



# City of Needles

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

*Mayor, Janet Jernigan  
Vice Mayor Ellen Campbell  
Councilmember Tona Belt  
Councilmember Jamie McCorkle  
Councilmember JoAnne Pogue  
Councilmember Henry Longbrake  
Councilmember Larry Ford*

*City Manager Patrick J. Martinez*

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PATRICK J. MARTINEZ, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: WEEKLY MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 30, 2026

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### 1. **Phase V Street Paving Improvements – Groundbreaking Ceremony**

The City of Needles invites residents to attend a community groundbreaking ceremony for the Phase V Street Improvements Project on **Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.** at the intersection of Rio Vista and Balboa. Construction on this \$1.37 million project is underway, and work is scheduled to be completed by the end of February. This week, crews completed mobilization, job setup, potholing, and utility adjustments to prepare the streets for paving operations. The project was designed by TKE Engineering Inc. and awarded to Vance Corporation, with funding provided through City tax dollars generated by the local cannabis industry. Phase V will deliver roadway improvements on Parkway Street, Lillyhill Drive, Coronado Street, Peru Street, Cortez Street, and Balboa Street, improving safety and driving conditions in several neighborhoods. This investment reflects the City's continued commitment to reinvesting local revenues into essential infrastructure through its long-term pavement management efforts. Community members are encouraged to attend the ceremony and join the City in recognizing this important milestone and the continued progress being made to improve neighborhood streets.

### 2. **Route 66 Centennial Utility Box Art Project**

At the recent City Council meeting, the Council authorized a public art project to celebrate the Route 66 Centennial through the painting of select electrical utility boxes in Needles. This initiative reflects the City's commitment to beautification and enhancing the visitor experience along our historic Route 66 corridor. Transforming everyday infrastructure into vibrant works of art helps tell the story of Needles while creating a more welcoming and visually engaging environment for residents and travelers alike. Over the next two weekends, residents may see artists on-site preparing the boxes, including sanding, surface preparation, and painting as work moves forward. The project targets high-visibility locations to create immediate visual impact and showcase Needles' creativity and sense of place during this milestone celebration. We appreciate the community's support and patience as this exciting project begins to take shape and adds new color and character to our city.

3. **Winter Care Outreach Event Leads to Housing Support for Local Veteran**

The City of Needles is pleased to report on the success of the Winter Care Outreach Event held on **January 28, 2026**, in partnership with the San Bernardino County Probation Department, Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County (CAPS), Pacific Clinics and the Needles Set-Free Church. Approximately 90 local residents attended and received services including jackets, clothing, food boxes, hygiene resources, and access to showers. Pacific Clinics' Clubhouse Program also participated, providing additional outreach and support. Needles Mayor Janet Jernigan attended the event to show the City's continued commitment to supporting vulnerable members of the community. Most notably, as a direct result of the outreach efforts, the Housing Authority was able to assist a homeless veteran with securing housing through the HUD-VASH program. This outcome highlights the importance of coordinated community partnerships in delivering meaningful assistance to those in need.

4. **Transit Equity Day – Free Ride Day**

Transit Equity Day will be observed countywide on **Wednesday, February 4**, with free rides offered all day on Needles Area Transit (NAT) deviated fixed route and Needles Dial-a-Ride (DAR) specialized transportation services. This initiative, in partnership with the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority, promotes equitable access to transportation and encourages residents to use public transit for work, school, medical appointments, and daily needs. Providing fare-free service helps reduce transportation barriers and highlights the importance of reliable mobility options for all community members. This effort supports the City Council's goals of enhancing quality of life, improving accessibility, and strengthening regional partnerships that expand essential services for Needles residents.

5. **Needles Cactus Commuter Program Expands Transportation Access**

Victor Valley Transit Authority (VVTA) will launch a new mileage reimbursement program on **February 9** to assist low-income Needles residents with transportation to essential appointments in the High Desert. Known as the *Needles Cactus Commuter*, the program will provide mileage reimbursement for trips to medical and court appointments, helping remove transportation barriers for residents who need to travel outside the community. Eligible participants must reside in the Needles area, meet federal low-income guidelines, and may receive reimbursement for up to 1,100 miles per month. The program will be administered directly by VVTA. This partnership expands access to critical services while supporting some of our community's most vulnerable residents. Staff will assist in promoting the program locally to help ensure eligible residents are aware of this new transportation resource. For more information, residents can contact VVTA at 760-995-3561 or visit <https://vvta.org/ncc/>.

6. **Needles Center Scholarship 5K Sponsorship Opportunities**

Sponsorship opportunities are now available for the Palo Verde College Foundation's Needles Center Scholarship 5K Color Walk/Run taking place on **Saturday, March 21, 2026**. This annual community event raises scholarship funds exclusively for students attending the Palo Verde College Needles Center, directly supporting local residents pursuing higher education and career training. A variety of corporate and individual sponsorship levels are available, giving

businesses and community members the opportunity to support student success while receiving event recognition. Proceeds from sponsorships remain local and help expand educational pathways for Needles students. Those interested in becoming a sponsor can contribute directly through the [Foundation's secure giving page](#). Supporting this effort aligns with the Council's goals of strengthening workforce development and investing in the long-term success of the community.

**7. 4th Annual Resource & Job Fair**

The 4th Annual Resource & Job Fair will be held on **March 18, 2026**, from **10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** at the **El Garces Historic Train Depot**. This event brings together San Bernardino County agencies, employers, and community partners to connect residents with job opportunities and essential services. Attendees can receive employment support, career guidance, and direct access to hiring organizations, and those seeking employment are encouraged to bring a résumé. The Assessor-Recorder-County Clerk Mobile Unit will be onsite providing certificate copies, notary services, fictitious business name filings, and property information. The Law Offices of the Public Defender will also assist individuals interested in beginning the record-clearing process. This event continues to be a valuable opportunity for residents to access services locally and strengthen connections to employment and support resources. **Residents are encouraged to RSVP today by using this [registration link](#).**

**8. Pacific Clinics Clubhouse Program Activities**

Pacific Clinics' Clubhouse Program in Needles continues to provide a safe, welcoming environment that promotes wellness, resiliency, and recovery for adults living with mental health conditions. The program offers peer support, skill-building opportunities, wellness activities, and assistance connecting members with local resources to support their recovery journey. Membership is open to adults over 18 with lived experience related to mental health, and there is no cost or insurance requirement to participate. Their next distribution will be held on February 11, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at 1600 Bailey Street. Refer to the attached for their upcoming February activity calendar, which includes support groups, social events, wellness activities, crafts, and community outings designed to encourage engagement and build connections. These programs play an important role in supporting mental health and overall well-being within the community. For more information about the Clubhouse Program or to become a member, residents may contact Sonia Vicario at **626-753-8725** or visit their location at **1060 E. Broadway Street, Needles**.

**9. Community Events Calendar Now Live**

The City's new website now features a [Community Events Calendar](#)—a single source for community events, civic meetings, and community programs. Local organizations are invited to submit or update events through the City Clerk's Office to keep the calendar current and inclusive. Contact **Candace Clark at [cclark@cityofneedles.com](mailto:cclark@cityofneedles.com)** to participate. Residents can subscribe and sync the calendar to mobile devices for real-time updates, making it easier to stay informed and engaged.

**10. Rivers Edge Golf Course Valentine’s Day Golf Clinic**

Rivers Edge Golf Course will host a Short Game Golf Clinic led by Golf Professional JJ DeLeon on February 14, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The clinic is designed for golfers of all skill levels and ages, providing an opportunity to improve short game fundamentals in a fun and supportive setting. With Valentine’s Day falling on the same day, the clinic offers a unique activity for couples to enjoy together. Participation is limited to the first 12 registrants, with a cost of \$25 per person. Residents interested in participating can register by calling Rivers Edge Golf Course at **(760) 326-3931** or by emailing [jjdeleon@golfneedlesca.com](mailto:jjdeleon@golfneedlesca.com). Residents are also encouraged to review the attached flyers for additional upcoming tournaments at Rivers Edge Golf Course, including the **Wilson Birthday Bash Tournament on February 21** and the **“Teeing Off on Route 66” Golf Tournament on March 7**, both expected to draw regional participation and support local recreation and tourism.

**11. Needles Elks Lodge – Wine, Cheese & Chocolate Pairing Event**

The Needles Elks Lodge #1608 will host its second annual Wine, Cheese, and Chocolate Pairing Event **next weekend on February 7, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** at the Elks Lodge, 1000 Lilyhill Drive. This community event is open to both members and non-members and serves as a fundraiser supporting local youth scholarships. Tickets are \$25 per person, and residents are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance. Those interested in attending can reserve tickets by contacting Sharon Dooley at (917) 797-1205. Please refer to the attached flyer for additional event details.

**12. Farmers Market Gains Exposure with New J Street Sign**

A new temporary sign has been installed along J Street to increase visibility and awareness of the Needles Sunday Farmers Market at Santa Fe Park. The signage is designed to attract both residents and visitors and encourage greater participation in this growing community event. Hosted by Tumbleweed Markets Inc., the market offers a rotating mix of vendors featuring fresh produce, baked goods, coffee, handmade items, flowers, and other locally crafted goods. The market is held every Sunday through **March 31, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** at Santa Fe Park. The event continues to welcome new vendors, expanding opportunities for local entrepreneurs and artisans. This effort supports the City Council’s goal of strengthening community engagement while promoting local economic activity. Additional vendor information is available by contacting Market Manager Patrick Lauterio at (760) 848-8289 or [needlesfarmers@gmail.com](mailto:needlesfarmers@gmail.com).

# 1. PHASE V GROUNDBREAKING



## COMMUNITY GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

### Phase V Street Improvements Project



Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2026

9:00 AM

Intersection of  
Rio Vista & Balboa

### Join Us As We Kick Off the Phase V Street Improvements Project!

- Neighborhood street improvements for Parkway St, Lillyhill Dr, Coronado St, Peru St, Cortez St, and Balboa St
- Funded through City tax revenues generated by the local cannabis industry



**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Celebrate this milestone and learn about the progress being made to enhance our neighborhood streets.

## 2. ROUTE 66 ELECTRICAL BOXES



[Hwy 95 and San Clemente](#)



[G Street and W Broadway](#)



[J Street and W Broadway](#)

## 2. ROUTE 66 ELECTRICAL BOXES



[Needles Hwy and W Broadway](#)



[N K Street and River Road](#)



[Needles Hwy and N K Street](#)

## 2. ROUTE 66 ELECTRICAL BOXES



[Pashard Street and West Broadway](#)



[2511 Needles Hwy](#)

### 3. HOMELESS OUTREACH EVENT



### 3. HOMELESS OUTREACH EVENT



## 4. TRANSIT EQUITY DAY

# Ride free February 4 Transit Equity Day



Ride Happy!  
throughout San Bernardino County



powered by



## 5. VICTORVILLE TRANSPORTATION



# NEEDLES CACTUS COMMUTER

FROM



**DO YOU NEED TO DRIVE OR NEED A RIDE TO THE  
VICTOR VALLEY AREA FOR MEDICAL OR COURT APPEARANCES?**

**WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!**

- **Open to Low Income Needles Area Residents**
- **Mileage Reimbursement Program**
- **Up to 1,100 Miles Monthly**
- **Trips only to Medical Appointments or Court Appearances in the Victor Valley Area**



SOME RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY

**NCC@VVTA.ORG • 760-995-3561**  
**vvta.org/ncc**

# 5. VICTORVILLE TRANSPORTATION



English ▾

Routes ▾ ADA / Paratransit Micro-Link Flexible Transit ▾ More ▾

## Needles Cactus Commuter

Helping Needles Residents Get to  
Critical Medical and Court  
Appointments in the Victor Valley.



Long trips should not stand between you and the care you need or the obligations you must meet. The Needles Cactus Commuter (NCC) Program was created to help eligible low-income Needles

residents travel to the Victor Valley area for important medical appointments and court-mandated appearances through a mileage reimbursement program.

Whether you drive yourself or ask a trusted friend or loved one to take you, the program may reimburse you for the miles traveled. Participants may be eligible to receive reimbursement for up to 1,100 miles per month.



Many Needles residents face significant challenges when trying to access medical specialists, dialysis, oncology services, or court appearances in Victorville. The long distance, limited transportation options, and financial strain of repeated trips can make these essential appointments difficult to keep. The Needles Cactus Commuter Program was designed specifically to remove these barriers and provide practical support for those who need it most.

This program operates on a mileage reimbursement model and focuses only on essential trip purposes. At this time, reimbursement is limited to travel for medical appointments in the Victor Valley area and court appearances at the San Bernardino County Courthouse in Victorville.

To qualify, participants must live in the Needles area and have household income at or below Federal Poverty Guidelines, with a proposed program income ceiling of \$32,150. Participation is based on both income eligibility and approved trip types.

Participants are required to track and report their mileage each month and provide proof of their trip. Reports must be submitted by the 10th of each month in order to be processed. Incomplete reports cannot be reimbursed. Reimbursements are distributed monthly, and participants must choose to receive their funds either by Direct Deposit or through a FinTwist card.

The Needles Cactus Commuter Program is a  
Partnership between



*If you believe you may qualify or would like more  
information about how to apply, please contact us.*

Email: [NCC@VVTA.ORG](mailto:NCC@VVTA.ORG)  
Phone: 760-995-3561

### Contact Us

17150 Smoke Tree Street  
Hesperia, CA 92345

Complaint/Comment Form Rider Survey

(760) 948-3030 Routes and Scheduling

(760) 244-4000 ADA Direct Access & Micro-Link

(760) 948-4021 Hesperia Main Line

(760) 948-4021 ext. 401 Barstow Main Line

[info@vvta.org](mailto:info@vvta.org)

Due to security issues, emails  
originating from gmail accounts  
will not be seen by intended  
recipients

# 6. PALO VERDE COLLEGE 5K DONATIONS



PALO VERDE COLLEGE  
**FOUNDATION**  
WHERE KNOWLEDGE TAKES ROOT AND OPPORTUNITY GROWS

NEEDLES CENTER  
**SCHOLARSHIP**  
**5K**  
**COLOR**  
**RUNNER**  
**WALK**



**SATURDAY,**  
**MARCH 21, 2026**

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

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

725 W. Broadway, Needles, CA 92363

## REGISTRATION

**\$25 PER PERSON, INCLUDES TSHIRT & MEAL**

- Age Categories:**
- 12 years & Under
  - 13 - 17 years
  - 18 - 49 years
  - 50 years & above



Scan code or follow  
link to get started  
<https://bit.ly/NdIs5k>

*Must Register Before March 14*

# 6. PALO VERDE COLLEGE 5K DONATIONS



## NEEDLES CENTER SCHOLARSHIP 5K COLOR WALK/RUN

Sponsorship Opportunities • Saturday, March 21, 2026

Since 1986, the Palo Verde College Foundation has partnered with generous businesses and community members to help students reach their educational goals. All proceeds from this event fund scholarships exclusively for Needles Center students.

### Corporate Sponsorships (Included in Public Advertising)

LOOT – \$1,000+	10 runners/walkers 8 T-shirts Individual banner Pirate promotions 10 Pirate totes
AHOY – \$500–\$999	8 runners/walkers 6 T-shirts Individual banner Pirate promotions 8 Pirate totes
BUCCANEER – \$250–\$499	6 runners/walkers 4 T-shirts Group banner listing Pirate promotions 6 Pirate totes
JOLLY ROGER – \$100–\$249	4 runners/walkers 2 T-shirts Group banner listing Pirate promotions 4 Pirate totes

### Individual Sponsorships

MATEY 1 – Up to \$49	1 runner • 1 T-shirt • Name on banner • Pirate bag
MATEY 2 – \$50–\$74	2 runners • 2 T-shirts • Name on banner • Pirate bag
MATEY 3 – \$75–\$99	3 runners • 3 T-shirts • Name on banner • 2 Pirate bags

Donations are tax deductible through the Palo Verde College Foundation (501c3). To sponsor: Donate online via the Foundation portal or mail checks to Palo Verde College Needles Center, 725 W. Broadway St., Needles, CA 92363. Include 'PVC Foundation Needles Scholarships' in the memo.

# 7. 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL RESOURCE FAIR



**March 18, 2026 @ 10 am - 1 pm**

**Resource Connections**

Your next stop for resources and employment services. Meet community partners and employers, access valuable support, and take the next step toward your career goals. Those seeking employment are encouraged to bring their resume.

**LOCATION:**

El Garces Historic Train Depot  
950 Front Street  
Needles, CA 92363

**Assessor-Recorder-County Clerk Mobile Unit:**

Birth/Death/Marriage Certificate, Copies, Notary Public Filings, Fictitious Business Name, Statements, and Assessor Property Information (SB County ONLY)



**REGISTER NOW!**

[HDHE326.eventbrite.com](https://hdhe326.eventbrite.com)

**Record Clearing Services**

Meet with Law offices of the Public Defender. Get assistance with starting the record clearing process.

# 3. PACIFIC CLINICS



## Clubhouse Program

Promoting wellness, resiliency and recovery in a safe environment with a friendly atmosphere

We help our members to develop skills that promote overall health and well-being. Through education, peer support and personalized guidance, we empower members to take control of their health and achieve meaningful recovery. Our goal is to support members in living full, satisfying lives as they progress on their recovery journey. We build a path to improve mental health and wellness.

### Become a member

Must be over 18 years of age and provide verification or a reasonable indicator of past or present lived experience with a mental health condition. Members must be able to care for themselves and benefit from the program.

There is no cost to be a member and no insurance is required.

### Member Benefits

- Learn self-care and positive coping skills
- Wi-Fi/computers access
- Assistance finding local resources
- Achieve wellness and reach recovery goals
- Support groups
- Access to engaging peer-led and support groups
- Group activities
- Crafts, games and celebrations

### Contact Info

1060 E. Broadway Street  
Needles, CA 92363  
626.753.8725  
Sonia.Vicario@PacificClinics.org

# 8. PACIFIC CLINICS

IN FEBRUARY THERE IS EVERYTHING TO HOPE FOR  
AND NOTHING TO REGRET !!! PATIENCE Strong

february 2026 

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
SUNDAY MARKET 8-12	1 Motivation MONDAY 11AM TIGER CONNECT	2 POOL PARTY 11AM	3 WRAP 11AM	4 FIRE HOUSE	5 CRAFT WITH 1PM CAROLE VIOLETS	6		
SUNDAY MARKET 8-12	8 BINGO 11AM MOTIVATION MONDAY	9 Billet 11:30AM	10 WRAP 11AM FOOD Dist. 2:2pm	11 FIRE HOUSE	12 FIRE HOUSE	13 VALENTINES PARTY 12PM	14 ROUTE 66 CAR 9-2 SHOW	EI GARCES
SUNDAY MARKET 8-12	15 16 CLOSED ⚡	17 Pool PARTY 11AM	18 WRAP 11AM	19 FIRE HOUSE	20 CRAFT 1PM	21		
SUNDAY MARKET 8-12	22 BINGO 11AM	23 BOARD MEETING 11AM MEMBER PARTY 12pm	24 WRAP 11AM	25 FIRE HOUSE	26 CRAFT 1PM	27	28	

\* SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE  
WITHOUT NOTICE

# 10. RIVERS EDGE GOLF COURSE

REGISTER TODAY!



**FEB  
14TH**  
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

**GOLF  
CLINIC**

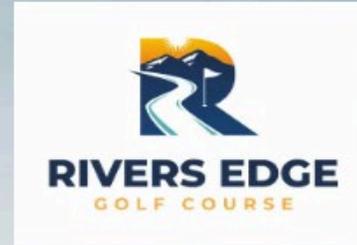
**Topic - SHORT  
GAME**

**HOSTED BY JJ DELEON**

**ADMISSION FEE: \$25 PER CLIENT / ALL AGE RANGES**

**LIMITED TO FIRST 12 SIGN UPS**

144 MARINA DRIVE NEEDLES, CA 92363 / [GOLFNEEDLESCA.COM](http://GOLFNEEDLESCA.COM) /



**Feb 21st  
2026**  
8:00 AM Shotgun

**3-Person  
Scramble**

**Low Net/Gross  
Plus Skins**

**\$55 Per Player  
\$165 Team**

**Wilson Birthday  
BASH TOURNAMENT**

Call Rivers Edge Golf Course to sign up or  
email JJ DeLeon @ [jjdeleon@golfneedlesca.com](mailto:jjdeleon@golfneedlesca.com)  
(760) 326-3931

# 10. RIVERS EDGE GOLF COURSE

Get Your Clubs Ready



River's Edge Golf Course

## “Teeing Off on Route 66”

Golf Tournament

**March 7, 2026**

We are proud to be powered by

**River Valley Air Conditioning, Our 'Mother Road' Title Sponsor.**

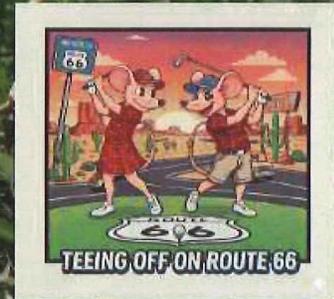
Their commitment to our community since 1955 has kept us Cool and Breezy!

**Our Main Street of American, Co-Sponsor Billet Health**

Riding shotgun with us this year.

**Get the Details Call: Needles Chamber of Commerce 760.326.2050**

RIVERS EDGE GOLF COURSE PRESENTS



## TEERING OFF ON ROUTE 66 GOLF TOURNAMENT

**SAT** 2026  
**MAR 7**

PRICE PER PERSON: \$75

PRICE PER TEAM: \$225

**3-PERSON SCRAMBLE**  
SHOTGUN START AT 8:00AM (CA)  
PAYOUTS AND PRIZES AT 1:30 PM

**BENEFITTING NEEDLES  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**DEADLINE TO SIGN UP  
MARCH 5, 2026**

CONTACT US AT: +1 (760) 326 - 3931

[WWW.GOLFNEEDLES.COM](http://WWW.GOLFNEEDLES.COM)

# 11. NEEDLES ELKS LODGE EVENT



**NEEDLES LODGE#1608  
1000 LILYHILL DRIVE  
NEEDLES CA 92363  
IS PROUD TO PRESENT  
ITS SECOND ANNUAL**

## **WINE CHEESE AND CHOCOLATE PAIRING OPENED TO ALL**

Proceeds to Fund Scholarships

**FEBRUARY 7, 2026 2-5 PM**

**TICKETS \$25.00**

**at the Bar or**

**TO RESERVE YOUR TICKET**

**Sharon Dooley @ 917-797-1205**

# 12. NEEDLES SUNDAY MARKET



Fresh Produce & Handmade Goods!

**NEEDLES  
SUNDAY  
MARKET**

**SANTA FE PARK**  
950 FRONT ST  
NEEDLES, CA

**EVERY SUNDAY**  
NOVEMBER THRU MARCH  
**8AM - 12PM PST**

Follow us on Facebook - Needles Sunday Farmers Market