FROM THE DESK OF CHUCK WASHINGTON

Supervisor Washington on the night of California’s March Primary Election.

Regarding the Primary Election

It has been my honor and privilege to serve the residents of Riverside County as the Third District Supervisor for the past five years. I was humbled last week to have the support of thousands of residents who voted for me to serve another term as Third District Supervisor. I will continue to advocate for increased public safety, safer and more effective transportation and a better future for our children. I look forward to four more years of serving Third District residents and letting people know that Riverside County is Southern California’s place-to-be, where people want to live, work and play.
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: rnhinc3@att.net
Website: reachingnewheightsfoundation.com/

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.
from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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: 951-304-2489
City of Temecula: 951-694-6444

Winchester/Homeland Municipal Advisory Council
Location: Frances Domenigoni Community Center
32665 Haddock Street, Winchester
Next meeting: March 12, 2020
Website: www.winchestermac.org
Information: 951-955-1030
Hemet/San Jacinto Valley Chamber: 951-658-3211
Murrieta/Wildomar Chamber: 951-677-7916
Temecula Valley Chamber: 951-676-5090

Community Connection
2020 Census: Our Kids Count!

The U.S. Census Bureau is aiming to count every individual in the United States, knowing that that is an impossible task. With every census, there are always undercounted populations. That undercount creates problems because the federal, state and local governments cannot account for the true population when providing crucial services, such as transportation, public safety, public health and education.

It is especially troubling to parents and families that children under the age of five are one of the most undercounted populations in the United States. In the 2010 census, almost 1 million children under the age of five were not counted. This number represents $20 billion that communities lost in funding for numerous programs, such as Head Start, free school lunches, Medicaid or Medi-Cal, schools and libraries.

There are many reasons why a young child might be forgotten in the census. Oftentimes, children are undercounted in “complex households” that contain multiple generations, unrelated individuals living together, blended families or foster families. Additionally, when families live in subsidized housing that limits the number of people who can live in the home, families may be fearful of revealing the true number of residents. It is important to understand that the U.S. Census Bureau will not give any information to law enforcement agencies, other government agencies or your landlord.

Supervisor Washington, who sits on the First 5 Riverside County Children & Families Commission, is encouraging families to make sure they count all of the children in the household.

“Together, we can ensure that every child in Riverside County has access to the services they need to have a healthy start in life,” he said.

For more information about the 2020 census, please visit 2020census.gov.
Novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, has caused concern throughout the world, and the County of Riverside has been working closely with our partners to provide a coordinated response. Currently, the number of COVID-19 cases in Riverside County is still in the single digits, and, as of March 10, there have been no deaths. The Board of Supervisors ratified a public health emergency declaration at Tuesday’s board meeting. The County has also activated the medical health department operations center, which will help coordinate public messaging and planning among community partners.

Riverside University Health System-Public Health recommends taking the following precautions to reduce the risk of contracting the virus:

- Practice social distancing, which means remaining out of places where people meet or gather and avoiding public transportation, if possible.
- Do not attend work, school or events when sick. Stay home.
- Cough into your elbow or tissue.
- Wash hands frequently with warm water for at least 20 seconds and use hand sanitizer often.
- Stay away from anyone who is sick.

As of March 10, Dr. Cameron Kaiser, the Riverside County public health officer, has recommended rescheduling Coachella and Stagecoach. Other large-scale events may be cancelled later. For updated information on COVID-19 in Riverside County, visit https://www.rivcoph.org/coronavirus. The public is encouraged to call 2-1-1 and 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636) with any questions. For medical advice, please contact your health care provider.
Nonprofit Spotlight: Idyllwild Community Center

The San Jacinto Mountain Community Center, dba Idyllwild Community Center (ICC), is a local nonprofit organization originally founded for the purpose of raising funds and building, developing and maintaining a community recreation center for the benefit of the communities of Idyllwild, Fern Valley, Pine Cove, Mountain Center, Garner Valley and the surrounding San Jacinto Mountain areas in Riverside County.

Over the years, ICC has greatly expanded its involvement and services — in part through private donations and funding from its local CSA 36 assessments — by providing a broad array of recreational, cultural and social opportunities for residents and visitors, in addition to its ongoing mission to build and maintain a new recreational facility.

Currently, ICC puts on numerous free town events, like the Tree Lighting Festival, Easter Egg Hunt and Halloween Carnival. Additionally, ICC hosts the local Sunday farmers market at Idyllwild’s historic Town Hall and operates Idyllwild’s skate park, dog park, and pickle ball court, which are open daily to the public.

Most recently, ICC is proud to host and/or present live summer concerts and events at its beautiful new outdoor Butterfield Amphitheater. Funded through the generous land and financial donations of Loie and Dave Butterfield, as well as community contributions, Butterfield Amphitheater is located next to the Idyllwild Community Playground, which ICC also owns and manages.

In addition to these larger projects, ICC offers numerous free or low-cost community programs, including youth and adult sports, senior fitness programs, free monthly community lunches and after-school and holiday childcare.

In its ongoing effort to expand its services, ICC has just partnered with a local group to co-host the Feeding America food pantry program that provides groceries to the underserved and seniors on the first Tuesday of each month at Town Hall.

As for its original mission of funding, constructing and maintaining a new recreation center, ICC continues in its long-term fundraising and grant-pursuit efforts. ICC remains grateful for the support it has received from Supervisor Washington and the County of Riverside as it continues to expand its local programs and services today.

*Special thanks to Stephanie Yost for writing this article!*
For those who need extra help paying their utility bills, the Community Action Partnership of Riverside County can offer assistance. The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides up to $383 to qualified customers once per year to help them pay one of their gas or electric bills. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and a citizen or legal resident of the United States. Income limits apply - a household of one must make less than $2,170.74 per month to qualify. The application requires applicants to provide their last electricity and gas bills, any past due, shut-off or disconnection notices, the names and birthdays of their entire household, proof of income for the applicant and all household members and the applicant’s social security card, valid photo I.D. and proof of citizenship or legal resident status.

Applications are available at www.capriverside.org/program/utilityassistanceprogram. Send the completed application to Josephine Fernandez at energy@capriverside.org or drop it off at the Hemet Service Center, located at 1049 N State Street, Hemet. For questions, call 951-791-3562 or visit www.capriverside.org.

February Students of the Month

Hemet Unified School District
Hamilton High School
Olivia Hernandez
Hemet High School
Brandon Chennault
Tahquitz High School
Cesar Coleman
West Valley High School
Johnathan Espana
Western Center Academy
Aleesa Showalter

Murrieta Unified School District
Visit Murrieta High School
Wayne Evans Holness
Murrieta Mesa High School
Starleen Martinez
Springs Charter School
Emma Bayless
Murrieta Valley High School
Edgar Alegria Olivera
Murrieta Canyon Academy
Elizabeth Gledhill
Oak Grove School
Alexandra Simmons

San Jacinto Unified School District
San Jacinto High School
Amy Ramirez
Velasco
Mountain View High School
Ashley Lopez

Temecula Unified School District
Chaparral High School
Nilson Rodriguez Cadenas
Great Oak High School
Caleb Kim
Linfield Christian High School
 Nathanael Mariano
Rancho Vista High School
Angel Britton
Susan H. Nelson High School
Julia Steinberg
Temecula Valley High School
Indiana Rivera Gandrung
The Third District Within the Community

Supervisor Washington shows his support for the Girl Scouts of America (2-11-20).

Supervisor Washington speaks at the groundbreaking of Luiseño Village Shopping Center in San Jacinto (2-27-20).

Supervisor Washington gives an interview to JDS Creative Academy’s Spectrum Of Innovation show (2-18-20).

Legislative Assistant Opal Hellweg represents Supervisor Washington at the Riverside County Office on Aging Advisory Council meeting (2-19-2020)