



# CHUCK'S CHRONICLES

*The latest news and announcements from the Thriving Third!*

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## FROM THE DESK OF CHUCK WASHINGTON



Progress on State Route 74 – Photo courtesy of Caltrans, District 8

## **Idyllwild Road Update**

*This is the first in a series of articles centered on road work in the Third District.*

I'm thrilled to announce that travel to and from Idyllwild is improving after months of road work and many challenges for residents in the mountain hamlet.

Due to the tireless efforts of Caltrans District 8 and Ames Construction, emergency work on State Route 74 and State Route 243 is nearing completion. This great news comes more than a year after the devastating Cranston fire charred 13,000 acres in Idyllwild and more than six months after heavy storms washed out parts of both of those state routes. The pilot car escorts on SR-74 now are running 24/7 between Idyllwild and Hemet and will be replaced in late September or early October 2019 with a 24/7 flagging operation. *(cont'd)*



# VETERANS ASSISTANCE & EVENTS

## **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:** rhinc3@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:** September 11, 2019

**Website:** www.anzavalleyamac.com

**Information:** 951-955-1030

**City of Hemet:** 951-765-2300

**City of Murrieta:** 951-304-2489

**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:** September 12, 2019

**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

**San Jacinto Chamber:** 951-654-1645

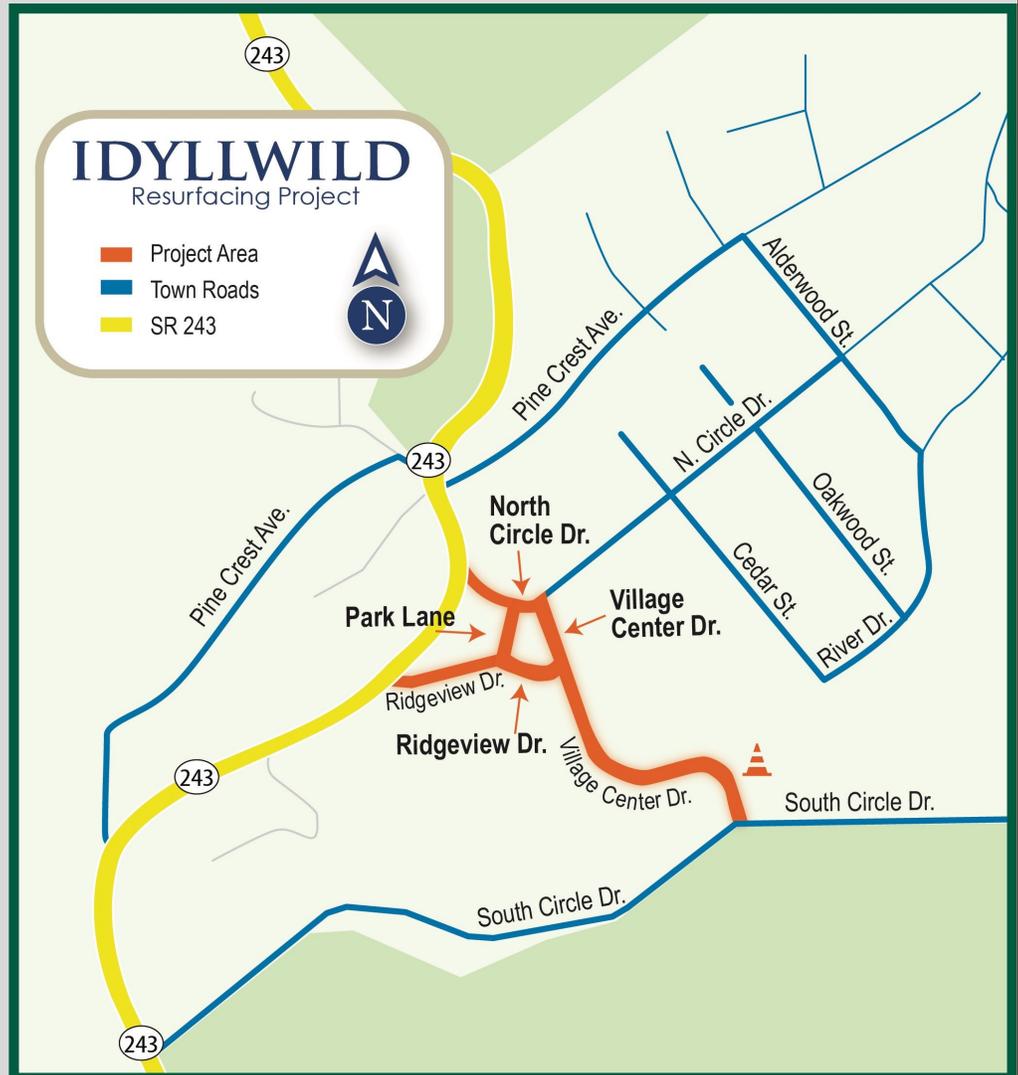
# Road Improvements (Continued)

Moreover, commuters will have limited access – either by pilot cars or flagging operations – to SR-243 by November 1, 2019. Travelers are reminded to take care while driving, as construction crews will remain on both routes until at least the end of the year.

Residents of and visitors to Idyllwild also have a few street improvements in store in Idyllwild Village. In late September, the Riverside County Transportation Department will grind and resurface Park Lane, Ridgeview Drive, North Circle Drive and Village Center Drive. The project will occur over the course of six weeks from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. During this time, there will be lane closures with traffic control, and access to businesses will be

coordinated. If you have any additional questions about the Idyllwild Resurfacing Project, you can contact the construction hotline at 877-672-7765.

Make sure you read October's edition of Chuck's Chronicles to see what other projects are in store for the Third District!



Map of upcoming resurfacing project in Idyllwild.

# Suicide Prevention Week



The Board of Supervisors are recognizing September 8 - 14 as Suicide Prevention Week in Riverside County. Here are a few ways that you can make a difference in the lives of those struggling with mental health needs or thoughts of suicide:

1. Share the lime green ribbon on social media and in your day-to-day life. Let people know that the ribbon represents mental health awareness. Let's reduce the stigma that surrounds conversations about mental illness!

2. Share mental health resources:

- **National Suicide Prevention Hotline:** 1-800-273-8255
- **Crisis Text Line:** Text "home" to 741-741
- **HELPLine - Riverside Crisis Line (local resource):** 951-686-HELP (4357)
- **For emergency housing, food or other support:** Call 2-1-1
- **Helpful Websites:** [Suicideispreventable.org](http://Suicideispreventable.org) and [Eachmindmatters.org](http://Eachmindmatters.org)

3. Attend a free suicide prevention training through Riverside County's Prevention and Early Intervention program. SAFETalk is a three-hour course that teaches individuals to engage with people experiencing suicidal thoughts and direct them toward resources. The ASIST program is a two-day interactive training course teaching individuals to recognize when someone is having suicidal thoughts and work with them to create a plan for their safety. Mental Health First Aid is an eight-hour training course that teaches risk factors and warning signs of mental illnesses and impacts and support for mental illnesses. Email [PEI@ruhealth.org](mailto:PEI@ruhealth.org) to register for training.

4. Know available options for seeking mental health treatment:

- Medi-Cal users can contact Riverside University Health System - Behavioral Health for resources by using the CARES line: 1-800-706-7500.
- Private insurance users can call their insurance provider to find out what is covered and how to obtain a referral.
- Some employers offer mental health resources through their Human Resources Department's Employee Assistance Program.

Together we can reduce the stigma that surrounds conversations about mental health and help prevent suicide!

# The Temecula College & Vocational Fair

Mark your calendars: the Temecula College & Vocational Fair returns on Saturday, Sept. 21! Hosted by the City of Temecula, this annual event attracts more than 300 colleges, vocational schools, military institutions and military branches. Last year's event drew representatives from institutions near and far, including Princeton University, the University of Edinburgh, Cornell University and many more! If you are a high school student interested in learning more about your postgraduation options, be sure to attend this fantastic event. And stop by Supervisor Washington's booth to find information on County resources!



The Temecula College & Vocational Fair takes place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Promenade Mall, 40820 Winchester Rd., Temecula. If you have any questions about the event, please email Charles Walker (Charles.Walker@cityoftemecula.org).

## Save the Date:

### The French Valley Airshow Returns November 9!

The French Valley Wings & Wine Airshow is back and better than ever! This free community event will feature spectacular aircraft acrobatics, live entertainment, and a wide selection of food and beverage options, merchandise and recreational activities for all ages! The event will take place at the French Valley Airport, 37600 Sky Canyon Drive, Murrieta, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The entertainment lineup will be announced soon. For updates and more information, visit [www.fvairshow.com](http://www.fvairshow.com) or call 951-955-1030.



Be sure to say hello to the Third District's favorite pilot, Supervisor Washington. He will be there, along with his staff, to support this fantastic event!

# Nonprofit Spotlight:

## Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Inland Empire

Would you like to make a positive impact on the lives of youth in your community? Big Brothers Big Sisters is here to help you get started! This nonprofit connects boys and girls between the ages of six and 18—known affectionately as “Littles”—with volunteer mentors called “Bigs.” Bigs are allies who commit to spending at least six hours per month mentoring their Littles. Our local chapter - Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Inland Empire - has been serving Southwest Riverside County since 2013, and in a short few years has impacted over 2,300 young people in the region.

Supervisor Washington is a strong supporter of the organization. He says, “Mentorship is a good way to make a positive impact on a young person’s life. It may not seem like much, but the hours that Littles spend with their Bigs can make a significant difference in the Littles’ lives and futures.”

At the recent Big Night event at Wilson Creek Winery, the community was invited to learn more about what it means to mentor. That night, 27 individuals pledged to become mentors for the 50 youth on Big Brothers Big Sisters’ wait list.

Attendees also listened to Jon Solek of Temecula speak about his experience with Big Brothers Big Sisters. When Solek decided to give his time to his community, he reached out to the oldest and largest youth mentoring organization in the nation—Big Brothers Big Sisters.

“To focus my energy and efforts on one life and be a part of that young boy’s growth and his future is where I wanted to dedicate my time,” Solek said.

For his part, Sebastian, 11, has taken to his new Big Brother: “Jon and I met January 19, 2017 and he’s like my brother.”

“When I met Sebastian for the first time,” Solek reflected, “he was so shy, he did not want to leave his room. I wasn’t sure how this was going to go, what we would do or talk about. Flash forward two years and Sebastian is in every basketball league in The Valley, and this past year ran for student body.” Solek smiles, “He has grown from a quiet boy to a confident young man, with goals and plans, and I am so proud to know him.”



Jon Solek and his Little Brother, Sebastian, enjoy spending time with each other.

# Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Inland Empire

(Continued)

The two love to spend time together. “We get pizza and he comes to my games. I like my time with Jon. We talk, and Jon is there for me,” Sebastian notes.

Jon and Sebastian also participate in the agency’s Bowl For Kids’ Sake fundraiser at Bowlero Murrieta, annually winning the award for the most funds raised. They are an unstoppable force!

“I signed up to make a difference in someone else’s life and today I see how much I am a better person and how much Sebastian has changed me,” Solek shared.

Learn more about Big Brothers Big Sisters by visiting [www.iebigs.org](http://www.iebigs.org). Also, mark your calendars for a charity concert that will benefit this fantastic organization! On Friday, Oct. 11, 2019, country singer and American Idol star Lauren Alaina will perform at Wilson Creek Winery at 6 p.m. For tickets and information, visit the “Event Calendar” tab at [www.WilsonCreekWinery.com](http://www.WilsonCreekWinery.com).

## Third District Cleanup

There are three cleanup events coming up for Third District residents. On Saturday, Sept. 21, Idyllwild residents can dispose of up to nine tires at their CR&R transfer station, 28100 Saunders Meadow Rd., Idyllwild. Anza residents can do the same at their event on Saturday, Sept. 28 at the Anza landfill, 40329 Terwilliger Rd., Anza. Both events take place from 8 a.m. to noon. Tires must measure less than four feet in diameter and weigh less than 200 pounds. CR&R cannot accept tires with rims or tires from businesses and nonprofit organizations.

Finally, Waste Management is partnering with the County for a cleanup at the Valle Vista Assembly of God, 45252 Florida Ave. Hemet. County residents can dispose of tires, furniture, large appliances, tree limbs and branches, and electronic waste at the cleanup location from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 5. Please note that the cleanup event cannot accept construction/demolition materials or household hazardous waste such as paint, pesticides, batteries, rat poison, motor oil and antifreeze. Also, residents hauling trailers may be redirected to the landfill. For additional information about any of these events, please call 951-486-3200 or visit [www.RCWaste.org](http://www.RCWaste.org).



Supervisor Washington helps at a cleanup event. PC: IG RCWaste

# The Third District Within the Community



Legislative Assistant Claudia Maunz-McLellan represents Supervisor Washington at the grand opening of Akash Winery & Vineyard (7-26-19).



Deputy Burk (left), Deputy Marlatt (not pictured), Captain Purvis (right back) and Supervisor Washington view Hemet and portions of the Third District from the air (7-25-19).



Supervisor Washington gives a Riverside County update to the Old Town Temecula Rotary Club (8-15-19).



Supervisor Washington visits Pine Cove for the County Service Area 38 Open House / BBQ (8-3-19).