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Kevin's Corner

Who You Gonna Call? You may recall that back in January, I wrote about our significant Firefighter Paramedic shortage. Unfortunately, it continues to be a problem. Roughly 8 fire stations each day are downgraded to non-paramedic status. Our long-time partner and state contractor CAL FIRE (formerly known as CDF) has over 100 unfilled paramedic firefighter positions in our county. CAL FIRE provides contract fire / EMS services to not only our unincorporated county fire stations, but also to a majority of the cities in this county (City of Riverside is NOT one of them). It's a significant problem, and it appears that the State "Mother Ship" of CAL FIRE is struggling with solutions—like doing what most cities do: Hire newly certified Paramedics and then train them to be Firefighters (instead of the other way around). Fairly soon, the County will be forced to implement its own solutions, including the possibility of using county employees on medic squads. And speaking of the Fire Department just a reminder – while everything is green now, all that new growth will soon turn brown, and Fire Season is just around the corner. Help our firefighters help you and get those weeds mowed down as soon as possible.

Greased Lightning! A critically needed mixed-use behavioral health care campus for Riverside County is quickly moving through the county approval process, in order to position our county for receipt of large-scale state grants. The Mead Valley Wellness Village will be built on roughly 20 acres of land, and host a 100,000 sq ft Community Wellness building for Mental Health & Substance Use Disorders, a 40,000 sq ft Children & Youth services building, a 50,000 specialized Behavioral Health Urgent Care services building, a 200,000 sq ft building for Supportive Transitional Housing (nearly 300 beds), and a 67,000 sq ft building for Extended Residential Care. The campus is also proposed to host a library, animal kennel, laundry facility and an onsite market and coffee shop. In my nearly 12 years on the Board of Supervisors I've never seen the county bureaucracy move so smoothly and efficiently in getting our ducks in a row. It's a great example of what can be done!

The Opposite of Greased Lighting is? Big bureaucracies, both public and private sector. I have mentioned in past articles about our growing irritation over a private public utility provider and their inability or unwillingness to install regular run-of-the-mill streetlights on a two-lane county road that has a high history of fatal accidents. Reportedly, it's just a "low priority" for the utility provider. After nearly three years of waiting I have given some thought to naming the next serious or fatal accident location in these areas after the Board Chairman of the utility. I probably won't do that, but I should. Another extended delay is occurring in our own county house, and that is getting sidewalks constructed. We are going on two years or more with our own county efforts to construct sidewalks near schools, libraries, and community centers. Now anyone reading this would rightly say... well, aren't you in charge of the Department that has been asked (and funded) to get the job done? I would sheepishly answer – *well.. yes – sort of*. The real answer is it takes 3. It takes 3 of 5 Supervisors to tell the County CEO that something big must get done, that someone must get fired, or that someone needs a fire lit under them, or to say in a united voice that the bureaucracy is out of control, and it needs to be reformed. **(Continued on Page 2)**

After much damage being done over several years, some big changes finally occurred and new leadership is now in place for the sidewalk projects. Unfortunately, I find in other areas that several struggling (or retired-on-the-job) manager-types have had protective bubble-wrap placed around them by their superiors in order to protect them from being evaluated and/or properly motivated to engage and do their job. Now, to be fair, no employee should live in fear. Fear is not an ideal motivator. But there must be consequences for not performing. A big part of the day-to-day work in our office is helping our roughly 500,000 First District citizens navigate the bureaucratic maze when seeking help with accessing county or social services, obtaining county licenses or permits, filing or seeking county documents, property tax dispute assistance, flooding issues, county land use questions (the list goes on). Our office is not very well-liked by the under-performers, but we work for our residents, not them.

A Job Well Done – goes to the Registrar of Voters. Now, before some of you write me to tell me of a problem you encountered on election day, just know that my wife used to volunteer every election for the ROV, so I am well aware of the logistical nightmare of planning and setting up election centers across our massive county. But while it is never fast enough for candidates in a tight race (I've been there!), we have actually been one of the leaders in the state when it comes to the speed and efficiency in which we have been counting and reporting our ballots, with many counties much smaller than ours having more ballots left to count than Riverside has—particularly as a percentage of votes cast. Obviously quickness isn't as important as accuracy, but there isn't any reason to believe ours are inaccurate. We do an automatic hand count audit of 1% of the ballots cast, and anyone who believes a race has been decided incorrectly is welcome to request a full recount of as many precincts as they wish (at their expense).

Some of you have a new Supervisor: In the March election, voters of the new 3rd District elected/re-elected Supervisor Chuck Washington to represent them. As a result, overlapping areas that used to be in the 1st District will now be represented by Supervisor Washington. These areas include DeLuz, La Cresta, Tenaja, and the City of Wildomar. Please see the map on page 3 for more details. Supervisor Washington's office can be reached at 951-955-1030 or District3@RivCo.org

Remember – if you need help with a county issue or have a suggestion to improve county services – please drop us an email. And remember to click on the rest of the attached newsletter for community events and services.

Respectfully,
Kevin Jeffries
First District Supervisor

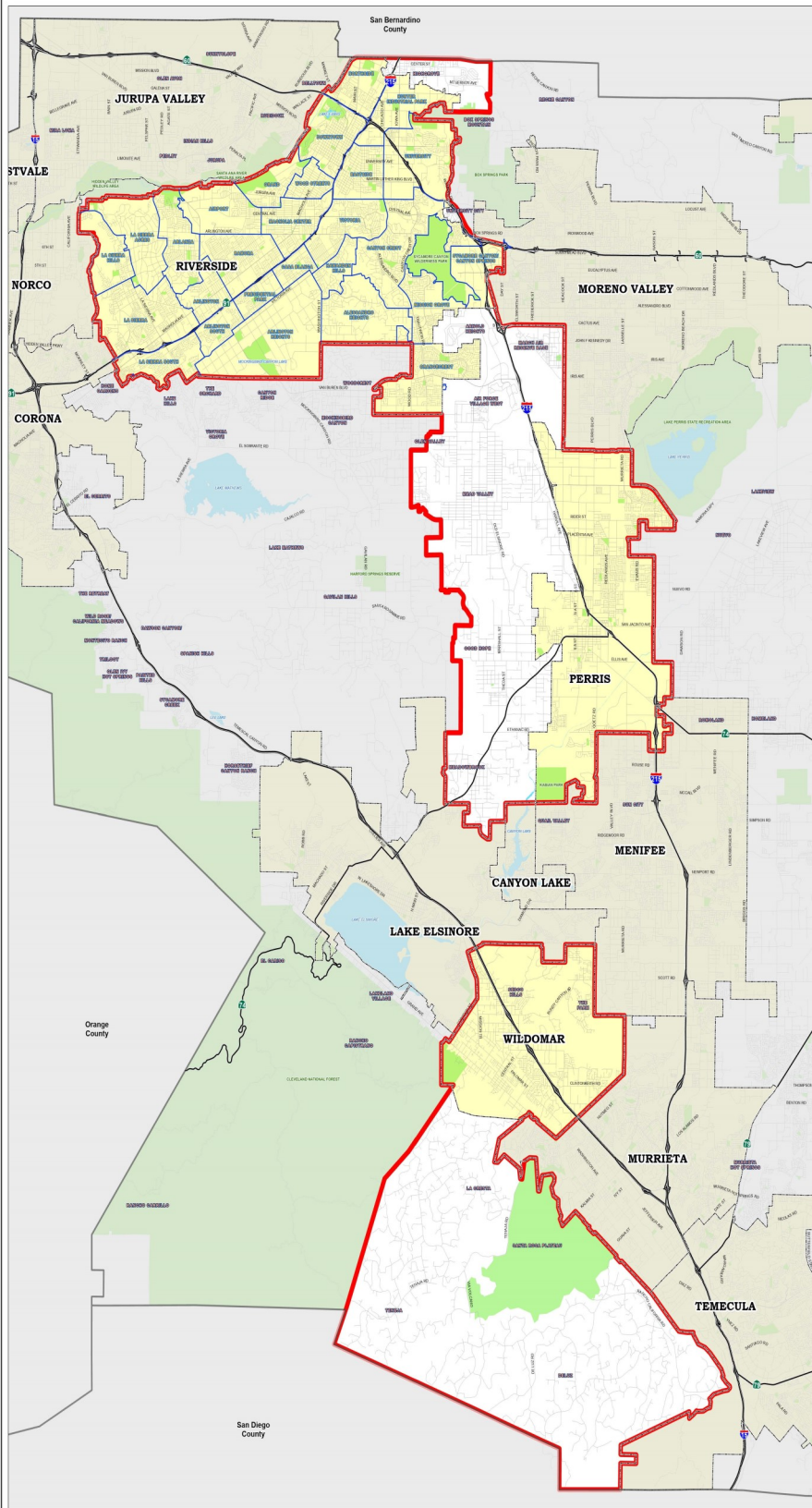
Introducing:



FlashVote

Do you have one minute a month to help make Riverside County better? The County of Riverside is working with Flash Vote 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.

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. In 2022 the district was redrawn, and now covers the entirety of the cities of Riverside and Perris, as well as the unincorporated communities of Highgrove, University City, Mead Valley, Good Hope, Meadowbrook, and the March Joint Powers Authority. In January 2025, the 1st District will also include portions of the City of Jurupa Valley.

- 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



The lower area outlined in red, City of Wildomar, La Cresta, De Luz, and Tenaja, starting early April will transfer responsibility from our District to District 3, Supervisor Chuck Washington’s office. His office can be reached at 951-955-1030 or District3@RivCo.org

*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 below
 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*

CURRENT OPENINGS:

- Solid Waste - One (1) Alternate Representative**
- Assessment Appeals Board No. 3 - One (1) Alternate**
- Behavioral Health Commission - Public Interest - One (1) opening**
- Riverside County Flood Control - Commissioner - One (1) opening**
- 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**

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



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

1st District 2024 Woman of The Year
STERLON MARIE SIMS



Congratulations to Sterlon Sims on being the 2024 District 1 Woman of the Year. On March 5, this award was given to an outstanding woman in each supervisory district who has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to her community by working to improve the status of women and their families in Riverside County. Sterlon Sims has been a member of the First District's Mead Valley Municipal Advisory Council since 2016, and a regular volunteer at community events and clean-ups.



Thank you

Highgrove Community Updates Highgrove Spay and Neuter



On March 22, The Department of Animal Services Spay and Neuter event at the Highgrove Community Library was a major success. We were able to help dozens of Highgrove pet owners. Stay tuned for future opportunities.

Animal Services just started using this new spay and neuter mobile clinic this year, and Highgrove was its first stop in the First District!

THE 951 MARKET
HELLO Spring
April 13Th
3pm-8pm

Food | Art | Fashion | Music
Performances | Games

Pet Friendly

Norton Younglove Center
459 Center St Riverside Ca 92507

For questions please email us at Info@the951Market.com



HIGHGROVE NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP



DISPOSE YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS FREE!

May 25, 2024

8:00 am – 12:00 pm or until dumpsters are full

Norton Younglove Community Center

459 Center St., Highgrove, CA 92570

Funded by The County of Riverside Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

DROP OFF YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS FOR FREE!

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS



NO!

- X** Household Trash
- X** Latex, Oil or Paint
- X** Empty Drums
- X** Batteries
- X** Motor Parts
- X** Motor Oil
- X** Pool Chemicals
- X** Transmission/Brake Fluids
- X** Pesticides/Herbicides
- X** Bleach/Tub & Tile Cleaner
- X** Fertilizers
- X** Rodent Poisons
- X** Anti-Freeze
- X** Solvents/Gasoline
- X** Fluorescent Light Tubes

For more information, contact



(760) 863-2586 or



gcoesobar@rivco.org

Mead Valley Easter Event

Our annual Mead Valley Easter event hosted by The Grove Community Church on Saturday, March 23rd was a tremendous success! More than 500 people attended on a rainy day to enjoy the Easter egg hunt, carnival games, bounce houses, interactive games, food, raffles, and of course the traditional photo with the Easter Bunny. Many thanks to Noland Turnage, Misty Felix, the Grove staff, and the 94 volunteers who made this event possible.



Mead Valley Street Food Vending Workshop

District 1 hosted a Street Food Vending Workshop on March 20th, at the Mead Valley Community Center. This event was a huge success, providing information to residents on how to become a licensed street vendor. A big shoutout to Riverside County Environmental Health, Code Enforcement, Office of Economic Development, and the Perris Chamber of Commerce for their invaluable contributions to this informative event.



National Crime Victims' Rights Week

RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

OPTIONS SERVICES HOPE



NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK
APRIL 21-27, 2024

APRIL 23, 7:00 PM

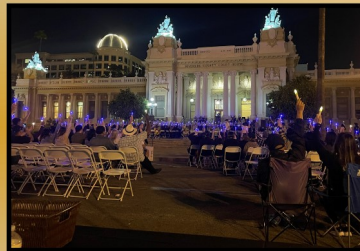
PALM DESERT
CIVIC PARK



43900 SAN PABLO AVE
PALM DESERT, CA 92260

APRIL 24, 7:00 PM

RIVERSIDE HISTORIC
COURTHOUSE



4050 MAIN STREET
RIVERSIDE, CA 92501

The Memorial wall unveiling will take place at the Memorial Courtyard immediately following the Riverside candlelight vigil. In addition, the third annual healing h[arts] exhibit will be on display in the Riverside media room at the DA's Office.

f @rivcoda

951-955-5450

inquiries@rivcoda.org

Every year, National Crime Victims' Rights Week serves as a poignant reminder of the impact crime has on individuals, families, and communities across the nation. This year, from April 21st to April 27th, we stand together to recognize and support those who have been affected by crime. As part of our commitment to honoring this cause, we invite you to join us for two special candlelight vigils hosted by the Riverside County District Attorney's Office on April 23rd in Palm Desert and April 24th in Riverside.

The candlelight vigils symbolize our solidarity and support for victims of crime, as well as our dedication to advocating for their rights. These solemn gatherings provide a space for reflection, remembrance, and healing.

By coming together as a community, we not only honor the lives lost and the pain endured but also reaffirm our commitment to creating safer, more supportive environments for all.

The District 1 team participates in these events every year. If you would like to attend this event, please see the event flyer above.

Upcoming Good Hope Events

Good Hope/Meadowbrook Community Clean-Up

WHEN: April 6, 2024

TIME: 8am-12pm

WHERE: 27205 State Hwy 74 (and Meadowbrook Ave) Perris, CA 92570

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

- Washers/Dryers • TVs • Microwaves • Air Conditioners • Computers
- Refrigerators/Freezers • Chairs/Couches/Tables • Box Springs/Mattresses
- Barbecue/Patio Furniture • Bundled Branches • Bagged Green Waste
- **Tire collection limited to residents only, no tires will be accepted from business entities**

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED:

- Latex, Oil or Paint • Fluorescent Light Tubes • Empty Drums • Batteries
- Pool Chemicals • Commercial or Remodeling Waste • Automotive Oils/Cleaners & Fluids
- Poisons/Pesticides/Herbicides • Bleach/Tub & Tile Cleaner • Solvents/Gasoline
- Auto Parts & Engines • Treated Wood Waste (fence posts, railroad ties)

***Participants will be required to unload their vehicle without assistance.**

*** Proof of residency is required. Please bring a photo ID, along with this postcard or a Waste Management bill to the clean-up. Residents with trailers will be directed to the landfill/transfer station to unload themselves.**

*** Per State law, you must have a tire manifest to transport over 9 tires and tires must be less than 4 feet in diameter.**

Please call Waste Management with any questions you may have at (800) 423-9986



Good Hope Tire Collection Event



Saturday, April 27, 2024

8:00 am – 12:00 pm *or until dumpsters are full*

**Good Hope Community Center
21565 Steele Peak Rd. Perris, CA**

Funded by The County of Riverside Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

DROP OFF YOUR PASSENGER TIRES FOR FREE!



Important Tire Information

- Available to Residents **ONLY**
- Residents can transport up to 9 tires per trip—STATE LAW
- Tires will **NOT** be accepted from businesses
- Tires with rims **WILL NOT** be accepted

For more information, contact Grace Escobar

(760) 863-2586

gcescobar@rivco.org

Mead Valley Neighborhood Cleanup

March 9, 2024



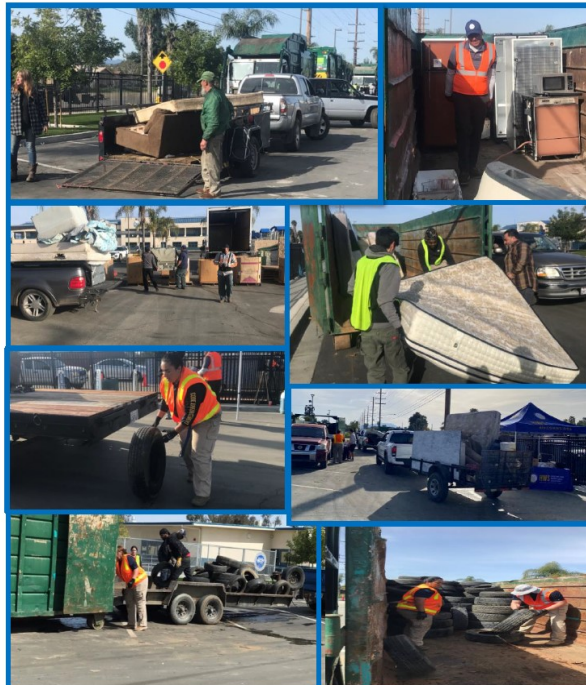
Event Stats

- 4 - front loaders of General Bulky Items
- 2 - 40-yard bins of Metals & Appliances
- 2.4 - 40-yard bins of Mattresses
- 1 - truckload of E-waste items
- 367 Tires Collected
- 141 Resident Trip loads

Tonnage will be provided by Waste Management



- 4 Riverside County Code Enforcement Staff
- 3 Riverside County HWS Staff
- 3 Volunteer



People said...

- ❖ "Great, I threw away all my stuff. It would be great if we had this more often. The landfill is expensive now ...Thank you." – **Juan**/ Resident
- ❖ "Organized, nice, very smooth" – **D. Stenlake** /Resident
- ❖ "Thank you it feels good helping out the community" – **Arturo** / Volunteer
- ❖ "This is a Godsend – I found out through the mailer." – **Joe**/ Resident
- ❖ "Excellent event! Everything is good, Thank you for the help." – **Maria** / Resident
- ❖ "Good, cool, therapeutic" – **Andre** / Volunteer



Upcoming 2023 Tax Information

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

If you made less than \$30,000 in 2023, you may qualify for a tax credit called **CalEITC.**






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




Does something need to change on your grocery bill?

You could qualify for **CalFresh**

FREE TAX SERVICES!

Every Friday from 10am-2pm



Have Your Taxes Filed For Free!

If you earned less than \$85k in 2023 and had no business losses or rental income, you qualify! Every Friday starting February 2, 2024 to Friday April 12, 2024. You can get your taxes done for Free at the Highgrove Library 530 W Center St. Riverside, CA 92507

For more information please call 951-682-1507





CODE ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS 2023

Cases Opened



5,798
9% increase*

Cases Closed



6,093
16% increase

Call Center Calls



22,143
28% increase

Online Complaints



8,218
29% increase

Abandoned/Inoperable Vehicles Resolved



1,569
37% increase

Cannabis Plants Removed



237,568

Short-Term Rental Inspections



401

Vendors Contacted



800

Miles Driven



673,561

Case Fees Collected



\$2,021,514

*Percentages show changes from 2022 to 2023.

Got an old mattress? You've got options!

1

**Retailers
Take It**



2

**Drop It
Off**



3

**City
Pick Up**



byebymattress.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 their 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.

Community Flyers

Proceeds Support Local Children in Need!



Come Play with Some of your Favorite NFL Players

Celebrity Golf Tournament

- ✓ 18 Holes of Golf
- ✓ Mulligans
- ✓ Raffles, Live Auction, Great Prizes!
- ✓ Foursome Photo
- ✓ Lunch and Awards Banquet Included!

EARLY BIRD PRICES THROUGH 1/31/2024

FOURSOME SPONSOR \$800

INDIVIDUAL SPONSOR \$200

PRICE Includes ALL Events Listed and More!

Additional Sponsorships Available!

May 3rd, 2024



Dos Lagos Golf Course
4507 Cabot Dr., Corona, CA 92883

CHECK IN 11:00am
Shotgun 12:30 pm

Register Online @ <http://copsforkidsinc.org/events>
To Reserve Your Spot Call or Email Chris Jeffries @ 951-245-3389/CopsForKidsGolf@outlook.com

www.CopsForKidsInc.org

1 LIFE HEART POISONING & OVERDOSE AWARENESS 5K WALK

MARCH 27 | PALM DESERT
Palm Desert Civic Center
7 AM - 1 PM

APRIL 13 | RIVERSIDE
Fairmount Park
8 AM - 2 PM

APRIL 27 | MURRIETA
Murrieta Town Square Park
8 AM - 2 PM

BRINGING AWARENESS OF SUBSTANCE USE AND OVERDOSES IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Join us for a memorial walk and resource fair, Poisoning & Overdose Awareness 5k Walk, "1 Heart, 1 Life". Three scheduled events will honor those who have lost their lives due to poisoning and overdose. We welcome you to register for one of our 5k walks listed!

Honoring those who have lost their lives due to poisoning and overdose.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- FREE 5K Fun Walk
- Resource Fair
- Guest speakers
- Lunch provided



RUHEALTH.ORG/EVENTS
ONELIFE@RUHEALTH.ORG

REGISTER TO WALK bit.ly/1LifeWalkRegister



This information is available in alternative formats upon request. If you are in need of a reasonable accommodation, please contact 951-358-4560.

ASL - Interpreting Services Provided



Take Your Small Business Digital with RivCoED & SBDC's Website Wizardry Training Program



WEBSITE WIZARDRY

Transform Your Small Business Online

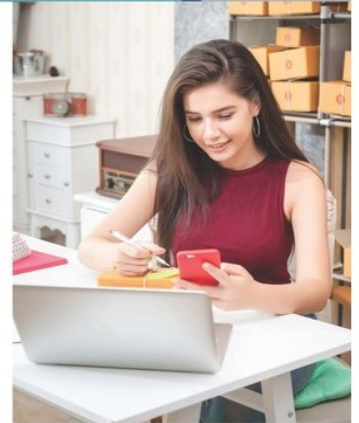
WEDNESDAYS | APRIL 3 - MAY 1 | 3 - 5 p.m.

ONLINE

Are you a small business owner struggling to stand out online?

This five-week training program brought to you by the OCIE SBDC is your key to online success. We'll cover all the fundamentals of building a website that not only looks good but drives customers to your door.

- Week 1 - April 3
Introduction to Online Presence and Planning Your Website
- Week 2 - April 10
Setting Up and Designing Your Website
- Week 3 - April 17
Adding Products and Setting Up E-Commerce Functions
- Week 4 - April 24
Advanced E-Commerce Features and Marketing Your Website
- Week 5 - May 1
Analyzing Performance and Next Steps



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



REGISTER TODAY!
website-wizardry.eventbrite.com



Funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Funding is not an endorsement of any product, service, or practice. All programs are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis. Funded in part through a Grant with the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development. All opinions, conclusions, and/or recommendations expressed herein are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development.



1 LIFE HEART POISONING & OVERDOSE AWARENESS 5K WALK

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for people with a passion for serving others and helping raise awareness of the deadly dangers of substance use. Riverside University Health System - Behavioral Health is hosting an inaugural Poisoning & Overdose Awareness 5K Walks throughout the county.

MARCH 27 | PALM DESERT
Palm Desert Civic Center
7 AM - 1 PM

APRIL 13 | RIVERSIDE
Fairmount Park
8 AM - 2 PM

APRIL 27 | MURRIETA
Murrieta Town Square Park
8 AM - 2 PM

WE NEED HELP WITH

- Event set-up
- Guide runners on path
- Assisting exhibitors and guests
- Event tear-down and clean-up

LUNCH & SNACKS ARE PROVIDED. VOLUNTEERS ALSO GET EVENT T-SHIRTS



REGISTER bit.ly/1LifeWalkVolunteer



This information is available in alternative formats upon request. If you are in need of a reasonable accommodation, please contact 951-358-6895.

HWS HOUSING AND WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS

ENGAGE. ENCOURAGE. EQUIP.

In the next six months, the County of Riverside is updating their AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHERING FAIR HOUSING (AFFH) for the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The goal of Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) is to combat housing discrimination, eliminate racial bias, undo historic patterns of segregation, and lift barriers that restrict access in order to foster inclusive communities and achieve racial equity, fair housing choice, and opportunity for all Californians.

Fair housing outcomes would be locally driven based on the fair housing issues presented by local circumstances.

Implementation of an Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) plan will greatly enhance equity, human dignity, social welfare, and justice for all protected class groups. Creating equitable access to affordable housing opportunities is crucial to the County's vulnerable populations that have long been denied equal access in many aspects of their lives.

Your voice matters! Please complete the survey to help guide County determinations that address priority housing and housing issues.



If you have questions, please reach out to: Tina.Roseberry@mbakerintl.com

