



City of Needles

817 Third Street, Needles, California 92363
(760) 326-2113 • FAX (760) 326-6765
www.cityofneedles.com

Mayor, Janet Jernigan
Vice Mayor Ellen Campbell
Councilmember Tona Belt
Councilmember Jamie McCorkle
Councilmember JoAnne Pogue
Councilmember Henry Longbrake
Councilmember Zachery Longacre

City Manager Patrick J. Martinez

MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PATRICK J. MARTINEZ, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: WEEKLY MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 11, 2025

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1. Tomorrow, **Saturday, April 12**, will be a vibrant day in Needles. Three major community events will reflect the City Council's goals of fostering community engagement, supporting the arts and local economy, and promoting health and education. **Art in the Park** runs from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM at El Garces (950 Front Street). Refer to the attached image of tonight's cocktail party to celebrate the artists and highlight Needles' growing cultural presence. **Thank you to the River Valley Artist Guild for hosting this outstanding art event and contributing to our city's cultural vibrancy.** The **Needles Craft Show**, which features handmade goods from local vendors, will also take place tomorrow from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Santa Fe Park. The **Palo Verde College Foundation 5K Color Run & Walk** starts at 9:00 AM at the Needles Center, with check-in beginning at 7:30 AM. These events collectively showcase our community's energy, pride, and momentum building. We encourage residents and visitors alike to join and experience all Needles offers.
 2. On Tuesday, the City of Needles proudly celebrated the **ribbon-cutting** of the **Well No. 11 Treatment Plant**—a major milestone in our efforts to provide **safe, reliable drinking water** to the community. Constructed through a **streamlined design-build approach**, this **state-of-the-art facility** was delivered faster and more efficiently than traditional methods. The project is part of a broader **\$14.3 million investment** supported by the **State Water Resources Control Board, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and California Climate Investments**. This funding modernizes our **water infrastructure** and includes several companion projects: the **Lily Hill and L Street Booster Stations**, the **16" Transmission/Intertie Project**, and the **upcoming Manifold Project**. These improvements will **increase system capacity, boost reliability, and strengthen long-term service delivery**.

This accomplishment directly advances several **City Council goals**—investing in **critical infrastructure**, protecting **public health**, and ensuring the **long-term sustainability** of our essential services. It's a strong example of turning

strategic priorities into real results for the people of Needles. We are grateful to **Governor Gavin Newsom**, the **State Water Board**, and all **funding partners** for their continued support of **rural infrastructure**. Special thanks to the **Needles City Council**, **Board of Public Utilities**, **City staff**, **TKE Engineering**, and **Eric Christensen of Pacific Hydrotech Corporation** for their leadership and technical expertise. We were also honored to have **Nichole Morgan** and **Dimitri Stanich** join us to help commemorate this important milestone. This is how we build legacy—with **purpose**, **partnership**, and **vision**. Read the full press release [clicking here](#) or refer to the attached document.

3. On Thursday, April 10, 2025, **San Bernardino County Supervisor Dawn Rowe** hosted a community stakeholder lunch that brought together representatives from the **City of Needles**, **Needles Unified School District**, **California Highway Patrol**, **San Bernardino County Fire Department**, and **Palo Verde College**. The meeting allowed us to strengthen interagency relationships and align on shared priorities. Supervisor Rowe delivered an update on **County affairs**, including the success of the **Third Annual San Bernardino County Resource Fair** held at the historic **El Garces** and ongoing **improvements to the Sheriff's Colorado River Station**, which is scheduled to reopen this June. She also highlighted the **Emergency Response Mutual Aid Agreement** between the City of Needles and San Bernardino County Public Works—a collaborative effort to provide cost-effective and timely support for street and infrastructure repairs in incorporated and unincorporated areas. These efforts directly support the **City Council's goals** of improving **public safety**, investing in **critical infrastructure**, and enhancing **regional collaboration**. By participating in these cooperative initiatives, the City continues to build strong partnerships that reinforce community resilience and service delivery. **Refer to the attached for a glimpse into the event.**
4. The **Needles Pride Program** continues to inspire local action, empowering residents to take ownership of their neighborhoods and contribute to a cleaner, safer city. These efforts reflect the City Council's commitment to enhancing **community engagement**, **infrastructure reliability**, and overall **quality of life** in Needles. This week, the **City's Water Department** completed a critical infrastructure project—the **fresh painting of the leading piping network at Well 15**. This long-overdue maintenance improves corrosion resistance, extends the system's lifespan, and helps preserve water quality by preventing harmful leaching. *(See attached images for a glimpse of the work completed.)* To further protect public spaces and **deter illegal dumping**, the city has installed **"No Dumping" signs** at key locations, including **First Beach**, **Jack Smith Park**, and near **City-owned dumpsters**. These signs are part of a broader effort to keep our parks and shared spaces clean while reducing costs associated with unauthorized dumping. Additionally, we're excited to announce a **Community Cleanup Day** scheduled for **Saturday, May 3, 2025**. Volunteers are encouraged to join us in removing debris and improving public areas. These events serve as a powerful demonstration of civic pride and align with Council goals to beautify Needles and promote public involvement. Residents can report

issues such as **potholes, sidewalk damage, or vegetation overgrowth**; please call **760-326-2115 (press #9)** or use the **Needles Connect app** on [Google Play Store](#) and the [Apple Store](#). Refer to the attached images for a **glimpse**. Together, these initiatives show how sustained investment, collaboration, and community spirit are making Needles a better place to live, work, and visit.

5. The City of Needles would like to share with the community that **Captain Ross Tarangle** of the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Colorado River Station has **stepped down from his position** as he prepares for **retirement**. We are grateful for Captain Tarangle's many years of **dedicated service** and **strong leadership**, which have significantly contributed to the safety and well-being of our City. **Effective immediately, Lieutenant Jacob Gault** will serve as **Interim Captain** and officially assume the role of **Captain on May 3, 2025**. We look forward to continuing our close partnership with the Colorado River Station under his leadership. The City will work with Captain Tarangle to schedule a **plaque presentation** at a future Council meeting to recognize his service. Please thank **Captain Tarangle** and **welcome Captain Gault** to his new role in Needles.
6. Are you looking to add a furry friend to your family? The **Needles Animal Shelter** has several loving pets waiting for their forever homes, including **Hazel**, a 3-year-old female Pit/Sharpei mix; **Leo**, a 2-year-old long-haired Chihuahua; and three playful 8-week-old kittens—**Scout, Smokey, and Scarlett**. All animals shown in the attached flyer are currently available and unaltered. The **adoption fee is just \$59**, and our staff is here to help you find the perfect match. Stop by **Monday through Friday, from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM**, or call us at **760-326-4952** to learn more. And don't miss our upcoming **Rabies and Licensing Clinic** on **Friday, May 17, from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM**, hosted at the shelter in partnership with PetSmart Veterinary Services. The attached flyer outlines that this **cash-only event** offers low-cost vaccinations, microchipping, and discounted City of Needles dog licenses. All dogs must be leashed, and cats must be in carriers. Whether you're adopting or keeping your current pets healthy, it's a great time to visit the shelter and support animal care in our community.
7. This week, the City proudly congratulates **Zerick Phillips** on earning his **Commercial Driver's License (CDL)**—a milestone that reflects our continued investment in **staff development**. Our **Public Works team** is actively participating in a certified **CDL training program**, which includes **80 hours** of both **virtual and onsite instruction and an exam**. This effort is part of the City's commitment to building a **highly trained workforce**, improving **service delivery**, and **empowering our employees** with the skills needed to serve the community effectively.
8. On Tuesday, the **City of Needles City Council** proudly recognized the outstanding accomplishments of the **Needles High School Boys and Girls Basketball Teams**. The Girls Team captured the **Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) 2A State Championship**, while the Boys Team

earned the title of **State Runner-Up** in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Council commended not only the athletes for their talent, discipline, and sportsmanship, but also praised the city's **recreation program** for its commitment to **youth development**. This recognition aligns with the **City Council's goal to support families and youth** by enhancing recreational opportunities, developing leadership skills, and fostering a strong sense of community pride. By investing in programs that create a positive environment for our young residents, the City continues to promote a **healthy, family-friendly community** and strengthen its partnership with the **Needles Unified School District**. **For a glimpse of this commendation, please refer to the attached certificates.**

9. The **Rivers Edge Golf Course** continues to serve as a hub for community connection, and we're proud to support the upcoming **26th Annual Flip Mendez Youth Fundraiser** on **Saturday, May 3**. The tournament is officially **sold out**, a testament to the strong local support for youth-focused programs. While player spots are full, **sponsorship opportunities**—including **hole sponsorships with tee box signage**—are still available. All proceeds benefit the **Flip Mendez Youth Foundation**, which helps provide recreational sports access to underprivileged youth. **JJ's Golf Clinic** will be held **tomorrow at 10:00 AM**, leading up to the event, offering an excellent opportunity to refine your skills before the tournament. **Space is limited**, so early sign-ups are encouraged. For sponsorship details, clinic registration, or to book a round, contact **JJ DeLeon at (760) 326-3931** or visit www.golfneedlesca.com. **Refer to the attached flyer for sponsorship information.**
10. The **San Bernardino County Fire Protection District (SBCFPD)** successfully hosted a **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event** on March 1, 2025, at the Needles City Public Works Yard. The event drew participation from **61 residents** and resulted in the safe collection and disposal of **6,958 pounds** of hazardous and electronic waste. Notable quantities included **2,998 pounds of latex paint**, **640 pounds of used motor oil**, **1,498 pounds of e-waste**, **380 pounds of lead acid batteries**, and **269 pounds of oil-based paint**, along with other materials such as household batteries, aerosols, sharps, and corrosives. The event reflects SBCFPD's ongoing commitment to public safety and environmental protection through responsible waste management and community outreach.
11. The **47th Annual Colorado River Round-Up Rodeo** was a **tremendous success** this past weekend, setting a **new attendance record**. By **Saturday night**, it was **standing-room-only**—an **outstanding turnout** for one of our community's most **cherished traditions**. Thank you to the **Rodeo Committee** for their continued **dedication** and **hard work** in organizing and setting up this annual event. Your **commitment** is what keeps this tradition **alive and thriving**. Adding to the excitement, various **local food trucks** served crowd favorites throughout the weekend. **Foodini's**, **River Sippin**, and **Joe's BBQ Shack** were just a few of the **standouts**—Joe's delivered what many called their **best-ever barbecue**. And, of course, none of this would have been possible without our

incredible volunteers. Thank you for your **time, energy, and commitment.** Your efforts helped make this year's rodeo **one to remember.**

12. Next week, **two community events** will unite residents in celebration and support the City Council's goals to enhance **family-friendly programming** and strengthen **community engagement** through public spaces and local partnerships. On **Saturday, April 19, 2025**, beginning at **9:30 AM** at **Jack Smith Park**, **Tri-State Community Healthcare** will host the **Third Annual Needles Easter Egg Hunt**. With over **5,000 eggs**, prizes, face painting, and photos with the Easter Bunny, this beloved event offers fun for all ages and continues to foster strong family connections in our community. Later that day, the **1st Annual World-Famous Chili Cookoff** kicks off at **10:00 AM** (location TBD), hosted by **The River Community Coalition** and **Firehouse Ministries**. This exciting new tradition will feature **delicious chili, friendly competition**, and plenty of **community spirit**. Additional details about participation and judging are coming soon. Both events reflect our shared vision of building a vibrant, inclusive, and connected Needles. **Refer to the attached flyer for more details.**

13. **IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:**

- City staff have **carefully curated a comprehensive community events calendar** to inform residents about **Needles' diverse activities and happenings**. The community events calendar can now **be found on the Needles Connect App!** Organizations are encouraged to **collaborate with the City Clerk's Office** to add or update events, ensuring a vibrant and inclusive calendar. For contributions or modifications, please get in touch with Candace Clark at **cclark@cityofneedles.com**. Your **active participation** helps strengthen our community and enrich local experiences. **Check the attached calendar for the remaining 2025 events**, and stay engaged with all Needles offers!

1. ART IN THE PARK



1. ART IN THE PARK



1. PALO VERDE 5k



PALO VERDE COLLEGE
FOUNDATION
WHERE KNOWLEDGE TAKES ROOT AND OPPORTUNITY GROWS

NEEDLES CENTER

SCHOLARSHIP

5K COLOR RUN & WALK

SATURDAY

APRIL 12, 2025

STARTS AT PALO VERDE COLLEGE
AT 9AM; CHECK-IN AT 7:30 AM

For more information call (760) 326-5033
or visit <http://www.paloverde.edu/>

725 W. Broadway, Needles, CA 92363



Age
Categories:

- 12 years & Under
- 13 - 17 years
- 18 years and up

**FEE: \$25 PER PERSON
INCLUDES TSHIRT, MEAL
REGISTRATION:**



Must Register
Before April 1

<https://forms.gle/3E53VXckUgDxQV6V6>

2. RIBBON CUTTING WELL #11



2. STATE WATER RESOURCES BOARD



Source: California State Water Resources Board

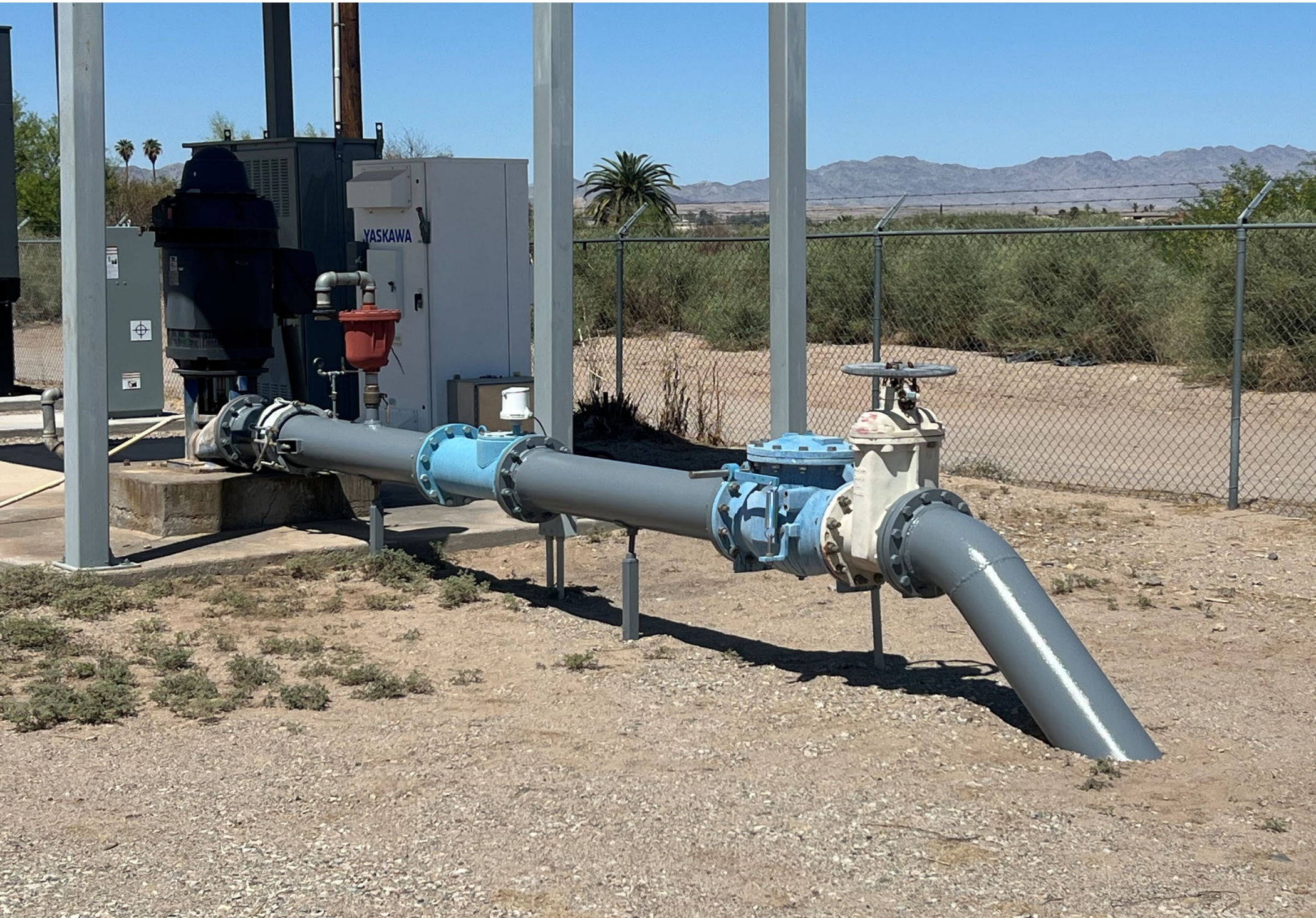


Source: Needles Desert Star

3. SUPERVISOR ROWE



4. INFRASTRUCTURE RELIABILITY



4. INFRASTRUCTURE RELIABILITY



6. Needles Animal Shelter

Please
Adopt Us



HAZEL
FEMALE PIT/SHARPEI MIX
aprox. 3 years old
UNALTERED



LEO
LONG HAIRD CHIUUAUA
aprox 2 years old
UNALTERED



SCOUT
8 WEEK KITTEN
MALE
UNALTERED



SMOKEY
8 WEEK KITTEN
MALE
UNALTERED



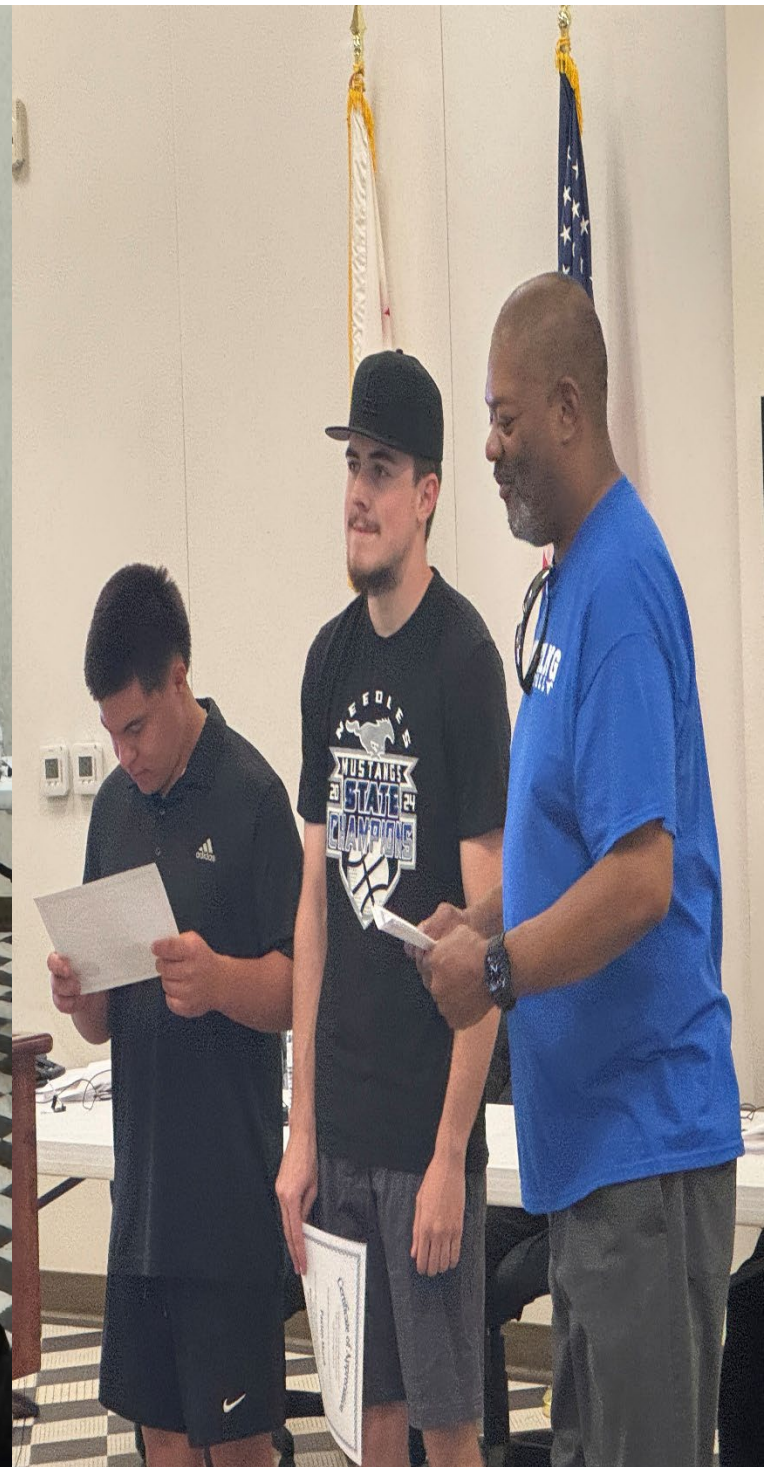
Scarlett
8 WEEK KITTEN
FEMALE
UNALTERED

CONTACT US 760-326-4952

1662 Flip Mendez PKWY
Needles, CA 92363



8. NEEDLES HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL



THE FLIPS

26th Annual

Flip Mendez Youth Fund Golf Tournament

Rivers Edge Golf Course

Saturday, May 3, 2025

*The Flip Mendez Youth Fund Golf Tournament Committee thanks you for your support.
In 2024 contributions to the Flip Mendez Youth Fund provided funding for:*

4 College Scholarships to NHS Graduating Seniors

Over 200 Youth Sports Scholarships

Donations to the following sports:

Baseball, Softball, Basketball, Football,

Volleyball, T-Ball and many other donations for the youth.

Tee Sponsorship – \$75 – Per Hole

Sponsorship fees must be received by April 25th for signs to be placed on course.

Sponsor Names: _____

Tee Sponsor: \$75.00 x's _____ hole(s) = \$ _____

Other Amount = \$ _____

Make checks payable to: Flip Mendez Youth Fund

Mail to: Frank or Rhonda Mendez 2101 El Monte Street, Needles, CA 9236

Tax ID# 47-3448436

For Questions Call - Rhonda Mendez at (760) 927-2220 Or Frank Mendez (760) 927-2215

10. SBCFPD WASTE COLLECTION

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



2824 East W Street • San Bernardino, CA 92415-0799 • (909) 382-5401 • Fax (909) 382-5413

Office of the Fire Marshal
Household Hazardous Waste Section
sbcfire.org

Daniel R. Munsey
Fire Chief/Fire Warden

Monica S. Ronchetti
Fire Marshal

April 2, 2025

Rainie Torrance
Assistant Utility Manager
City of Needles
817 Third Street
Needles, California 92363

Subject: *March 1, 2025 Household Hazardous Waste/E-waste Collection*

Dear Rainie,

The following waste was collected from 61 participants at the March 1, 2025 Needles HHW Collection:

Waste	Amounts (lbs.)	Waste	Amounts (lbs.)
Flammable Solid/Liquid	405	Antifreeze	68
Oil Based Paint	269	Motor Oil	640
Toxics	37	Used Oil Filters	53
Corrosive Acids	26	Fluorescent Tubes	13
Corrosive Bases	17	Household Batteries	160
Oxidizers	25	Lead Acid Batteries	380
Latex Paint	2,998	CRTs/Misc E-waste	1,498
Aerosols	104	Compressed Gas Cylinder	30
Pharmaceuticals	20	Sharps	30
Fertilizers	30	Materials Exchange	123
Fire Extinguishers	32	Cooking Oil	0
		Total	6,958

If you have any questions, please call or e-mail me at (909) 382-5401 mvangese@sbcfire.org

Sincerely,

Michael VanGese,
Environmental Specialist

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Col. Paul Cook (Ret.)
First District

Jesse Armendarez
Second District

Dawn Rowe
Chairman, Third District

Curt Hagman
Fourth District

Joe Baca, Jr.
Vice Chair, Fifth District

Luther Snoke
Chief Executive Officer

11. 47TH ANNUAL RODEO



12. TRI-STATE EASTER EGG HUNT

5,000 Eggs
Gift Baskets & prizes

NEEDLES, CA

Easter

EGG HUNT

SATURDAY- APRIL 19

Hunt starts at 9:30

Jack Smith Park
1000 River Rd, Needles, CA

**FACE PAINTING & PHOTOS WITH
THE EASTER BUNNY**

This event is brought to you by:



(844) 444-1424 www.tristateclinics.org



12. CHILI COOK-OFF

NEEDLES 1ST ANNUAL WORLD FAMOUS CHILI COOK-OFF

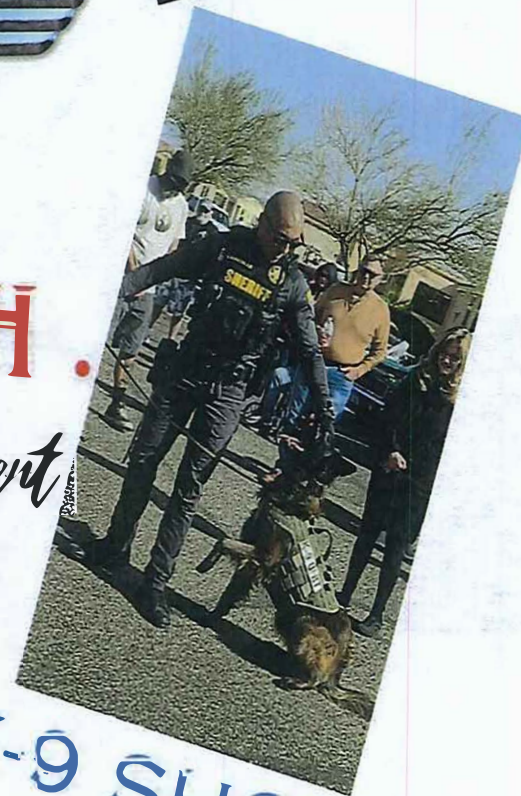
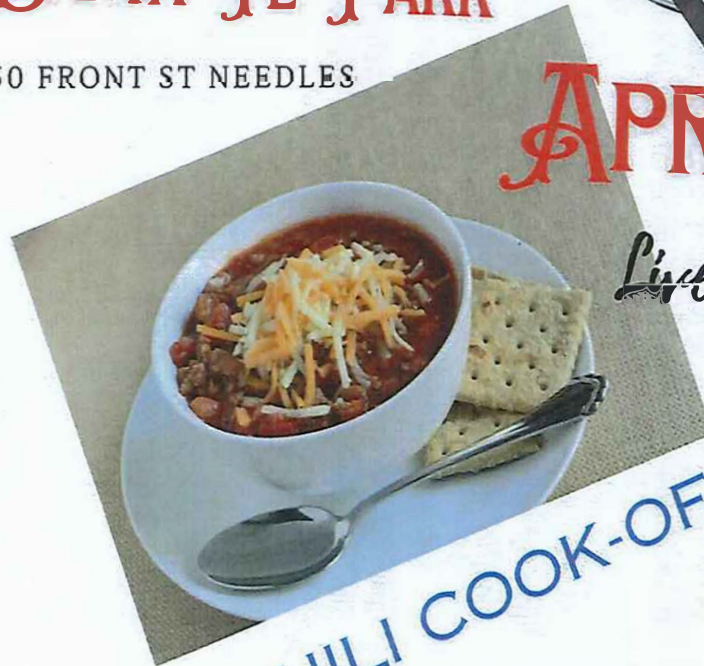


SANTA FE PARK

950 FRONT ST NEEDLES

APRIL 19TH.

Live Entertainment



CHILI COOK-OFF

K-9 SHOW

AND CAR SHOW

April 2025

13. COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<div>1</div> <div></div> <div>BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM</div>	<div>2</div> <div>PLANNING COMMISSION 4 PM</div>	<div>3</div>	<div>4</div> <div>47th ANNUAL COLORADO RIVER ROUND UP</div>	<div>5</div> <div></div>
<div>6</div>	<div>7</div>	<div>8</div> <div></div> <div>WELL 11 TREATMENT PLANT 9AM</div> <div>WOMEN'S CLUB LUNCH CITY COUNCIL 6 PM</div>	<div>9</div>	<div>10</div> <div></div>		<div>12</div> <div></div>
<div>13</div>	<div>14</div>	<div>15</div> <div>BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM</div>	<div>16</div> <div></div>	<div>17</div> <div></div>	<div>18</div>	<div>19</div> <div></div>
<div>20</div> <div></div>	<div>21</div> <div>PARKS & RECREATION 4 PM</div>	<div>22</div> <div>CITY COUNCIL 6 PM</div>	<div>23</div> <div>HOUSING COMMISSION 4 PM</div>	<div>24</div> <div></div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div>
<div>27</div> <div>ROUTE 66 BIKE WEEK</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>29</div>	<div>30</div>	<div>OTHER EVENTS IN APRIL</div>		

May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	7 PLANNING COMMISSION 4 PM	8	9	10
11	12	13 WOMEN'S CLUB LUNCH CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	14 	15 GOOD MORNING NEEDLES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITOR CENTER BREAKFAST 9-11AM EL GARCES 950 FRONT ST., STE A 9-11	16	17 Rabies and Licensing Clinic Needles Animal Shelter 1662 Flip Mendez Pkwy Needles, CA 92363 May 17th 9:30-12:30 CASH ONLY
18	19 PARKS & RECREATION 4 PM	20 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	28 HOUSING COMMISSION 4 PM	29	30	31

June 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	4 PLANNING COMMISSION 4 PM	5	6	7
8	9	10 WOMEN'S CLUB LUNCH CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	11	12	13	14
15	16 PARKS & RECREATION 4 PM	17 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	18	19 GOOD MORNING NEEDLES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITOR CENTER BREAKFAST 9-11AM EL GARCES 950 FRONT ST., STE A 9-11	20	21
22	23	24 CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	25 HOUSING COMMISSION 4 PM	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

July 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	2 PLANNING COMMISSION 4 PM	3	4	5
6	7	8 WOMEN'S CLUB LUNCH CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	16	17 GOOD MORNING NEEDLES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITOR CENTER BREAKFAST 9-11 AM EL GARCES 950 FRONT ST., STE A 9-11 CEMETERY COMM. - 3 PM	18	19
20	21 PARKS & RECREATION 4 PM	22 CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	23 HOUSING COMMISSION 4 PM	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		