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Jeffries Journal

Volume 12, Issue 1

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Kevin's Corner

Welcome to the New Year! California will be holding elections on the first Tuesday in March – so get ready for the onslaught of campaign mail and phone calls (democracy at work!) Below are some quick local updates.

A Shortage of Paramedics – is hitting Riverside County! The Riverside County Fire Department (mostly staffed by CALFIRE) is short over 120 Paramedic Firefighters (equating to roughly a 40% vacancy rate). This problem really became serious during the dark days of COVID lockdowns when numerous essential course classes were cancelled, followed by the “Great Resignation” of employees, plus others moving out of state. As CALFIRE has its own minimum qualifications and unique standards that make hirings more difficult, the Board of Supervisors has directed the County CEO to investigate what steps the County may take to help accelerate Paramedic classes and/or Paramedic hirings so that we can prevent or reduce the number of fire engines that are downgraded to non-Paramedic status. More to come!

Freeway Parking Lots – Anyone who commutes in and out of this County knows first-hand how congested our freeway parking lots can be 7 days a week. While our freeways are owned and maintained by the State, our friends at Caltrans (a state agency) have pretty much been relegated to simply “maintaining” our freeways. Having discussions with the State over freeway “Expansion” considerations in Riverside County is pretty much dead-on-arrival, and asking the State for funding to increase capacity on a state-owned freeway is very politically incorrect at the State Capitol these days. The separate Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) has been evaluating the short and long term transportation needs of our entire County and has come up with a Traffic Relief Plan that looks at all the needs and the massive funding short-fall. Since it can cost roughly a million dollars to build a half mile of sidewalk these days, you can only guess what a mile of freeway costs now. RCTC will be evaluating an additional Riverside County sales tax ballot measure for all of us to vote on. Grab your wallets and enjoy the gridlock!

Is It Time To Separate? Back in December 1995, the Board of Supervisors voted to consolidate the Office of County Coroner-Public Administrator within the office of County Sheriff. California is reportedly only one of three states in the U.S. that allows these agencies to be under one management roof. With the Office of Coroner responsible for investigating the cause of death of inmates within the County jail system, and the cause of death of individuals placed under arrest – the optics of the Sheriff Department (via its Office of Coroner) essentially investigating itself over the causes of death present a potential for a conflict. Looking back at the long history of a previously separated operation,

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the community concerns of a potential conflict of interest, while acknowledging that there is NO evidence of any improprieties having occurred, the Board of Supervisors took a cautious but sincere approach with a simple question – Is there a better way? The County CEO will return to the Board within 90 days with some options to consider.

JVW Renewed. Following a closed session discussion, the Board agreed to offer a new 3-year contract to your County CEO Jeff Van Wagenen (JVW). You may recall in last month's article how JVW essentially worked his way through various ranks to get to the top spot. With five elected Bosses (Board of Sups), five other electeds to work with (D.A, Sheriff, Auditor-Controller, Treasurer & Tax Collector, Assessor/Clerk/Recorder), 23,000 employees, half a dozen unions and 2.5 million residents – someday it's a bumpy ride at the top! Congratulations.

As always – feel free to email your thoughts, suggestions, and/or frustrations as to how we can help improve County services in the First District and across the County. I read pretty much all of them!

Respectfully,

Kevin Jeffries
First District Supervisor

Introducing:



FlashVote

One minute a month is all we need.

Do you have one minute a month to help make Riverside County better? The County of Riverside is working with FlashVote to gather valuable input from residents to inform decisions on programs, policies and budget. The sign-up process takes less than one minute and the individual information collected by Flash Vote is never shared with the County, nor anyone else. When residents sign up, they can determine if they want to receive the surveys by email, text or phone. Residents will receive a notification whenever there is a new survey, and they will have 48 hours to participate before voting closes. Once a survey is closed, everyone who participated will automatically receive a summary of the overall results and be able to see how their responses compare to the group. Results are anonymous. The county encourages residents to sign up now at <http://flashvote.com/rivconow> or call (775) 235-2240 to participate by phone or text only.

**Got an old mattress?
 You've got options!**



byebyemattress.com
A Program of the Mattress Recycling Council

More than 75% of a mattress can be recycled into other products, diverting valuable resources from local landfills! Learn how to recycle your mattress and free disposal options that may be available to you at ByeByeMattress.com #byebyemattress

You can visit our website www.ByeByeMattress.com to find a recycling location and additional information. If you would like these materials in Spanish, please let us know!

For more information about the program in your area, your local Bye Bye Mattress coordinator is Tyler Douthitt at (949) 534-6693.



*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.*

CURRENT OPENINGS:

- Solid Waste** - One (1) Alternate Representative
- Assessment Appeals Board No. 3** - One (1) Alternate
- Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council (MAC)** - One (1) Alternate
- First 5 Children & Families Advisory Committee**— One (1) Member
- Good Hope Municipal Advisory Council (MAC)** - Two (2) Alternates
- In Home Support Services (IHSS)** - Recipient or Consumer of IHSS Services - One (1) opening
- Behavioral Health Commission** - Family Member - One (1) opening & Public Interest - One (1) opening

If you are interested in applying for any of these positions
please see a link and instructions to an
application below:

<https://rivcodistrict1.org/sites/g/files/aldnop256/files/2023-08/Boards%20and%20Commissions%20Application%2C%208-22-23.pdf>



Riverside Transit Agency (RTA) is offering free rides on all local CommuterLink and GoMicro buses every Friday and will continue through June 28, 2024.

Let RTA take you to your next destination
for free!

Get your Free Ride Friday Pass on the GoMobile app.
It's free!

For any questions please reach out to RTA at
(951) 565-5002 or visit their website at

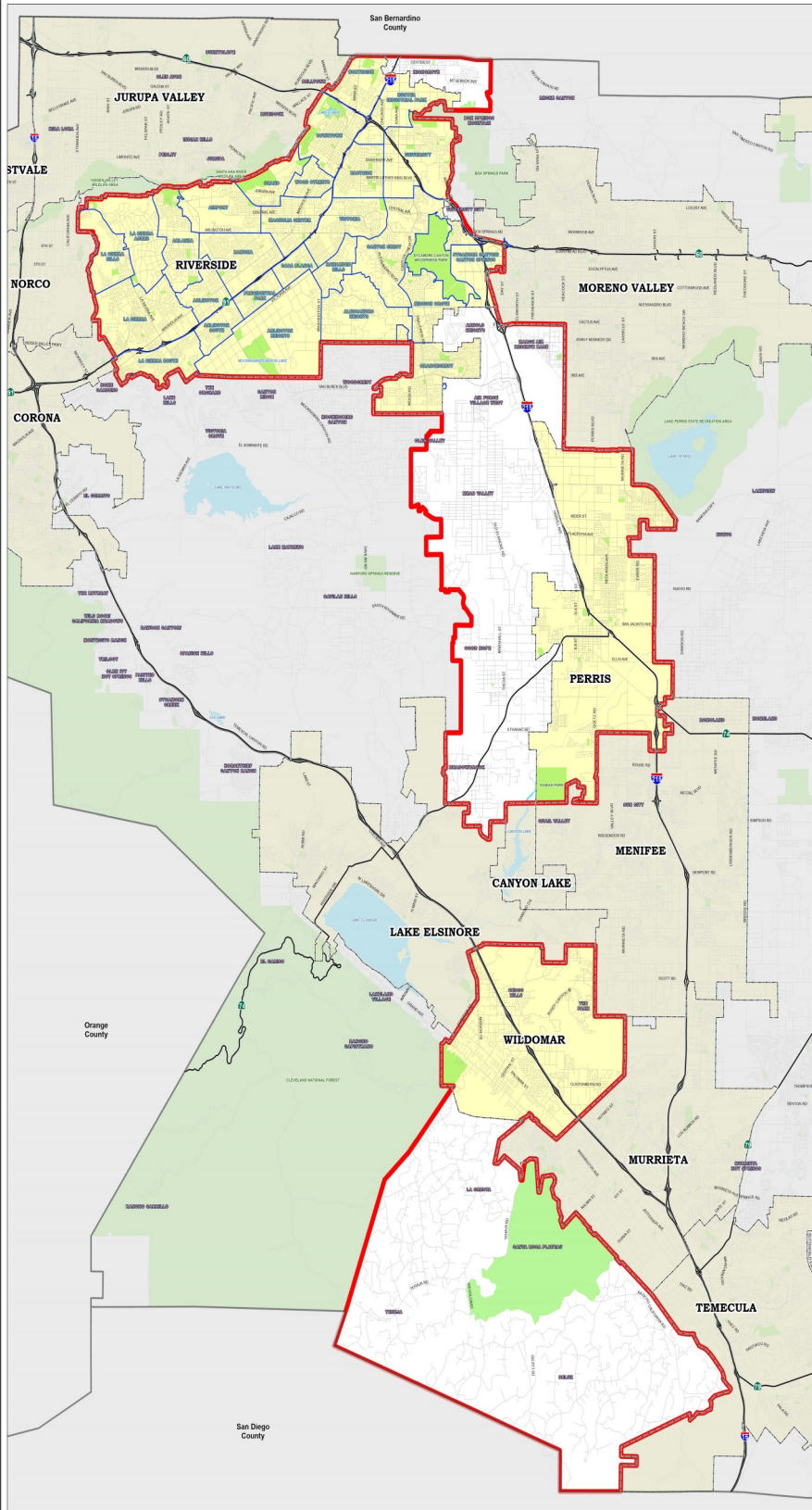
[RiversideTransit.com](https://www.RiversideTransit.com)

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 1 County of Riverside

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, Perris, and Wildomar, and the unincorporated communities including Highgrove, University City, Mead Valley, Good Hope, Meadowbrook, March Joint Powers Authority, La Cresta, Tenaja, and De Luz.



- Roads
- Highways
- City Boundaries
- Neighborhoods
- District 1 Boundary
- Parks
- Waterbodies

Supervisor Kevin Jeffries
 District 1
 (951) 955-1010

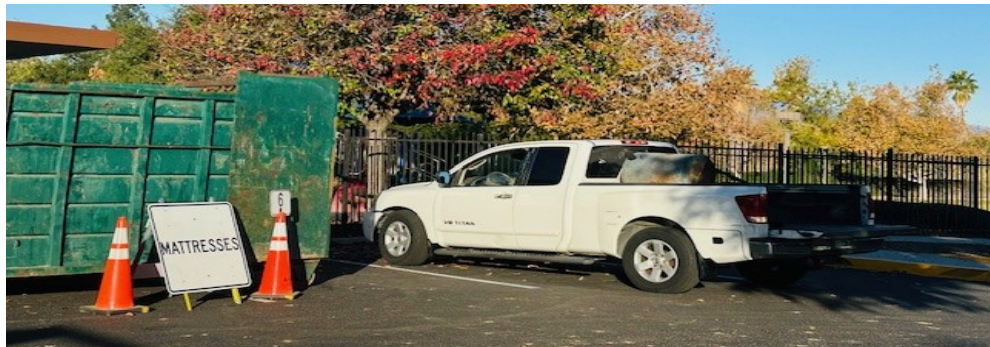
Representing the Cities of:
 Riverside
 Jurupa Valley (portion)
 Perris
 Wildomar



NOTE: Wildomar, La Cresta, Tenaja, and De Luz will move to the 3rd District in January of 2025.

HIGHGROVE CLEAN-UP

On Saturday, December 9th from 8 am to noon, the Highgrove Community had a successful clean up. Over a hundred local Highgrove residents came to drop off their waste. A total of 42 tires, 15 mattresses, and a bunch of trash was collected!



HIGHGROVE BRUNCH WITH SANTA & MARKET

On Sunday, December 10th, Highgrove residents attended the Norton Younglove Highgrove Brunch with Santa and the 951 Market to meet Santa and enjoy the many vendors. There was live entertainment, raffles, over 30 vendors, food, and of course photos with Santa Claus himself.

Many thanks to the Norton Younglove Community Center, especially Leila Santamaria, for a successful event!



LAKELAND VILLAGE SPORTS PARK GROUND BREAKING



On Saturday, December 9th at the Lakeland Village Community Center there was a ground breaking for a New Sports Park! Riverside County Board of Supervisors from District 1 and District 2, with the support of Riverside County Facilities Management, hosted the Lakeland Village community to see the site where new baseball fields are being constructed.

MEAD VALLEY BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

More than 700 people attended the Mead Valley Breakfast with Santa this year. Families had the opportunity to take photos with Santa Claus and enjoy a delicious breakfast while admiring the Christmas decorations, which this year were inspired by Belle from Beauty and the Beast. Each child received a toy and had the opportunity to deliver their letter to Santa, play games, and do crafts.

Many thanks to The Grove Community Church especially, to Pastor Noland, Misty Felix, Lupita Mendoza, and Mrs. Kathy's group for partnering with District #1 and organizing this event, and to the volunteers at Citrus Hill High School. Special thanks to the Riverside County FM team for their support, the Mead Valley Library, and of course, Spark of Love for donating the toys.



GOOD HOPE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

On Saturday, December 16, the Good Hope/Meadowbrook community had the opportunity to enjoy a holiday event at our 2023 Annual Breakfast with Santa. Families enjoyed a delicious breakfast and took photos with Santa Claus; children received a toy, and they had fun decorating Christmas cookies. Thanks to the Youth Advisory Council volunteers, The Grove Community Church, and of course, Spark of Love for donating the toys.

District 1 looks forward to seeing everyone again in 2024!

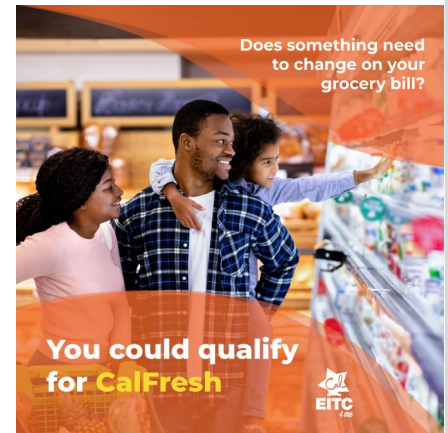


Upcoming 2023 Tax Information

Please see the below flyers for California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC) and the Young Child Tax Credit (YCTC) are state tax credits for working California's. If you qualify, you may see a reduced tax bill or bigger refund. Please follow the below link for more information: <https://www.caleitc4me.org/>.



Did you know that 4 out of 5 Americans use **direct deposit** for their tax refund?



Community Flyers



Ignite Big Business Growth (3 Part-Series)

Date: January 9-11, 2024

Time: 5 - 6:30 PM

Location: Webinar

Get ready for an engaging and interactive workshop designed to provide you with essential tools for developing, expanding, and advancing your business! This three-part series, specifically crafted for ambitious business owners, is a perfect opportunity to boost your entrepreneurial drive and outpace the competition. Be prepared to immerse yourself in hands-on activities focused on business growth and brace yourself to witness your progress in real-time!

Register by following below link:

<https://iewbc.ecenterdirect.com/events/6460>

Move Over to cloudLibrary™ to Keep Reading!

Overdrive and Libby account services will end on September 27, 2023

EXPLORE. DISCOVER. CUSTOMIZE.

IMPROVE YOUR READING EXPERIENCE WITH CLOUDLIBRARY

cloudLibrary™

CL

1:52

JaneAusten

Discovery Library

VIEW CARDS

Find your next Adventure!

SEARCH

Trending eBooks SEE ALL (100)

DANIEL SILVA

AMOR EM CORES

OURO PRATA SILVA

Trending Audiobooks SEE ALL (100)

Riverside County Library System

REVERSHIRE COUNTY OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



SPECIAL NEEDS REUNIFICATION PROGRAM

RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Enroll today!

Riverside County Sheriff's Office Special Needs Reunification Program helps law enforcement locate missing individuals with disabilities such as autism and dementia, as well as those with behavioral health challenges.



Families can pre-register to provide a detailed physical description of their loved one, photographs, possible destinations, and suggested calming strategies. Deputies and dispatchers can immediately access the information at the time of a missing persons call, expediting a safe return.

The Special Needs Reunification Program is sponsored by the Riverside County Sheriff's Office and is supported by the Riverside University Health System.

THE GOAL OF THIS PROGRAM IS TO REUNIFY INDIVIDUALS WITH THEIR FAMILIES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Register online or call any Sheriff's station for an in-person appointment.

For more information or to find a station near you, visit www.riversidesheriff.org.



Scan the QR Code to register or learn more



bit.ly/RIVCOREUN



RIVERSIDE COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION

Requirements to Join

- Attend a high school within Riverside County
- Be able to attend bi-weekly meetings and service events
- Eager to make changes in your community

Open Recruitment!

Join the Riverside County Youth Commission today and learn how you can serve your community, gain leadership skills and make your voice heard. Serve on one of our five Youth Advisory Councils under the Board of Supervisors and become a leader of tomorrow!

@RivCoYAC
www.rivcoyac.org

Interested in joining?
Scan QR code to complete an interest form:



JOIN OUR TEAM



We are looking for professionals who are willing to support and improve the health, safety, well-being and independence of our county's families

OPEN DPSS POSITIONS

- Eligibility Technician I/II
- Social Services Practitioner III and many more!!



BENEFITS INCLUDE

- Medical, Vision, Dental
- Competitive Work Schedules
- 12 Paid Holidays Per Year
- Vacation and Sick Time Accruals
- 457b Deferred Compensation Plan
- CalPERS Pension
- Education Support Program

APPLY TODAY!

Scan the QR code to see more employment opportunities.

For all Riverside County job openings, visit: RC-HR.com



Scan To Apply

For more information please visit us at: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/riverside/dpssjobs>

MOSES SCHAFFER COMMUNITY CENTER

1ST & 3RD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH:
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

21565 Steele Peak Dr | Perris



MOBILE RESOURCE VAN SERVICES:

- Learning Lounge** - Just-in-time literacy support services, such as resume and job help
- Family Literacy Programs** - Programs to develop literacy skills as a family, such as Raising a Reader and STEAM programs
- Adult One-on-One Sessions** - Get one-on-one support to improve your reading, writing, listening, speaking and digital skills
- Adult Small Group Sessions** - Get support to improve your reading, writing, listening, speaking, digital and job skills as a group
- Library Services** - Book checkout/checkin, holds pickup/return, get a library card

Riverside County Library System
5840 Mission Blvd. | Riverside, Ca. 92509
www.rivlib.net | 951.369.3003

