SUPERVISOR KEVIN JEFFRIES RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT #1

Jeffries Journal

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Kevin's Corner

A Long Ago Promise Comes Home To Roost... If you go back in time when the overall cost of California's public pensions were very affordable, you will then find a pivot point in 1999, when the California State Legislature and then Governor Gray Davis made changes (enhancements) to the retirement benefit levels for future retiring public employees, with the promise that it would impose no new costs on California taxpayers. Fast forward to today, and despite efforts by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors and the Legislature and Governor in 2012 to roll back some of those benefits enhancements for new hires, the news for California and Riverside County is pretty grim. In fact, very grim. According to our latest Pension Advisory Review Committee (PARC) Report, CalPERS is going to raise Riverside County's annual pension costs by nearly \$300 million over the next handful of years. The annual increase is already underway with an increase of \$56 million for the next fiscal year, and \$113 million the following year. The PARC report to the Board of Supervisors says that within two years, for every four regular employees, the county will be paying for the equivalent of a 5th position in retirement, and for every two public safety employees, the county will be paying the equivalent of a 3^{rd} position in retirement. I'm not a mathematician, but I would speculate that in just few years it is possible that of the 22,000 or so current county employee positions, over 4,000 county positions will need to be vacated just to pay for the empty chairs of retirees. If you want to read the report for yourself, here is the link: http://riversidecountyca.iqm2.com/Citizens/Detail_LegiFile.aspx? Frame=&MeetingID=2030&MediaPosition=&ID=8941&CssClass=

Unsettling Settlements... For those of you who have been reading this newsletter for many years, you are likely well aware of my past efforts to hold County Department Heads and other employees accountable for lawsuit settlements resulting from gross negligence, poor training, or poor supervision (to name a few). Several years ago, I had floated a proposal that lawsuit settlement payouts for those truly negligent actions should come directly from the specific budget of the offending department(s) and not just a pooled fund where every department pays into it, but nobody feels the pain (except the taxpayers). Not surprisingly, that idea was met with a very cold reception and died a bureaucratic death (we will study that and get back to you). Unfortunately, we live in a state that is well known for very generous jury awards, especially when it involves lawsuits against public agencies (and especially law enforcement). Couple that with an institutional reluctance to hold anyone accountable, extensive delays (years) bringing lawsuits and settlement cases to the Board for review, and a fear of losing cases that could cost millions of dollars, the necessary reforms and accountability never materialized, and the payouts keep mounting. With the recent reporting by the Press Enterprise of the large cumulative totals paid out over the past five years, combined with two new members and one slightly newer member being elected to the Board of Supervisors, it is my intention to reintroduce

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a proposal to hold Departments accountable for awards resulting from various forms of negligence. I hope to have the proposal on the February 26th agenda. It is my belief that with proper training and supervision of employees combined with early and aggressive investigations into misconduct, we could save our county millions of tax dollars each year. I may be wrong, but the path we are on is certainly not working.

First District News Resources... On the News page of my website you have always been able to find old issues of the Jeffries Journal. Last year we began the "Planning News" section, where you can find updated information about any significant proposed and recently approved development projects within unincorporated areas of the First District, listed by community. The latest information source on that page is my new "Weekly Board Update", where I will provide a re-cap of each Board of Supervisors' Meeting, highlighting the issues of interest both county-wide and specific to the First District. All three news resources are linked here: <u>http://supervisorjeffries.com/opencms/News/index.html</u>

As always, if you have any suggestions, concerns or complaints, please feel free to email them to me.

Respectfully, Kevin Jeffries



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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

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)



Local District #1 Events

District #I Youth Advisory Council Clean Up

Recently the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) for District #I went out to Mead Valley to help clean up the trail which runs along Rider street from Old Elsinore to Brown Street. Nineteen (19) YAC members showed up to pull weeds, pick up trash, and sweep the sidewalk of debris.

Several local residents stopped by and said "thank you" for making the trail look so much better. Huge thanks go out to all of our YAC members who attended and our YAC coordinator Jaime Pulver, as well as our EDA Maintenance Department for use of the tools.



Local District #1 Events

Canyon Lake Chamber Installation

Recently Supervisor Jeffries attended the Canyon Lake Chamber of Commerce's Installation dinner event to swear in the new members of the Board of Directors for 2019. Joining him at the event and recognizing other special guests was State Assemblywoman Melissa Melendrez.







Rain Storms 2019

During the most recent rain storms which affected our county, Supervisor Jeffries was consistently kept informed on potential flooding and actions being taken to keep residents safe as the storms moved across our county.

Pictured to the left is Supervisor Jeffries at the Emergency Operations Center in Riverside with members of the emergency team monitoring local weather reports.

County Boards and Commissions Appointee Profile

Temecula—Elsínore-Anza-Murríeta Resource Conservation District (Team RCD) Rose Corona—President

What does your District do?

The Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta Resource Conservation District (formerly the Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta Resource Conservation District) was formed in 1949 and at the time of creation did not include the 89,000 acre cattle ranch area owned by the Vail Family which most people know as Temecula. In 2015, with the increase in population and the expansion of the Wine Country region in the Temecula Valley, the Board voted to include the name of Temecula in its name and officially had it changed to reflect the diversity of the District and its constituency using the inclusive acronym of "TEAM RCD."

Since its' inception, farming within the District's boundaries was the focus of most of TEAM RCD work. However, in the early 1970's the responsibilities of the RCD expanded to include environmental and wildlife concerns and management in coordination with local governmental agencies that include Fish and Wildlife, Army Corps of Engineers and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards in helping keep our watersheds, our water and wildlife protected for future generations.

We currently are working in collaboration with the Rancho California Water District in helping to administrate Water Audits for farmers which help assess their current water usage with their crops and how to improve their water consumption through updating their irrigation processes and equipment. In addition, we also work with RCWD on their Crop Swap program which provides the opportunity for farmers and growers to swap an existing high water use crop to a lesser water use crop. This program allows farmers and growers to continue to keep their land in agriculture rather than letting an entire crop diminish due to the high cost of water.

TEAM RCD has also obtained an agreement with Riverside County Flood Control to collaborate with them in maintaining, restoring and creating habitat within our watersheds and flood control areas which will benefit all the communities within our district.

What interested you in serving on the Board?

Our family has been farming in Southern California for almost 100 years and we have been in the Temecula Valley since 1973 when my father began purchasing property in Temecula. We moved from Cucamonga (before it was renamed Rancho Cucamonga) because we were getting pushed out by development and my father chose Temecula saying "Let's move to Temecula. Nobody will move there." Well we all know how that has turned out. When we moved here, the sign on U.S. 395 that said "Temecula-Population-200".

I was appointed to TEAM RCD in 2015 and was interested in participating in the District to be involved in keeping farming interests alive in our community while still working with those that wished to come to this area and see their vision for their futures realized. That included balancing the need for development and expansion without eliminating the agricultural and farming aspects that created this area to begin with. Being members of the Riverside County Farm Bureau, our family has continued to serve our community and I wished to be able to contribute to the sustainability of our area to make it an inviting place to visit and a wonderful community to live in.

Our TEAM RCD Board members are myself, Dave Kuhlman, Stacy Kuhns, Randy Feeney, and Jack Fleming with Associate Directors Rick Neugebauer, Judy Gugliemana and Newton Parkes who all continue to work to move our District forward in helping to preserve our way of life for everyone.

Non-Profit Spotlight

Team Rubicon is an international non-profit disaster response organization that unites the skills and experiences of military veterans with first responders to rapidly deploy emergency response teams, free of charge, to communities affected by disasters. Team Rubicon currently maintains a roster of 65,000+ volunteers able to deploy throughout the United States and world.

Through continued service, Team Rubicon seeks to provide veterans with three things they lose after leaving the military: a purpose, gained through disaster relief; community, built by serving with others; and identity, from recognizing the impact one individual can make. Coupled with leadership development and other opportunities, Team Rubicon looks to help veterans transition from military to civilian life.

Recently, Team Rubicon mobilized to provide assistance to the County and residents of the Robinhood Oaks Estates in the Lake Elsinore area to repair damage from prior storms and prepare for upcoming rain events. See pictures of their work on the following page.

For more information on how to become involved, visit their website at <u>https://teamrubiconusa.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.

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In 2019, vending laws regarding location and time will change, however...

Vendors selling FOOD must still meet CA health regulations and have a permit from Riverside County Department of Environmental Health.

Contact your local Environmental Health office for more details on how to obtain a permit to sell food. Please note: This Department does not regulate nonfood merchandise vendors.

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22950 Claystone Avenue, Temescal Valley, CA 92883

20th Annual Cesar E. Chavez

Memorial Breakfast

Preservation of one's own culture does not require contempt or disrespect for other cultures.

Keynote Address: Eliseo V. Medina

RSVP AT

https://lanetchavezbreakfast2019.eventbrite.com Seating is limited

Ofelia Valdez-Yeager | 951-453-4062 valdezyeager@sbcglobal.net

FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 2019

The Riverside Marriott Hotel • 7:30 a.m.

\$45 paid members, \$50 non-member, \$400 for a table of 8

P.O. Box 20615, Riverside, CA 92516 • Non-Profit # 33-0901347 www.riversidelatinonetwork.org