

## Third District Community Forum

### Accessing Your Government

#### Countywide Vision

Do you know what the countywide vision is for San Bernardino County?

We envision a complete county that capitalizes on the diversity of its people, its geography, and its economy to create a broad range of choices for its residents in how they live, work, and play.

We envision a vibrant economy with a skilled workforce that attracts employers who seize the opportunities presented by the county's unique advantages and provide the jobs that create countywide prosperity.

We envision a sustainable system of high-quality education, community health, public safety, housing, retail, recreation, arts and culture, and infrastructure, in which development complements our natural resources and environment.

We envision a model community which is governed in an open and ethical manner, where great ideas are replicated and brought to scale, and all sectors work collabora-

tively to reach shared goals.

From our valleys, across our mountains, and into our deserts, we

envision a county that is a destination for visitors and a home for anyone seeking a sense of community and the best life has to offer.



Learn more about the exciting vision for our County at <http://cms.sbcounty.gov/cao-vision/home.aspx>.



### Community Highlight

#### Adopt a Pet: Meet Ginny

Ginny is a 1 and 1/2 year old black and tan, female German Shepherd. Her ID # is A605909. She is very sweet and is located at the Devore Shelter.

Devore Animal Shelter  
19777 Shelter Way, San Bernardino, CA 92407  
909.386.9820

#### Hours of Operation:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10:00 am - 6:30 pm

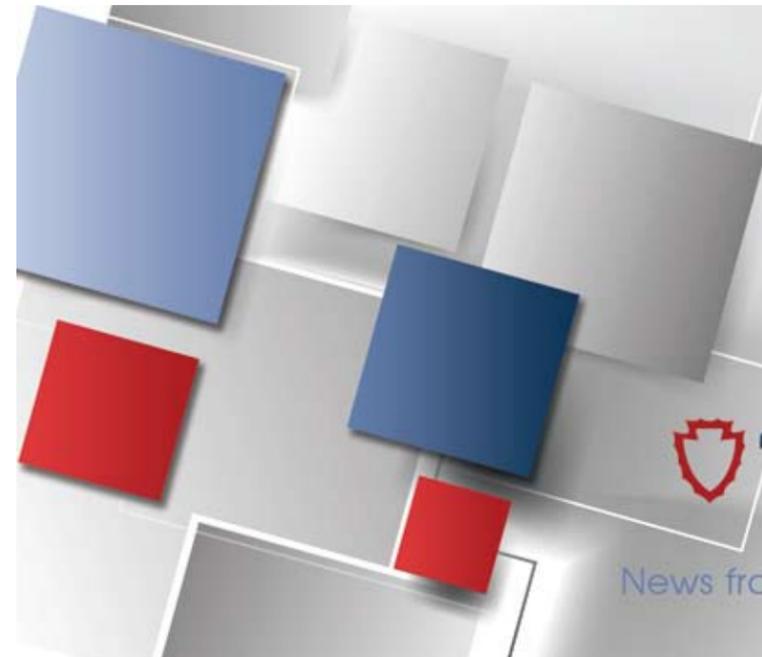
Wednesday: 10:00 am - 7:00 pm

Saturday and Sunday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

24 hour help line **1.800.472.5609**

If you would like to submit a story or event to The Ramos Review, please send an email to [SupervisorRamos@sbcounty.gov](mailto:SupervisorRamos@sbcounty.gov) or call 909.387.4855. Due to limited space, we may not be able to accommodate your request.

San Bernardino Office: 385 N. Arrowhead Ave., Fifth Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0110.



# THE RAMOS REVIEW

News from Third District Supervisor James Ramos



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### Reflections on War- Korea Ex-POW Dave Villafana



**Dave Villafana**, a native of Barstow, born May 5, 1932, was raised in a family of seven siblings; two brothers and five sisters. In his senior year at Barstow High School, he enlisted in the United States Army on August 29, 1949 at the age of 17. Following basic training at Fort Ord, California, Private David Villafana was assigned to the 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Division. On December 23, 1949, he came home on leave for 20 days, later reporting for duty at Camp Stoneman, Ca. In January of 1950, he was shipped

to Japan. After four months in Japan, he was replaced with the 24th Infantry Division and shipped to Korea.

Arriving in Korea on July 9, 1950, he learned of the Korean War outbreak and within a week, David's division was one of the first groups in the war. His unit fought in the Battle of Pusan for eight days. Outside of Taegon, his platoon got lost and the next day, it was completely surrounded. David and a fellow soldier found a jeep and tried to make it back to friendly territory but were soon captured by North Korean soldiers. On July 20, 1950, at the age of 18, David became a prisoner of war and was held for three years.

On September 23, 1953, David returned to Barstow in severe poor health. Due to malnutrition, he weighed just 98 lbs. and was diagnosed with tuberculosis in both lungs. He was transported to Denver, Colorado where he spent 14 months in the hospital. When he was finally free

of the disease, he re-enlisted in the Army. In October 1956, he was honorably discharged from the United States Army.

David's personal decorations include the Korean Service Medal with 7 Bronze Service Stars, Combat Infantry Badge, Army of Occupation Medal with Japan Clasp, United Nations Service Medal, and National Defense Service Medal. The City of Barstow dedicated a street after David. And 60 years after the Korean War, David Villafana was finally awarded his Purple Heart.

Thank you for your service, dedication, and bravery, Mr. Villafana.

September 26th is



California Native American Day!

## Supervisor Ramos Around the District

### National Suicide Prevention Week

Listen to a special message from Supervisor Ramos at [www.sbcounty.gov/bosd3/](http://www.sbcounty.gov/bosd3/).

The week of September 8th is National Suicide Prevention Week. Every day, friends, family and co-workers struggle with pain that is not always obvious to us and is often too difficult to talk about.



In 2009, there were 238 document suicide deaths and 938 nonfatal self-inflicted injuries in San Bernardino County according to the California Department of Mental Health, Office of Suicide Prevention. While that number is far too large, we also know that number is not truly reflective of all those affected by suicide.

It is important to know that while the warning signs may be subtle, they are there. Supervisor Ramos would like to encourage everyone this month to become educated on the warning signs, learn how to start the conversation, and reach out for help for yourself or for a loved one in need. Visit [suicide is www.suicideispreventable.org](http://www.suicideispreventable.org) to learn more.

If you, or someone you know, are having thoughts of suicide, help is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Please call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1.800.273.8255. Let's work together to prevent another loss of life due to suicide.



Supervisor Ramos had the opportunity to tour the TAD Call Center in San Bernardino. Remember you can complete many tasks online, just visit [www.C4Yourself.com](http://www.C4Yourself.com) to fill out an application, check benefits and more!



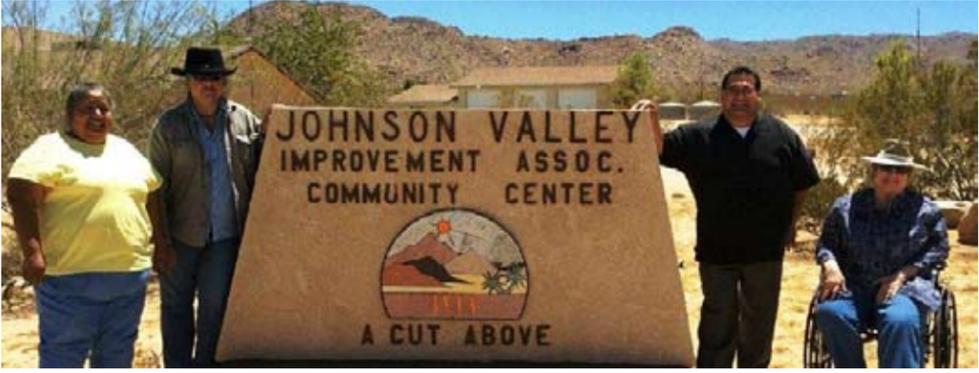
Grand Terrace Chamber Dinner

Reception for CA Secretary of Natural Resources John Laird



## Progress in the Third District

### Barstow to the Morongo Basin: Another day in the 3rd District



In his continued efforts to reach the more remote areas of his district, Supervisor Ramos spent August 6th and 7th meeting with constituents and working on issues in the desert regions. He started by visiting the City of Barstow to meet with local residents and his Field Representative in the area to discuss the damage of the recent flash floods.

The drive along Highway 247 is a favorite of the Supervisor's as he says it provides him with beautiful scenery as he reflects on the current issues facing the county. Arriving in Twentynine Palms, the Supervisor met with members of the City Council before touring the Miracle Field in Yucca Valley. The Miracle Field provides children and adults with special needs the opportunity to participate in sports such as baseball regardless of their physical ability.

What is a visit to the Morongo Basin without a stop at the Basin Wide Foundation breakfast? Supervisor Ramos was pleased to join the meeting and learn about the tortoise preservation efforts in the Morongo Basin. The staff at the Pacific Clinics Behavioral Health Facilities and Transitional Age Youth Center provided the Supervisor with insight into the services offered through a detailed tour of the facility. For more information, please contact the TAY Center at 760.228.9657.

The Supervisor found it beneficial to spend two days in the desert region. "Spending two days out here gave me the opportunity to spend more time meeting with constituents and working on issues with my staff rather than running from here to a meeting back in the Valley," Ramos stated. "I would like to continue this effort throughout my time in office as I believe it was valuable for myself and for the residents in the Morongo Basin."

### Water is the issue

Supervisor Lovingood and Supervisor Ramos held a meeting in Lucerne Valley to hear from constituents regarding issues with water hauling. Ramos' office continues to work with these residents to resolve these issues.



## Alabama Bridge Grand Reopening

On August 20th, the Alabama Bridge between the City of Highland and the City of Redlands was officially reopened. Around 12,000 motorists rely on this thoroughfare every day. Alabama has been closed 7 times since the end of 2013 due to flooding. Something had to be done. And we did it. On time and under budget! It has been a long 9 1/2 months since we closed Alabama but now we have a road that can withstand a 100-year storm event. This project has been a model of cooperation and collabora-



tion with the County Flood Control District, the cities of Redlands, Highland and San Bernardino, and the Inland Valley Development Agency all working together. The federal government provided \$2.7 million of the \$3.3 million needed to fund this project. That meant the rest of us only had to come up with \$120,000 each. We now have two arch culverts that can handle 600 percent more water than what we had before. Please take a drive over the bridge and see the results for yourself!

