SUPERVISOR KEVIN JEFFRIES RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT #1

# Jeffries Journal

Volume 9, Issue 8

August 2021



#### Inside this issue:

Kevin's Corner Continued	2
District #1 Board & Commission Openings	2
Non-Profit Spotlight District #1 Profile	3
Local District #1 Events	4- 7
Special Election Information	8
County Press Releases	9 10
Flyers	  2



#### **Follow Us Online!**

www.facebook.com/ SupervisorJeffries

#### Twitter: @SupJeffries



## Kevin's Corner

**Property Values** - Riverside County has pockets of extreme wealth and extreme poverty and everything in between. When you add up the total "assessed valuation" with each Supervisorial District (which includes cities), you'll see some disparities in wealth concentration. While we hear a lot about the poor communities in the desert, the 4<sup>th</sup> District actually has the highest assessed value in the County, with over \$95 billion, almost twice as high as the lowest assessed 5<sup>th</sup> District, with \$55 billion. The 1<sup>st</sup> District is the second poorest, with just under \$60 billion in assessed value. While that sounds like it would produce a lot of tax revenues, the County only gets to keep about 18% of the property taxes it collects, with most of it going to the State and various special districts (including schools).

One of the most disadvantaged (non-city) communities in western Riverside County is Mead Valley, located just outside of the city of Perris. Its rural population is approximately 20,000. When you total up all the property taxes paid by residents and commercial properties, and you deduct the portions shipped off to other government entities, the County is allowed to keep (for sheriff, fire, animal services, code, health & human services, etc.) only about \$1.8 million in property taxes to provide all those services. That's a very small amount, when you consider it costs roughly \$2.2 million just to staff and operate a single county fire station (with our contract partners CAL FIRE). This economic gap plays out in communities across the County. I've argued that many of our unincorporated communities are at least 30 years behind the rest of the county in economic growth and job opportunities. It's going to take continued focus to help those communities become financially sustainable while remaining attractive to those who don't want wall to wall housing or mega warehouses.

Staving Above the Fray - If you have been watching any of the Tuesday Board of Supervisors' public meetings over the past year or so, you know that nearly every Tuesday, various groups of citizens attend the meetings to speak their mind. It's a constitutionally protected right to petition our government (at all levels) and the Board takes that right very seriously. The Board protected that right during the worst of the COVID restrictions and was one of the first to immediately re-open the Board meeting chambers to in-person testimony. Should you watch one of the meetings you might notice the extremely wide variety of issues that citizens share. As part of that, the Board regularly hears from residents who want us to fix our schools, which is entirely the jurisdiction of locally elected school boards and the State. Others demand that the County change mandates, laws or regulations imposed on all of us from the federal or state level (the pecking order of government does not allow that to happen), or to jump into the middle of heated partisan battles. The County Board is a non-partisan office with its own responsibilities and jurisdictions, and although each Supervisor has his or her own philosophical bent or moral compass to help guide them and may have opinions about how other levels of government should operate, the Board tries its best to focus on serving all 2.4 million county residents and stay out of the partisan warfare that has engulfed our state and federal governments.

continued on page 2

**Temporary Elections Jobs -** The Riverside County Registrar of Voters (ROV) has put the call out for 900 new temporary employees. All these positions are to support the ROV for the September recall election. If you have some spare time on your hands, are good at paying attention to detail, and want to help serve the County and State, the ROV needs your help. For more information on the recall election and these jobs, see page 8 of this newsletter or apply at: <a href="http://www.tinyurl.com/TempElectionsJobs">www.tinyurl.com/TempElectionsJobs</a>

**New Boundaries... Someday** - The redistricting process is underway... mostly. Nearly every county, city, college board, school board, water board, etc., is required to balance their internal boundaries/districts for elected officials after each census is completed. They all have very strict state-mandated requirements to adhere to when drafting new boundaries. The problem is that the federal census data (that every agency depends on to help draft new boundaries) has been delayed by several months, putting the entire process way behind schedule. Anyone seeking to run for elected office in the June Primary of 2022 could be impacted by the delays, simply because you won't know for sure which ward or elected district you are in until the maps are finalized. You can learn more about how Riverside County will be drawing its own supervisorial districts this year, upcoming meetings, and express your opinions as to how you wish to be represented and what communities of interest you feel should stay together (or be separated from each other) in these districts here: <u>https://rivco.org/about-county/county-boards-committees-and-commissions/ county-redistricting-efforts</u>

As always, if you have suggestions to help improve County services, or have any issues or concerns to share about County operations, please feel free to email our office. I read nearly every email (except the vulgar ones that have a special file).

Respectfully, Kevin Jeffries

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



Fair Board (National Date Festival) - One (1) opening

El Sobrante Landfill Citizen Oversight Committee—One (I) opening Resident

In Home Support Services (IHSS) - Recipient of IHSS Services—One (I) opening

Behavioral Health Commission - Family Member - One (1) opening

Lakeland Village Community Advisory Council— One (1) Alternate

Woodcrest Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) - One (I) Alternate

First 5 Advisory Committee- Two (2) opening

**Riverside County Flood Control Commission—Zone I**—One (I) opening \* Riverside Area, see map: <u>https://rcflood.org/About-the-District/District-Zones/Zone-I</u>

## **Non-Profit Spotlight**



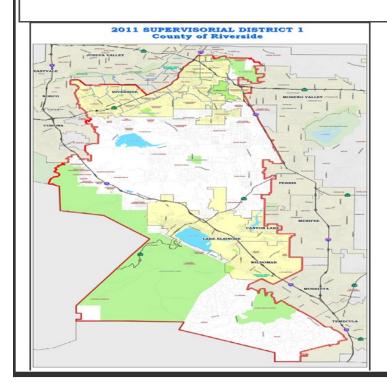
## Hospice of the Valleys

Hospice of the Valleys began in early 1982 by two sisters in Sun City, California who recognized the need for specialized end-of-life care for people in their community. In order to make this care available, these sisters received hospice training as volunteers and began going door-to-door raising money on their patients' behalf. After years as a volunteerrun organization, Hospice of the Valleys eventually became a full-service, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.

Today, Hospice of the Valleys employs a team of experienced clinicians and administrative professionals and continues to have a group of dedicated volunteers who touch the lives of our patients every day. After more than 30 years of caring for hospice patients living in Southwest Riverside County and Fallbrook, Hospice of the Valleys remains committed to the mission of its founders by providing loving hospice care to all who need it, regardless of their ability to pay.

Hospice of the Valleys Senior Assistance Program pays for direct cost of hospice care for seniors and severely disabled individuals. Direct hospice includes, personal physician visits, nurses, home health aides, social workers, spiritual care advisors, durable medical equipment, medical supplies, medication and delivery, transportation, and bereavement support services.

For more information, visit their website at: https://hospiceofthevalleys.org/



### **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.

## Lakeland Village Community Center Grand Re-Opening 7/3/21

The Grand Re-Opening of the Lakeland Village Community Center was held on 7/3/21. Over the past several years, the property undergone an extensive overhaul to provide the community with a safe location and multiple options. Three pickleball courts, a play ground, and sand volleyball court have been added to the area where existing basketball and handball courts are located.

The community had an opportunity to see what is offered at the center from the outdoor activities to the indoor activities provided by Studio 395, the operator of the Community Center. Also offered at the center, ceramics, zumba, tap, senior crafts, photography classes and more are now being offered at the center. Call 951-471-4407 for more information. The Boys & Girls Club is a tenant on site and will be re-opening for this upcoming school year for after school care.

Those in attendance for the Grand Opening included, Studio 395, the "*Pickelicious*" Pickleball team, Lakeside High Girls' Volleyball team, food trucks, CHP, AMR, Fire, Riverside County Sheriff Volunteers, Riverside County Libraries, Code Enforcement and Animal Services were present.



#### Page 4

## Movie in the Park at Deleo

On Saturday, July 10<sup>th</sup> the County Service Area (CSA) Recreation team held its first Movie in the Park event at Deleo Regional Sports Park in Temescal Valley. Approximately 330 guests attended the movie, Sonic the Hedgehog. Attendees enjoyed free giveaways, waters, popcorn, Kona Ice, a s'mores station and carnival games. As a welcome back gift, each family received a picnic blanket to enjoy. In an effort to keep the attendees safe, 6 hand sanitizing stations were on site. The CSA recreation team also created "family circle" outlines on the ground, to encourage guests to socially distance from other families. The attendees were so happy and appreciative to be out at an event again. It was a great night all around for everyone in attendance.



National wareness month

## Concert & Movie in the Park Mead Valley & Good Hope



The Mead Valley and Good Hope communities were able to enjoy a concert and movie in the park at the community centers as part of the District 1 summer events. Residents participated in different pre-movie activities such as carnival games, tattoos with glitter, bounce houses, popcorn, and raffles while enjoying great music.

Thanks to Fire Station # 9 for hanging out with the kids and allowing them to tour the fire truck during the event.

Special thanks to The Grove staff & community volunteers who made this event possible.









## 1st District Paving Projects

# Extravaganza Lane (Woodcrest)



### More District #1 roads paved!!

After several years of working with local residents and identifying funding avenues for continued road paving within District #1 we were finally able to get Extravaganza Lane in Woodcrest paved.

Local residents were beyond happy to see the new road. No more muddy or dusty cars and trucks.

Thank you to those residents who helped make this project possible and our County Transportation department as well for doing a great job!



## CA Governor Recall Election Information

The CA Governor recall election is September 14, 2021. All registered voters in the state will receive a vote by mail ballot. Voters may return the vote by mail ballot via mail or vote in-person at the voter's assigned polling location.

There will be 145 polling places. The polling locations will be posted on the registrar's website. All polling places will open Saturday before the election on September 11, 2021. In-person early voting will begin August 16, 2021 at the Registrar of Voter's Office in Riverside.

The deadline to register to vote is August 30, 2021. This is the last day to register and get a vote by mail ballot sent to the voter's residence.

After Aug. 30, residents may still register to vote using same-day registration and vote using a provisional ballot at a polling site.

Please visit the Registrar's website for any updates at www.VoteInfo.net More information call (951) 486-7200 or email rovweb@rivco.org





The County of Riverside is seeking qualified applicants to assist with the upcoming election.

- Both Day and Night Shifts available (May require Mandatory Overtime)
- Fast paced environment
- Regular work with ballot processing, customer service and warehouse responsibilities (Must be flexible to work in various roles when needed)
- Team oriented environment where individuals can provide public service and fulfill their civic duty.

MINIMUM

Experience: Customer service experience which involved meeting the public, obtaining and recording factual information or explaining rules, regulations, policies, or procedures.

<u>Knowledge</u>: Perform routine clerical work; learn office practices, procedures and equipment; make simple arithmetic calculations; understand and follow written and oral instructions; establish and maintain cooperative relations with the public.

<u>Ability to</u>: Perform non-sedentary duties; Regularly lift over 25 pounds; Work in a fast-paced environment. (for some positions)

License/Certificate: Possession of a valid California Driver's License. (for some positions)

#### **RIVCO HR**

#### APPLY TODAY! VISIT RC-HR.COM/JOBS

#### Page 8

## New illegal fireworks campaign leads to citations, arrests and seizure of 3,600 pounds of explosives

### Nearly 86% reduction in acres burned from illegal fireworks this year

Following the excessive and hazardous display of illegal fireworks in 2020, Riverside County launched an aggressive campaign to combat the dangerous display of illegal fireworks. The effort, brought forward by the board of supervisors, worked to reduce illegal fireworks in Riverside County using a multi-disciplinary team.

Earlier this year, the board of supervisors passed of a new county ordinance (858.2) prohibiting illegal fireworks. The resulting public education campaign launched the slogan "If You Light It, We'll Write It" to remind residents of the physical and psychological dangers of illegal fireworks, while also warning of the enforcement consequences.

The education campaign included public service announcements that reached almost 400,000 people, freeway billboards, changeable message signs and hundreds of posters displayed on county vehicles.

Working side-by-side, the sheriff's department, the fire department and code enforcement departments significantly reduced the dangerous and illegal activity.

The Riverside County Sheriff's Department received 4,827 calls for service between July 2-4. The department issued 237 citations, conducted four undercover operations, made six arrests and seized 2,862 pounds of fireworks.

"It was certainly a collaborative effort with our county partners," said Sheriff Chad Bianco. "The amount of calls for service in 2020 required a substantial effort this year to reduce the negative impact that industrial fireworks in neighborhoods have on people, livestock and pets." Additionally, the CalFire/Riverside County Fire Department received 621 reports of fireworks activity, a reduction of 10% from 2020. The department issued six citations, made eight arrests and seized 800 pounds of fireworks. The results of these efforts was an 86% reduction of acres burned due to illegal firework activity from 2020.

Code Enforcement Officers issued 26 first-time citations for illegal fireworks during this year's operation. The citation fine starts at \$1,000 and goes up to \$5,000 depending on the number of violations a person has had over three years.

"While working in concert with our public safety partners, Code Enforcement was present during the seizure of several hundred pounds of illegal fireworks, as well as multiple arrests and the recovery of a firearm," said Code Enforcement Director Bob Magee. "This joint operation helped us present a united public safety front while keeping the communities we serve safe."

The comparison in activity year-over-year sends a clear message that this year's operation successfully achieved the goal to reduce illegal fireworks that pose significant risk to the safety and health of Riverside County residents.



#### Page 9



Podcast Discussions Focuses on Protecting Seniors and At-risk Adults from Scammers Experts on 'theServiceStation' offer information on scam risks, prevention in pandemic recovery

In the latest podcast episode of *theServiceStation*, experts from one of California's largest public social service agencies shine a light on the many scams and scam artists who aim to separate at-risk adults from their money.

The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) handles about 300 cases of financial abuse each month in Riverside County, with about a third of them stemming from financial scams and fraud.

"Scams are on the rise. These fraudsters are very crafty and come up with scams that appear to be legitimate," said Advocate Shirley De Santiago, a guest on *'theServiceStation.'* "It's vital that we educate the public to avoid becoming a victim. We want victims to know they're not alone and we are here to help."

The public is invited to join the experts and learn about free resources available to support victims and community members trying to protect their loved ones.

All episodes of *'theServiceStation'* or *'laEstacióndeServicio'* are available in English and Spanish on major podcast platforms such as Apple Podcast, Google Podcasts and Spotify. Listeners will also find episodes on <u>BuzzSprout</u> and the department's website, <u>RivCoDPSS.org</u>.





#### Page 12

#### Jeffries Journal



www.tinyurl.com/HCVAvailableUnits



## **NEED HELP FINDING AN** AVAILABLE UNIT?

The Housing Authority of the County of Riverside is now offering rental search support to Housing Choice www.tinyurl/HCVAvailableUnits for vailable, voucher friendly unit leads.

The properties posted are to best support ou in your search for affordable housing. This webpage should not be your only source in your housing search.

# **ARE YOU HOMELESS**

The Housing Support Program (HSP) provides support to eligible CalWORKs customers when they are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of becoming homeless.

## Assistance may include

#### support for:

- Housing Outreach and Placement.
- Landlord Recruitment
- Utility Assistance
- Hotel/Motel Vouchers
- Rental Assistance
- Security Deposits
- Credit Repair
- Case Management

Contact us for more information at (833) 391-0506 or HSP@rivco.org





Attention All High School Graduates!

## LET US PLACE YOU IN A JOB.

Call or stop by! .....

## WE'RE READY FOR YOU!

Call Planet Youth 951-471-8415 400 W. Graham Ave. Lake Elsinore, CA 92530

WHERE:

WHEN:

31315 Chaney Street, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530

August 16th; 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

For appointments call (951) 674-3146 Option 1

Landlord email and

related financial

income per adult

### **UNITED LIFT 2021 RENTAL & UTILITY** ASSISTANCE



#### Are you or someone you know impacted by COVID-19 and having trouble paying your rent & utilities?

Rental and utility assistance from United Lift is available for eligible Riverside County residents.

The program will cover up to 12 months of back rent and utilities and 3 months of future rent. Assistance is being given without regard to immigration status.











Learn more or apply online at UnitedLift.org

RIVERSIDE COUNTY