ISSUE 30

February 2020



CHUCK'S CHRONICLES

The latest news and announcements from the Thriving Third!

In This Issue

Third District Office Services

Inland Empire Economic Forecast

The March Election: What You Need to Know

Census 2020: Your Privacy Matters

Coming Soon: Salt Creek Trail

Students of the Month

Contact Us

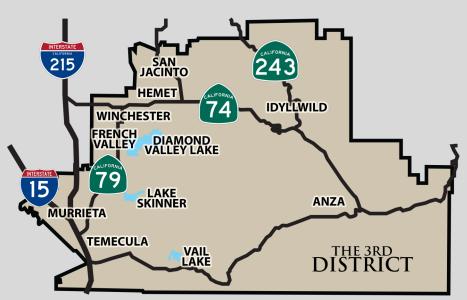
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1

FROM THE DESK OF CHUCK WASHINGTON



A map of Riverside County's Third District

The Third District Office is Here to Serve You!

As the Third District representative on the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I want to remind you that the County offers a number of services and programs to the community. Some of them may be familiar: our food inspectors provide the grades you see on restaurants, our social workers provide social services and our Department of Animal Services can help residents of unincorporated areas license their dogs. But the County also offers many programs. For instance, the County of Riverside can help business owners recruit employees, develop their workers' skillsets and acquire low-cost, long-term financing. *(cont'd p. 3)*



American Legion Post 852 36505 Winchester Rd., Murrieta Office: 951-305-0852 Email: commander@al852tmv.org Website: www.al852tmv.org

Veterans Supplemental Support Network Office: 951-821-8776 Website: www.vetsupportnet.org

Reaching New Heights Foundation 4053 Chestnut St, #203, Riverside For benefit eligibility and enrollment info Office: 951-878-6696 Email: mhinc3@att.net Riverside County Department of Veterans Services 4360 Orange St, Riverside Office: 844-737-8838 Website: veteranservices.co.riverside.ca.us

Veteran Sisters 30141 Antelope Rd. Ste. D674 Menifee, Office: 951-305-3244 Email: Admin@VeteranSisters.org

Murrieta VA Clinic at Loma Linda University Medical Center 28078 Baxter Road. STE 540, Murrieta Office: 800-741-8387 x 5312 Eligibility representative is onsite on Thursdays.

Community Connection

Anza Valley Municipal Advisory Council Location: Anza Community Hall 56630 Highway 371, Anza Next meeting: March 11, 2020 Website: www.anzavalleymac.com Information: 951-955-1030 City of Hemet: 951-765-2300 City of Murrieta: 951-765-2300 City of Temecula: 951-694-6444 City of San Jacinto: 951-487-7330 Winchester/Homeland Municipal Advisory Council Location: Frances Domenigoni Community Center 32665 Haddock Street, Winchester Next meeting: February 13, 2020 Website: www.winchestermac.org Information: 951-955-1030 Hemet/San Jacinto Valley Chamber: 951-658-3211

Hemet/San Jacinto Valley Chamber: 951-658-3211 Murrieta/Wildomar Chamber: 951-677-7916 Temecula Valley Chamber: 951-676-5090 San Jacinto Chamber: 951-654-1645

The Third District Office is Here to Serve You! (cont'd)

The County also has programs that cater to the special needs of new mothers, veterans, job hunters, foster youth, high school students and families and individuals struggling with mental health conditions. These programs are considered "hidden gems," because they are extremely valuable, but not many know about them.

If you would like to learn about any of the services that the County offers, please feel free to reach out to the Third District office. There are seven professional and responsive staffers, each one with a different specialty.

- Michelle DeArmond serves as chief-of-staff and is the liaison to public safety offices, such as the District Attorney's Office, the Sheriff's Department, Riverside County probation and the court system.
- Opal Hellweg specializes in social services for individuals over the age of 50. She also processes Community Improvement Designation Fund grant applications for the office.
- Sundae Sayles specializes in services for veterans and social services for individuals under the age of 50.
- Claudia Maunz-McLellan serves as scheduler to Supervisor Washington and Michelle DeArmond. She is also liaison to the Department of Animal Services.
- Robyn Brock handles transportation and land management, property tax questions and workforce solutions.
- Sarah Rodriguez is our public information officer and liaison to the County's mental health services. She also processes applications for the County's Third District boards, committees and commissions.
- Pacifica Hoffenberg is the legislative intern who manages the County Youth Advisory Council and Youth Commission.

To reach the Third District office, call 951-955 -1030 or send an email to D3Email@rivco.org. The Third District office is also on Facebook and Instagram at @supervisorchuckwashington and on Twitter at @SupWashington. The Third District Office looks forward to serving you!



CHUCK'S CHRONICLES

Inland Empire Leads State and Nation in Job Growth, Reveals UCR Report

A recent report developed by the UC Riverside School of Business shows that the Inland Empire continues to propel the state and nation's economies forward. The Inland Empire Regional Intelligence Report, which is released on a quarterly basis, shows that our region experienced a 2 percent growth in employment from October 2018 to October 2019, as compared to the state's 1.8 percent increase and

4



the nation's 1.4 percent increase. The following industries experienced the greatest job growth during this period: education and healthcare, government, transportation and warehousing, leisure and hospitality and administrative support.

While the regional employment rate showed good growth, the labor force only grew slightly at 0.4 percent. This growth translates to an additional 8,100 people who are employed or employable in the region. Still, those gains outperformed those of Los Angeles County (-0.1 percent) and Orange County (-0.4 percent). Wages also grew 3.8 percent from the first half of 2018 to the first half of 2019, although this region's numbers were outpaced by an overall wage increase of 4.2 percent throughout the state. Still, the report predicts that wages will continue to grow as employers compete for workers in a tight labor market.

Inland Empire businesses continue to benefit from growth in wages and the employment rate. Taxable sales increased by 4.1 percent in the region from the second quarter of 2018 to the second quarter of 2019. For comparison, taxable sales increased by 3.7 percent in the state overall during the same period. Consumer spending increased 3.5 percent for restaurants and hotels and 2.2 percent for general consumer goods. The tourism and hospitality industries continue to gain steam in the Inland Empire.

Finally, both the commercial and residential real estate markets remain more affordable than in the nearby counties of Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego. However, the median price of a single-family home rose 4.7 percent to \$371,920 in the third quarter of 2019. In the commercial market, rent increased 4.4 percent for warehouses and distribution centers and 1.4 percent for office space from the third quarter of 2018 to the third quarter of 2019. Nevertheless, the relative affordability of the Inland Empire drives home buyers and businesses to the region. For more economic information, this report and others can be found at UCREconomicForecast.org.

The March Election: What You Need to Know

With the primary election just around the corner, here is everything you need to know to make your voice heard!

Who Can Vote: Any U.S. citizen who is 18 years old or older on Election Day who is not prison or on parole for the conviction of a felony and has not been found mentally incompetent to vote by a court.



When to Vote: The primary election has been moved to Tuesday, March 3 this year! On Election Day, the polls will be

open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. You can also vote by mail starting Feb. 3, but you need to request a vote-by-mail ballot or be registered as a permanent vote-by-mail voter.

Where to Vote: Use your address to find your polling place at <u>https://www.voteinfo.net/</u> <u>voterInformation/root1108/pollplac.htm</u>. Make sure to check this website on Election Day, as your polling place can change due to unforeseen events! You can also vote at the Riverside County Registrar of Voters' Office, located at 2724 Gateway Drive, Riverside. If you vote by mail, you can mail your ballot or drop it off at the Register of Voters' Office, your nearest polling place or your local city clerk's office. You may also vote or drop off your vote-by-mail ballot at the Promenade Mall (40820 Winchester Road, Temecula) from Feb. 21 to 23, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

How to Vote: First, confirm that you are registered to vote at <u>https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/</u>. You can register to vote here: <u>https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/</u>. If you are not registered to vote by Feb. 18, you can still register to vote as a conditional voter at the county elections office, a local polling place or a vote center on or before March 3. You can also register to vote online. If you register online after Feb. 18, you will need to bring your email confirmation with you to vote. Also, please note that if you are registered as No Party Preference, each political party has different rules for voting for candidates in their primary. You may have to request a partisan ballot or register with a party by Feb. 18 to receive their ballot. For more information on the primary ballots, visit <u>https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/political-parties/no-party-preference/</u>.

What to Bring: New voters who did not provide a driver license number, California ID or the last four digits of their social security number on their voters' registration form may be asked to show identification at the polls. Acceptable forms of identification include, but are not limited to, a driver's license, passport, credit or debit card, military ID, student ID.

Why Vote: The answer is to make your voice heard in local, statewide and national matters! For information on candidates and ballot measures in your area, visit <u>https://www.voteinfo.net/</u>.

Census 2020: Your Privacy Matters!

With 2020 underway, our office is teaming up with public and private partners to spread the word about the 2020 Census. For each Californian who is not counted in the 2020 Census, the state loses about \$2,000 annually. Missing just one family of five means that the community loses \$100,000 that could go toward fixing bridges and roads and funding healthcare, education and employment programs!



For the first time ever, you have the option to fill out the census online. But many fear that their personal information will be mishandled, lost or stolen if they fill out the census. However, all census answers are completely anonymous, and no identifiable information will be attached to your name. The U.S. Census Bureau is required by law to protect your information – this means that it cannot be shared with anyone, not even official government and law enforcement agencies. The Census Bureau also follows industry best practices and invests in secure IT systems to protect your data from cyber threats.

For more information on the 2020 Census, please visit 2020census.gov. Guidelines on how to fill out the census will arrive at your home between March 12–20. By April 1, you will receive your invitation to fill out the census. Help spread the word about the 2020 Census and be sure to fill out your census form online, by phone or by mail!

Coming Soon: Salt Creek Trail

The final article for our series on transportation in the Third District is dedicated to the upcoming Salt Creek Trail. This ambitious project will see a 16-mile thoroughfare running from Menifee through Winchester to Hemet. This path will have pedestrian segment that will vary in size, depending on how much right-of-way is available, as well as a 12-foot-wide hard surface bike path.

Phase 1 of the project starts on either end of the trail. The Riverside County Transportation Department will coordinate with the City of Hemet and Valley-Wide Recreation & Park District to construct a one-mile segment of trail north of Domenigoni Parkway between Sanderson Avenue and Searl Parkway. The Menifee segment of the trail will be four miles long and will be built between Goetz Road and Antelope Road. After these portions of the trail are complete, the Riverside County Regional Park and Open-Space District will operate and maintain them. *(cont'd p. 7)*

Salt Creek Trail, cont'd

Phase 1 will begin in February 2020 and end sometime in the fall of 2020. Questions about Salt Creek Trail can be directed to the project manager, Cathy Wampler, at the Riverside County Transportation Department. Her phone number is 951- 955-6803, and her email is CWampler@rivco.org. Documents related to the Salt Creek Trail project can be found at rcprojects.org/salt-creek-trail. The funds for this project were provided by the Federal Highway Administration through the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program and the Riverside County Regional Park and Open-Space District through the Western Trails Development Impact Fee Program.



7

CHUCK'S CHRONICLES

December Students of the Month

Hemet Unified School District Hamilton High School Megan Necochea Hemet High School Shawn Schwyzer Tahquitz High School Delilah Del Valle West Valley High School William Hora ASPIRE Community Day School Paschae Hubert Murrieta Unified School District Visit Murrieta High School *Kyle Just* Murrieta Mesa High School *Vanessa Franco* Springs Charter School Destannie Coleman Murrieta Valley High School *Troy Hess* Murrieta Canyon Academy *Dylan Martin*

San Jacinto Unified School District Mountain View High School *Jessica Allen* San Jacinto High School *Briana Castaneda* Temecula Unified School District Chaparral High School *Rachel Danover* Great Oak High School *Nischal Sinha* Linfield Christian High School *Tony Kyuho Kim* Rancho Vista High School *Mary Duenas* Susan H. Nelson High School *Madalynn Hamilton* Temecula Valley High School *Micah Vom Steeg*

January Students of the Month

Hemet Unified School District Hamilton High School Cody Zinck Hemet High School Diana Sagastume Tahquitz High School Miguel Palafox West Valley High School Julia Janeki Alessandro **Continuation High** School Daniel Rojas Hernandez

Murrieta Unified School District Visit Murrieta High School *Iris Zietlow* Murrieta Mesa High School *Celeste Sanchez* Springs Charter School *Isabella Arnold* Murrieta Valley High School *Hans Chen* Murrieta Canyon Academy *Gio Neil Anacleto Prieto* San Jacinto Unified School District San Jacinto High School *Lisa Luu* Mountain Heights Academy *Elisabel Navarro Concino* Temecula Unified School District Chaparral High School *Allison Casasola* Great Oak High School *Ashtyn Mueller* Linfield Christian High School *Devin Sivertson* Rancho Christian High School *Colette Treadway* Temecula Preparatory High School *Karthik Dharmarajan* Temecula Valley High School *Seth McLaughlin*

The Third District Within the Community



Supervisor Washington breaking ground at the site of the future French Valley library (1-10-20).



Supervisor Washington hangs the "All American" streamer on the post colors of the Veterans of Foreign War Post 4089 in Temecula (1-15-20).

9



Supervisor Washington and Mary Moreland, former chiefof-staff for previous Third District Supervisor Jim Venable, at the grand opening of the Jim Venable Exchange Club Park in Hemet (1-11-20).



(L - R) Opal Hellweg, Supervisor Washington and Chiefof-Staff Michelle DeArmond at the All Chamber Mega Mixer in Murrieta (1-16-20).