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Surviving and Thriving in Challenging Times

As we are all very much aware, this world, our country, our state, our county, our cities and we, individually, have been experiencing very challenging times. We have been facing test after test of our will to survive and even thrive.

It seems we are struggling and scrambling just to do the things we would typically do and accomplish without even a second thought. I have also seen a core group of very strong and committed individuals continue to meet their responsibilities, to press on and even excel in the most difficult of times.

I have also been keenly aware of this same phenomenon within the Tulare County family. Business is still getting done, budgets are still being passed, decisions continue to be made, and infrastructure continues to be upgraded, maintained or expanded. All of these activities continue despite outward distractions and the extra duties which have been placed on everyone. That is impressive!

I see the same attitude and actions at work in those who live and work in Tulare County. As an example, we just received the annual Crop and Livestock report from our Ag Commissioner, Tom Tucker. Agriculture and ranching are the basis for the economy and the strength of Tulare County. Guess what the report stated? Tulare County still feeds California and the other 49 states as well as exporting goods which feed most of our world! That took a lot of grit and determination in the face of all the challenges our farmers and ranchers face!

People in Tulare County also continue to build homes and shops and churches and expand their businesses. There has been a marked growth in our property values...even throughout the unprecedented global shut downs we have seen play out.

Our Fire Department, Sheriff's Department, Resource Management Agency, Health and Human Services Agency, Assessor, Auditor and all other departments have risen to the challenges of a global pandemic, the associated shut downs and business down times and the largest fires in Tulare County...for two years back to back!

All of you have worked together to serve the people who live and work in this great county. I want to encourage County staff and department heads and elected officials in the outstanding work you have been doing getting the job done and even going beyond! Thanks for all you have done and continue to do for the good people of the county.

Thank you residents, workers, business owners and managers for getting the job done and even thriving these past many months. We appreciate you for all you do and also for giving us the opportunity and privilege of serving you.

This last couple of years has caused growth because it has made us put roots down deeper in the same way plants and trees do when fighting to survive. The good news is...the result of deeper roots is an even better harvest in the future!

This is truly a great place to live and will keep getting better! I wish you all a wonderful season of Thanksgiving and preparation. Thank you and God bless!

Dennis Townsend District 5 Supervisor