they had a code violation on the property.

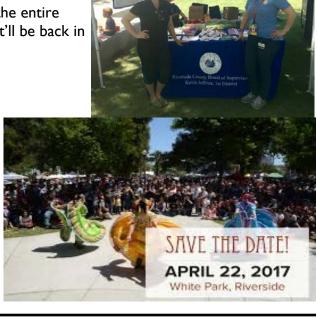
After contacting our office, the resident met with a staff member at the Riverside downtown location who was able to connect them with a Code Official who quickly resolved the violation on the property. The following day, the resident was able to connect with our Building and Safety Department to obtain their much needed permit and will now be able to begin cleaning up the property.

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Office staff attended the Tamale Festival at Riverside's White Park on April 22, 2017. As an attendee of the Festival over the years, we have seen attendance grow significantly as well as the vendors and exhibitors present.

As usual, this year the event was well attended by thousands from all over the country who enjoyed music, food and fun for the entire family. If you missed the Festival this year, don't worry it'll be back in 2018!





(left) Supervisor Jeffries spoke at the County Water switch over with Elsinore Valley Water District and Eastern Municipal Water District celebration.

The switch-over should affect approximately 140 homes located off of Bundy Canyon in the Wildomar area, guaranteeing the safe, clean water they had previously lived without.

(right) The Warm Springs CAC met recently at the Lakeland Village Community Center to hear Riverside County Transportation Director Patty Romo speak about the proposed El Toro/ Ethanac Corridor from the I-15 freeway to the I-215.

Supervisor Kevin Jeffries was in attendance and spoke briefly to the residents as well. The meeting was well attended by local residents.



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Proposed Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art, Culture, & Industry

A press conference was held on May 2, 2017, at the Riverside Downtown Library with The City of Riverside in collaboration with the Riverside Art Museum (RAM) and well-known Chicano entertainer Cheech Marin. It was announced they are working on a formal agreement to create a Museum of Chicano Art at the Historic Downtown Riverside Library.

Mr. Marin started his collection of Chicano Art in the 1980's, and to date has accumulated over 700 works of art. His vast collection includes paintings, prints, mixed-media works, and sculptures. Mr. Marin's objective is to shed light to the fact that "Chicano Art is American Art"! This passion inspired him to publicly feature works from his collection for others to view and cherish. Mr. Marin was seeking to house his works of art locally which is what lead to this partnership with the City of Riverside and the Riverside Art Museum.

The proposed location for the Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art, Culture, and Industry, is the building that currently houses Riverside's Main Library, which is moving to a new location downtown. The Riverside City Council will vote on the transformation of the center at its May 16th, 2017, council meeting.



City of Riverside Council members and Cheech Marin at the May 2nd announcement of the new Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art.



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Non-Profit Spotlight

STUDIO 395

Since 2011, STUDIO 395 has successfully managed art and culture related programming focused on education and creation while pursuing their mission of finding work for local artists and developing a venue that would be home to an artists' community. In 2016, the organization saw a couple of opportunities for that via a licensing agreement with the City of Lake Elsinore for an 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ acre parcel of property on Main St. and then with the County of Riverside for the Lakeland Village Community Center.

395)

Taking over the Community Center in January 2016, the amount and variety of classes has increased. Currently there is a schedule of various art and recreation related offerings such as Zumba, Tai Chi, Creative Writing, Ceramics, Tae Kwando, College Prep Classes, Etiquette and Modeling.

Coming soon, there will be Theatre, Yoga, a Maker's Series, Sewing, Fine Arts, Ballet Folklorico and more. A visual and performing arts summer camp for kids is in the works for late July. In addition, the group is working with another non-profit, It's Bigger Than Sports, to rehab the sports fields at the facility so youth and adult sports can be offered. There has also been discussion with a local woman's roller derby league to bring a playing facility to the property.

Some class offerings have been free to the community as the group worked through grant funding they received from the National Endowment for the Arts for 2016-2017. Call the facility, at 951-471-4407, or visit us online at www.studio395.org for specifics of current classes or to be put on an interest list of upcoming classes.

STUDIO 395 is a non-profit artist cooperative with a mission of taking art into the community by engaging the underserved resident of the area and finding opportunities for local artists to create, display, sell and instruct.



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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Exp. Date:

Proceeds from this event will fund beautification projects and promote environmental awareness among our youth.

WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT • MUST BE A HOMEOWNER IN THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE

Signature:

CC+:



YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

IN YOUR COMMUNITY

GET PREPARED TODAY!



What is CERT?

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help.

CERT members also are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.

"DOING THE GREATEST GOOD, FOR THE GREATEST NUMBER,
IN THE SHORTEST AMOUNT OF TIME"

REGISTER TODAY!

To register for County or City sponsored CERT Classes or to get more information about classes in your area call [951] 955-4700 Mon - Thurs. 8 am - 5:00pm or register on the REGISTRATION page.

County of Riverside Emergency Management Department 4210 Riverwalk Pkwy Suite 300 Riverside, CA 92505 (951) 955-4700 Copyright ©2015