SUPERVISOR KEVIN JEFFRIES RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT #1

# Jeffries Journal

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# Kevin's Corner

**Big Hire #1:** Your next County (CAL FIRE) Fire Chief is---Chief Shawn Newman! Chief Newman has a 27-year career history in Riverside County and Southern California. After attending RCC, he started his CAL FIRE career as a seasonal Firefighter and then landed a permanent Firefighter position in nearby Rubidoux. Shawn worked his way up through the ranks serving as a Battalion Chief in Lake Elsinore, an Assistant Chief and Deputy Chief at CAL FIRE's Region Office in Riverside. Chief Newman officially started as CAL FIRE's Unit Chief, Riverside County's Fire Chief and the Fire Chief for dozens of contract cities within the county on August 1st. With a very ugly fire season already underway, we welcome the Chief and thank all the firefighters serving under him for their outstanding service.

**Big Hire #2:** The new position for the first Deputy County Executive Officer for Homeless Solutions has been filled, as we welcome Natalie Komuro to the County family. She doesn't want to be called our Homeless Czar, but if there ever was a tough job to take on, this one is it! Natalie comes to us from Los Angeles County with 31 years of experience in housing policy and homeless services. She was most recently the Executive Director of the nonprofit organization Ascencia, which manages homeless outreach, emergency housing and related services in the metro Los Angeles area. Natalie will oversee and coordinate all of the homeless programs run by the County of Riverside and coordinate efforts with cities and community groups throughout the County.

**Enjoy The Park.** Good Hope residents will soon be enjoying an expanded park at the Moses-Shaffer Community Center. This rural community is located between Perris and Lake Elsinore along Highway 74. The park expansion and improvements were funded from federal Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). Employees from a nearby Walgreens center, as well as local residents and a church congregation have also donated significant time to improve the facility and participate in community events. A BIG thank you to all.

**Big Changes Coming!** Well it is about to happen. In a little over 90 days, the voters of Riverside County will be making some key decisions that will impact the future of Riverside County. Now granted, pretty much every election can be considered important, but this one will significantly change the makeup of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors. After 24 years of service, Supervisor John Tavaglione will be retiring, as will Supervisor Marion Ashley with 16 years of service. The voters of those districts will decide their replacements this November. They will join Supervisor Manny Perez who was originally appointed last year (after the passing of Supervisor Benoit) by Governor Brown and then elected this past June from the Coachella Valley, as well as Supervisor Washington of Temecula who was also appointed in 2015 (after Supervisor Stone was elected to the State Senate) by Governor Brown, and was elected in 2016. This leaves yours truly to become the most senior Board member in January 2019, having taken office in 2013.

**KPMG Follow-up:** Last month I reported on the difficulty in retrieving and saving some apparent leftover/unspent funds from the KPMG consulting contract. I have received word that the Board will be asked to vote later this month on transferring those leftover funds to our contingency/reserve fund (that's a good thing). Miracles do happen!!

Respectfully, Kevin Jeffries Supervisor, First District Interested in serving your local community? Perhaps you are more of a regional advocate? If you live in or have a business in District #1, be sure to look at the list of openings we have below for local commissions.

If you feel you have the time to dedicate to making the district a better place feel free to apply online at www.supervisorjeffries.com, under Boards & Commissions

El Sobrante Landfill Citizen Oversight Committee - One (1) board \*(new)\*

Good Hope / Meadowbrook Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) - One alternate

Mead Valley Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) - One alternate

In Home Support Services (IHSS) - Recipient of IHSS Services

**Behavioral Health Commission** - Contact our office for details on eligibility



**County Archives Commission** - Opening pending (seeking qualified applicants)

Woodcrest Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) - One board & two alternates \*new\*



# District #1 Commissioner Spotlight

# Commissioner—Aime Kinne

#### What does the committee do?

We review the Annual Monitoring Report for the El Sobrante Landfill and provide comments. We also provide comments and observations on ongoing landfill activities. Most importantly, our meetings provide the surrounding community an opportunity to ask questions and address landfill experts including staff from the El Sobrante Landfill, Riverside County Waste Resources and the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA). The LEA is housed within the County's Environmental Health department but functions as the state oversight agency.

#### What motivated you to serve on this committee?

My interest in serving on this committee originally began when the landfill started moving their impact south, into Dawson Canyon. I realized at the point, that citizen involvement was critical and that my understanding of the operation was limited. After doing this for a number of years, I appreciate the complexity of such a large operation and enjoy the challenges of staying on top of how it all works.





Lakeland Village Community Clean Up!!

Get your items ready for this upcoming community clean-up on September 22nd 2018 @ Lakeland Village Middle School.

This is the last community clean up of the year, so take advantage of this event before the holidays!!

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# Local District #1 Events

On August 2nd 2018 Supervisor Kevin Jeffries attended the Riverside County Annual Youth Commission Retreat, which was held in District #1 at the Mead Valley Community Center.

He spoke with youth members about the value of leadership, education and following your goals in life, and never giving up no matter what the cost.

Also attending was Riverside County Clerk of the Board, Kecia Harper-Ihem to speak with YAC members about Brown Act, process and Robert's Rules of Order.

This was a great event for our YAC members from across the county to attend. If you are interested in having your son/ daughter become part of the youth commission please reach out to your Supervisorial District for more information and an application for the upcoming year.









# **County hires new Fire Chief**

CAL FIRE has appointed Shawn Newman as the Unit Chief of Riverside.

Chief Newman has been with CAL FIRE since 1989, and has worked throughout Riverside County in assignments under the Riverside Cooperative Agreement as well as in-State mission stations. In 2012, Chief Newman participated in training syllabus revisions for the Fire Crew Firefighter and Fire Protection Training Handbooks, he is also one of four qualified MCCO MACS Representatives at the South Operations Center.

Promoted to Deputy Chief in 2017, Newman oversaw Contract County contract management including FIRESCOPE, Intel and SCOUT.

Please join me in welcoming Chief Shawn Newman to this new role as Unit Chief of Riverside. The formal appointment of Riverside County Fire Chief went before the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, July 31.

"I am pleased to announce the appointment of Shawn Newman as the Unit Chief of Riverside Unit, effective Wednesday, August 1, 2018.

Chief Newman began his career with CAL FIRE in 1989, as a seasonal firefighter in the San Bernardino Unit. In 1994, Shawn promoted to Firefighter II in the Riverside Unit, working in Battalion 14. In 2001, he promoted to Fire Apparatus Engineer, and worked in assignments under the Riverside Cooperative Agreement as well as in State-mission stations. In 2006, Chief Newman accepted a position as Fire Captain at the Norco and Bautista Conservation Camps. He promoted to Battalion Chief in 2012, assigned to the CIW Female Inmate Training Center and later the Elsinore Battalion. During his assignments in the Conservation Camp Program, he participated in training syllabus revision working groups for the Fire Crew Firefighter and Fire Protection Training Handbooks. In 2016, Shawn promoted to Assistant Chief at Southern Region Office assigned to FIRESCOPE, and worked as the Intelligence Section Supervisor at the Southern Operations Center (South Ops). Chief Newman promoted to Deputy Chief in 2017, overseeing Contract County contract management, FIRESCOPE, Intel, and SCOUT.

In addition to the training syllabus working groups, Shawn has also participated in the LOFR/AREP Instructor Cadre, and is one of four qualified MCCO MACS Representatives at South Ops. He has also participated as an active member of the CISM Team and served as the Unit Coordinator and a PEER Support Counselor.

Please join me in congratulating Shawn as he takes on this new role as not only the Riverside Unit Chief, but also the Riverside County Fire Chief.

KEN PIMLOTT Sacramento—Cal Fire



# County hires new coordinator to help battle homelessness across the community

Riverside County has chosen the head of an award-winning homeless services agency to coordinate homelessness programs operated by the county and an affiliated network of community partners. Natalie Komuro has served for 11 years as executive director of Ascencia, managing programs in the cities of Glendale, Burbank, West Hollywood and northeast Los Angeles that provide street outreach, emergency housing and other services to help move people from homelessness into housing.

"This is a new era for the county and our communities," said Chuck Washington, chairman of the Board of Supervisors. "This level of coordination will help us use resources even more effectively and offer help to people whose lives and families suffer because of homelessness."



In the newly created position, Deputy County Executive Officer – Homelessness Solutions, Komuro will work out of the county Executive Office. She will begin her new job in late July. Komuro's 31 years of experience in housing policy and homeless services include national advocacy, regional planning and directly managing services for homeless families and single adults. She will coordinate a comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach toward addressing homelessness in Riverside County.

"Homelessness exacts a terrible toll on families and on their communities – and growing regions risk marginalizing even more of their most vulnerable residents," Komuro said. "I am grateful for this chance to help combat homelessness and I look forward to working with our government, nonprofit and business-sector partners who have helped lead the countywide response to homelessness."

Ascencia was named 2018 Nonprofit of the Year for Assembly District 43. It is a small-scale agency integrating services and shelter for homeless families and individuals and their companion animals. The agency serves 1,000 people a year including 220 in shelters and 100 households in permanent supportive housing. Each year, over 900 volunteers provide services that include nightly hot dinners.

Komuro holds a master's degree in urban planning from UCLA and a bachelor's degree from Pomona College in Claremont. She managed the 2007 Greater Los Angeles homeless count, coordinated efforts in Los Angeles related to the 2000 Census homeless count, and was the author of narratives for Continuum of Care proposals that received over \$100 million in funding for homeless programs in Los Angeles County.

Komuro is a past president of Glendale Rotary Club and a member for nine years, and was the Glendale Chamber of Commerce 2017 Woman of the Year. She and her husband have two children.

FIRE & BURN

PREVENTION · EDUCATION · SUPPORT

FOUNDATION

## Non-Profit Spotlight Fire and Burn Foundation

The Fire and Burn Foundation is focused on three distinct but mission-related areas:

- To provide fire and burn prevention programs and materials independently and in conjunction with other medical, fire service, civic groups and citizens of the communities we serve.
- To provide compassionate support to burn survivors and their families.
- To support burn injury research and treatment at the Edward G. Hirschman Burn Center at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton, California.

The Foundation provides language and age-appropriate prevention literature to schools, community-based organizations, fire departments, medical facilities, and to individual citizens at community health fairs, Fire Prevention Week activities and fire department open houses.

The agency is a proud host of the Embers of Hope Youth Camp, a specialized camp for children and youth recovering from the often-lingering effects of a burn injury, both physical and emotional. The four-day winter Youth Camp is operated in the snow areas of the San Bernardino Mountains. The camp takes advantage of the synergy and resources of both the Burn Institute and the Fire & Burn Foundation. This specialized camp is staffed by a small army of dedicated individuals that volunteer their time. Many of the camp counselors and volunteers are burn survivors themselves. Others are off-duty firefighters, medical professionals and other community members. There are many volunteer opportunities for the camps and other agency needs throughout the year.

Agency resources are also used to provide emergency financial and other support to burn patients and family members. This assistance might be used to aid a wife coping with her husband's serious burn injury; perhaps help a mother deal with her burn-injured child as he or she goes through painful rehabilitation, or assisting with the daunting needs of a family just burned out of their home. The Institute also assists the medical and social work staff of the Burn Center in acquiring assistance to help low-income individuals improve their lives. This program provides items such as purchasing pressure garments to reduce scarring.

For further information, visit their website at: <u>http://www.fireandburn.org/</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.

Eastern Municipal Water District

Water Leaders

September 6 - 22, 2018

invites you to participate in

Academy

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

8:00 a.m. - Noon

Riverside County

Chronicles A Journal of the History of

\* Min Tim Succes

Topics will include:

How to do Lavout

How to Research Local History How to Write Local History Where to Research Local History

How/Where to Publish Your Work How to Market the Final Product

RSIDE

COUNTY



### **COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE NOTIFICATION**



### Survey's goal is to identify needs of 130,000 veterans in Riverside County

Riverside County began circulating a survey today to measure the needs of the 130,000 veterans who live in the county. The survey is a component of the Veterans Improvement Program, brought forward last year by Supervisors V. Manuel Perez and Chuck Washington to improve conditions for veterans.

"We appreciate the sacrifice and service of our veterans for this country," Washington said. "I believe it is important that we continue to identify and understand their needs in order to improve the quality of life for all veterans in Riverside County."

Veterans will be asked to share their military experience and their knowledge about, and use of, veterans' benefits. Other questions will focus on veterans' existing health risks, access to health services and their overall well-being. The information will help target assistance to individuals and groups in order to develop better support systems while improving access to services that veterans need and have the right to receive.

"We have long needed a comprehensive assessment of the state of veterans, and this survey is the first of its kind for Riverside County," Perez said. "The survey will closely examine a wide range of veterans' needs: health and mental health, housing, transportation, benefits and services. We encourage every Riverside County veteran to complete this survey and let us know how our team can assist in serving veterans now and in the future."

Veterans are encouraged to complete the survey before Sept. 30 by visiting <u>www.riversideveteranhealth.org</u> or by contacting the Human Resources Department at (951) 955-3510.







#### **BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE**

### Riverside County's Digital Equity Program

Provides refurbished computers to low income families and non-profit organizations within Riverside County at No Cost

#### The Digital Divide Impacts Riverside County:

Life in Riverside County is rich and rewarding for most of its 2.4 million residents! We enjoy easy access to mountains, desert and the ocean. We can shop for nearly anything we desire, attend cultural events, world class music festivals like Coachella and Stagecoach Festival, tour our high quality local wine region in Temecula, and are close to both beaches and mountains. Our average family income is over \$58,000 per year, with 27% of our families earning over \$100,000.

## But wait . . . That rosy picture does not extend everywhere. Consider the following:

- 20% of all households are single-parent families
- 20% of all adults do not have a high school diploma or equivalent
- 11% of our population is disabled
- 13% of the population is 65 years and older
- 15% speak English less than proficiently

- 25% of all families and 32% of households earn less than \$35,000
- 17% of Riverside County residents live below the poverty line

#### Needs & Goals:

Individuals impacted by Digital Divide have a great need for equal access to computers, inexpensive Internet, training and knowledge of how to utilize technology to improve their economic opportunities.

#### Jobs & Training:

DEP has partnered with the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) Workforce Connection Program to provide short-term employment and job training opportunities for DPSS customers. This unique collaboration helps individuals develop skills that help bridge the gap to good paying jobs and economi • stability for their families. Riverside Count businesses can take advantage of no-cos recruiting services that match qualifier candidates to their hiring needs.

#### Summary:

Closing the Digital Divide is a critical success factor for the quality of life and economic prosperity of our residents in Riverside County. To accomplish this critical goal we have launched a Digital Equity Program to help close the digital divide.

The Digital Equity Program is a component of the County's "Green" strategy which provides a more cost-effective method for reducing its Carbon footprint by enabling e-government, accessing services online and handling of ewaste. Accessibility to online services reduces the need to visit a county facility, thus reducing traffic and our usage of carbon generating resources.

#### Program Benefits:

Our Digital Equity Program enables residents to participate in our digital world, including:

- Opportunity for higher quality of life
- Empowerment to take individual action
- Access to economic opportunities
- Basic participation in K 12 education
- Participation in the local and global community

We strive to facilitate access and opportunity to utilize the wealth of online services available including health, financial, legal, consumer and social services.

Contact: Nora Valenzuela, NValenzu@rivco.org or 951-237-9978