

## Kevin's Corner



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**Cannabis Industry Targeting Local Control?** In Riverside County unincorporated communities (non-city areas), an applicant wanting to open a legal cannabis business has a number of hurdles to jump through before they can obtain approval. Proper zoning (commercial or industrial), minimum distance from schools and parks, setback from homes, proper lighting, security, landscaping, and parking spaces are just some of the standards that must be evaluated. It seems that segments of the statewide cannabis industry are not happy with some of the state and local restrictions and taxes enabled by the original proposition that legalized the industry, and are reportedly preparing to launch a ballot initiative to take away local control, and the right of counties and cities to substantially regulate or generate revenue from future cannabis businesses. While I generally lean toward property rights and simplified business regulations for just about every business in California (well, maybe not so much for mega-warehouses), I support private property rights on BOTH sides of the fence. Protecting the rights of adjacent homeowners/residents from intrusive noise, lights, traffic, odors, parking, etc., must be considered when considering any new business next to homes. We will be waiting to see the official language contained in a future signature gathering initiative.

**Budget Hearings** – If you are inclined to keep an eye on what your county government is doing, and more importantly what your county government is planning to spend your tax dollars on, the County will be hosting in person and televised budget hearings on June 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> (as necessary). The meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> will start at 9:30 a.m., and the 15<sup>th</sup> will be part of our regular weekly Board Meeting, also at 9:30 a.m. You can watch all of our County meetings (including Planning Commission) live or recorded, and review meeting agendas here: <http://riversidecountyca.icm2.com/Citizens/calendar.aspx>

**Welcome Hashish Winstead** – with Tom Ketcham bumping over to serve as my liaison for new land use and development proposals in the First District, we recently filled his field and case work position with a familiar face to the Mead Valley community: Ms. Hashish Winstead, former manager of the Mead Valley Community Center. Hashish will be my liaison to Mead Valley, Good Hope, Meadowbrook, and Spring Hills, as well the Western Riverside Council of Governments and others. Welcome Aboard, Hashish!

**The Cost of Fireworks** – Leading up to and during last year's 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday, the amount of fireworks being detonated in neighborhoods and wildland areas was so significant that the resulting residential and wildland fires (along with the normal police and fire response activity) far exceeded the response capacity of many emergency services. This was on top of the typical problems with animals being spooked and running away. No one can deny that 2020 was a tough year on many fronts, and that certainly contributed to the problems. This year, the County is organizing a much stronger prevention and enforcement effort to help reduce the

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fires, injuries and lost pets. Those caught with fireworks will be subject to a \$1000 fine and confiscation for a first offense, with penalties increasing for repeat offenders. Even the property owner will be subject to the fines if their tenant hosts an illegal fireworks exhibition. This may seem harsh until you've seen first-hand the serious injuries and/or loss of properties and/or homes from fireworks.

**As always**, your suggestions to help improve Riverside County are always welcome. I actually do read them all (though the vulgar ones go straight to that special file).

Respectfully,  
Kevin Jeffries

**H A P P Y**   
*Mother's  
Day*



*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](http://www.supervisorjeffries.com), under Boards & Commissions*

**In Home Support Services (IHSS) - Recipient of IHSS Services—One (1) opening**

**Good Hope Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) - One Opening**

**Woodcrest Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) - Two (2) Alternate openings**

**First 5 Advisory Committee— Two (2) opening**

**Riverside County Flood Control Commission—Zone I—One (1) opening**

\* Riverside Area, see map: <https://rcflood.org/About-the-District/District-Zones/Zone-1>

## Volunteer of the Year - Bob Hafner



April is recognized nationally as Volunteer Appreciation Month, with the week of April 18-24, 2021 designated as Volunteer Recognition Week. The Board of Supervisors celebrated the positive impact volunteerism has on our communities by recognizing seven distinguished individuals as Riverside County's 2020 Volunteers of the Year. The First District Honoree was Robert (Bob) M. Hafner. Bob has served on the Temescal Valley Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) for over 10 years, has organized over 25 cleanups in his community resulting in many tons of trash and debris being removed, including an event in Dawson Canyon and Spanish Hills which resulted in 48,000 pounds of trash removal. Bob is involved with WeRTV, Beautification Group, Temescal Valley Fair Committee, American Red Cross First Aid, CPR, AED instructor and a member of the CERT team.

***Thank you Bob for all you do for our community!***

The Honorees for the 2020  
Volunteers of the Year are:

Robert Hafner, District 1  
Jennifer Pellegrin, District 2  
Dr. Bob & Mona Davies, District 3  
Maria Conchita Pozar, District 4  
(not pictured)  
Ali Mazarei & Wade Forde, District 5



## Advocates Warn Seniors and Caregivers About Scams Around Vaccinations

Seniors and their caregivers should never give out financial information to callers, websites or emailers who insist the data is required to schedule a COVID-19 vaccination. "Riverside County does not ask residents to pay for vaccinations or vaccination appointments," said Jewel Lee, director of Office on Aging. "Scammers are preying on seniors and at-risk adults who are seeking services during the pandemic recovery."

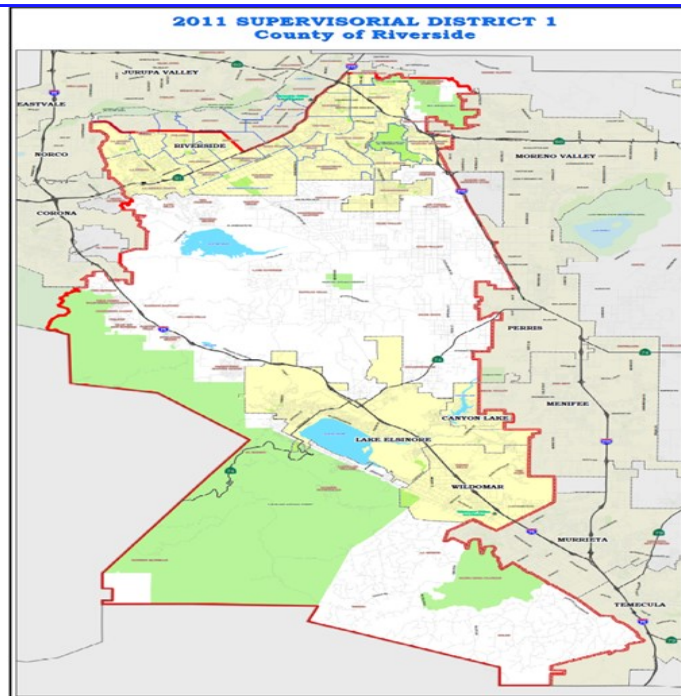
One-fifth of Riverside County's 2.5 million residents are age 60 or older. They are frequent targets for fraudsters and phishing scams because they own assets, said Michaela Williams, who works in the county's Dept. of Public Social Services (DPSS) as an advocate for financial fraud victims.

Since the pandemic broke out more than a year ago, the Federal Trade Commission reports fraudsters have duped consumers nationwide out of hundreds of millions of dollars in COVID-19 related scams. APS receives an average of 300 reports per month of suspected financial fraud against older and dependent adults. In Riverside County, one scam involves a caller asking the person to pay or provide financial information to schedule or reschedule an appointment. Another uses a phone number that appears to be a Riverside County line.

The Federal Trade Commission advises that a vaccine distribution site or health insurance company will not call, text, or email asking for your credit card or bank account number to sign up to receive the vaccine. Customers who on their own contact the Department of Public Health to book a vaccination appointment at a county-run clinic will be asked to provide basic personal information and may be asked for their Social Security number. The public can turn to trusted sources such as the county Public Health department or call centers at 2-1-1 and Office on Aging. Those sources may require basic personal information to register for a COVID-19 vaccine.

To help prevent older and dependent adults from becoming victims of scams, Adult Services encourages community members to stay engaged with aging family members, neighbors and friends, and to reach out to seniors in isolation. If you believe you have been the target of a scam, please report it to the 24-hour Adult Protective Services (APS) hotline at (800) 491-7123.

The public can also find tips from the FTC on how to avoid a vaccine-related scam by clicking here: [https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2021/04/covid-vaccines-are-free?utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2021/04/covid-vaccines-are-free?utm_source=govdelivery).



## 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.*

# Mead Valley Easter Drive Thru Event

The Grove hosted a Easter Drive Thru event in the Mead Valley community on April 3rd and served about 250 cars (approximately 800 people) 400 pre-bagged Easter eggs were given out to the children and 30 Easter Baskets to the Golden Egg Winners!



# Gavilan Hills Community Clean Up

The Gavilan Hills Community Clean Up was a big success this year! We were able to serve 272 customers during the event and collected 398 tires. Residents took full advantage of the opportunity to get rid of bulky items and clean up their yards without having to drive all the way to the landfill.





# Riverside County Highway 74 Multi-Modal Transit Plan

## *Survey / Encuesta*

The County of Riverside plans to identify transportation improvements for the communities of Warm Springs, Meadowbrook and Good Hope that will enhance and promote transit ridership and non-motorized travel to and along the Highway 74 corridor. The County of Riverside is looking to improve circulation and transportation access and seeks your input.

Please respond to the survey linked on this flyer. The information you provide will help guide planning for transportation infrastructure in order to leverage community resources and transit options along Highway 74.

The County has also created a project website located at:  
<https://planning.rctlma.org/MMTP2>

### What is a multi-modal transit plan (MMTP)?

A planning document that identifies:

- ◆ Key locations for future roads, sidewalks, and other improvements
- ◆ Consistent designs/standards
- ◆ Available tools for implementation
- ◆ Where money can come from to pay for projects!

Take the survey online!

**English:**



[www.surveymonkey.com/r/HWY74\\_MultiModal\\_Transit\\_Plan](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HWY74_MultiModal_Transit_Plan)

**Español:**



[www.surveymonkey.com/r/HWY74\\_MultiModal\\_Transit\\_Plan\\_Espanol](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HWY74_MultiModal_Transit_Plan_Espanol)



For additional information on the plan and details about the outreach activities, please contact Robert Flores by email at [rflores@rivco.org](mailto:rflores@rivco.org) or by phone at (951) 955-1195 (hablo Español)



RIVERSIDE COUNTY  
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL

This summer at the  
**Woodcrest Library**  
 JOIN US FOR

**Lunch at the Library**

**Monday - Friday**  
**11:30 am - 1:00 pm**  
**June 1 - August 8**

**In branch**  
**Summer Reading Program**  
 Reading colors your world!  
**June 14 - August 8**

16625 Krameria AVE.  
 Riverside, CA 92504  
 951-789-7324  
 www.rivlib.net

 @woodcrestcommunitylibrary  
 Woodcrest Library

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. The Summer Food Service Program is a program of the United States Department of Agriculture, administered in California by the California Department of Education. Lunch at the Library is a project of the California State Library, supported with funds from the State of California. Lunch at the Library was developed by the California Library Association and the California Summer Meal Coalition, with support from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.







**THAT CHILDREN CAN BE SAFE**



**RIVERSIDE COUNTY**  
**CHILD EXPLOITATION TEAM**  
**ENFORCEMENT • PREVENTION • EDUCATION**

The Riverside County Child Exploitation Team is a District Attorney-led team of local, state, and federal enforcement officials. Through proactive online investigations, members are dedicated to the identification, apprehension, and the prosecution of those intending to exploit our children. Additionally, members are responsible for investigating online Cyber Tips, monitoring and tracking registered sex offenders to ensure their compliance with registration requirements, and protecting our children through community education.

The mission of the Riverside County Child Exploitation Team is twofold:

- Combat the online sexual exploitation of children
- Keep registered sex offenders accountable through field audits and enforcement

RCET is comprised of the following partners:

Riverside County DA's Office, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, Riverside Police Department, Beaumont Police Department, Murrieta Police Department, California Department of Correction & Rehabilitation, FBI, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and U.S. Marshals Service.

## PRESENTATIONS

As part of our mission to educate the community, we would be happy to give a presentation to you and your organization. Please go to [rivcosafe.org](http://rivcosafe.org) and complete the request form. A member of our team will contact you to coordinate.

**FIND OUT MORE AT [RIVCOSAFE.ORG](http://RIVCOSAFE.ORG)**

# RESOURCES & INFORMATION

## SUBMIT A CYBER TIP

Submit a cyber tip report online through the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children:  
[report.cybertip.org](http://report.cybertip.org)

## SEX OFFENDER WEBSITES

- California Sex Offender Website - Megan's Law: [meganslaw.ca.gov](http://meganslaw.ca.gov)
- National Sex Offender Website: [nsopw.gov](http://nsopw.gov)

## SOCIAL MEDIA STATISTICS

- 20% of teenage Internet users have been the target of unwanted sexual solicitation
- 69% of teens regularly receive online communications from strangers
- 70% of all sex offenders released from prison offend again

## SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Wait until your child is of appropriate age and maturity before letting them use social media. Every child is different, but our recommendation is to wait until they are 14 years old.
- Know which apps and platforms your child is using and use them yourself to learn how they function; be as informed as possible.
- Use a parental control app to monitor your child's social media, text messages, and online activities. Go to your app store and search for a parental control app.
- Check the settings of your child's online accounts, especially privacy, profanity filters, and location settings.
- Teach your children that they should decline unwelcomed or uncomfortable online communications.
- Screen babysitters and childcare providers through public records and reference checks.
- Look and listen to small cues and clues from people who have access to your child that may be indicative of an unnatural attraction to minors; watch how they behave toward minors and how others behave toward them.

## SAFETY TIPS FOR CHILDREN

- Never share pictures of yourself online that you wouldn't want your family, teachers, or a stranger to see.
- Set online profiles to private. Know who you're chatting with – a "friend" is not always a friend.
- Don't share personal information online like your full name, school, address, phone number, or user passwords.
- Don't meet up in person with anyone you meet online.
- Tell a trusted adult if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable online.
- Report suspected abuse to law enforcement.

**FIND OUT MORE AT RIVCOSAFE.ORG**