



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: May 16, 2025

1. The City Council remains committed to enhancing our community's visual appeal and safety through targeted beautification and fire prevention efforts. In preparation for Memorial Day weekend, City crews completed **fire abatement along the beaches at Jack Smith Park** and **poured the foundation for a new drinking fountain**. The project also required the **installation of a ¾" water line**, which has been completed. The fountain will be installed next week to ensure improved amenities for park visitors. We would also like to recognize and thank local **property owners for their proactive fire abatement efforts**. Property owners surrounding **Carty Camp** have trimmed trees and brush, and the owner of the **Route 66 Motel** has also completed significant tree trimming to enhance safety and appearance. These efforts are vital in keeping Needles clean, safe, and inviting. Residents are encouraged to report potholes, sidewalk damage, or overgrown vegetation by calling **760-326-2115 (press #9)** or using the **Needles Connect app** on [Google Play Store](#) and the [Apple Store](#). Together, we're building better Needles.
2. Lower **energy costs**, favorable **power contracts**, and strong **financial planning** have allowed the **City Council** to approve a **3-cent reduction** to the **over-hydro electric rate** for all **utility customers adopted initially in October 2024**. Effective **June 1, 2025**, the rate will decrease from **\$0.1338** to **\$0.1238** per kilowatt-hour, resulting in **lower electric bills** across the community. This action is expected to generate over **\$1.58 million** in combined **customer savings** through **September 2025** while maintaining the City's **required reserve levels** and supporting the **City Council's** goal of **easing financial pressure** on residents and businesses.
3. The City Council has actively addressed ongoing truck traffic and behavior concerns along Ice Plant Road. In 2018, the Council adopted an ordinance establishing a **no-parking zone** to protect the newly constructed roadway and designated multiple **truck parking spaces** to accommodate drivers. In direct response to continued concerns, Code Enforcement Officers have worked

closely with the **San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department (SBCSD)** to enhance enforcement and address the disruptive impacts caused by illegal tractor-trailer parking and littering. This week, **Code Enforcement and SBCSD conducted a joint operation** in the area, issuing **20+ citations** to multiple vehicles for violations related to illegal parking. These efforts reflect the City's continued commitment to preserving public infrastructure, protecting adjacent properties, and ensuring compliance with local regulations. Staff will continue to monitor conditions and collaborate with SBCSD and community stakeholders to identify and implement **long-term solutions** that balance enforcement with a positive business and community environment.

4. The **U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's 2024 Colorado River Accounting and Water Use Report** confirms that the **City of Needles** remained in full **compliance** with its **Colorado River water allocation**. In 2024, the City **diverted approximately 1,676 acre-feet** of water for **municipal use**, with a portion **returned to the river**, demonstrating both **efficient usage** and a strong commitment to **conservation**. This performance highlights Needles' dedication to **responsible water management** and supports the City's goal of ensuring **long-term water security** for residents, businesses, and future development. The City will continue working to preserve this **vital resource** while planning for continued growth. This action aligns with the **City Council's goals of sustainability, infrastructure reliability, and strategic resource management**. The full report is available to the public through the **U.S. Bureau of Reclamation** by [clicking on this link](#).
5. **Tomorrow**, the City of Needles Animal Shelter will host its **Spring 2025 Pet Vaccination & Licensing Clinic on Saturday, May 17**, from **9:00 AM to 12:30 PM** at **1662 Flip Mendez Parkway**. This public clinic, provided by **PetSmart Veterinary Services** and led by **Dr. Joseph Velasco**, will offer low-cost pet vaccinations—**Rabies (\$10), DA2PP (\$15), Bordetella (\$15), Rattlesnake (\$20)**—and **microchipping for \$30**. According to the **city ordinance**, all **dogs over six months** of age must have a **valid rabies vaccination** and a **current city dog license**. **Discounted dog license pricing** will be available on-site: **\$15 for altered pets and \$25 for unaltered pets**. **Cash only** will be accepted. These **bi-annual events** aim to promote **responsible pet ownership** and improve **compliance with public health regulations**. For more details, see the attached flyer or contact the **Animal Shelter at (760) 326-4952**.
6. This week, the **San Bernardino County Department of Public Health** hosted a **FREE Mobile Dental Clinic** in partnership with the **Colorado River Medical Center**. The event was well attended and provided essential services to residents without access to care. This effort aligns with the City Council's public health and service equity commitment. The City appreciates **Senator Stephen Padilla** and his team's support in securing a **hybrid mobile dental and medical unit** for San Bernardino County, now based in Needles. This resource is a lifeline for families facing geographic and financial barriers to healthcare. City staff is working with the County to ensure clinic information is promoted through official City channels. The City looks forward to continued partnership

with **Senator Padilla's office** and **San Bernardino County** to enhance access to care for Needles residents.

7. On **May 12, 2025**, the **Utility Department** quickly responded to a **6-inch water main break** in the **Chesneys Subdivision**. Crews worked efficiently to **complete repairs** and **restore full water service** within a few hours, **minimizing disruption, protecting public health, and preserving infrastructure**. This incident highlights the City's **readiness** to address critical issues while reinforcing our long-term commitment to **system reliability** and **essential service delivery**. We extend our appreciation to the **Utility team** for their **professionalism** and **dedication**. Residents are encouraged to report water leaks by calling **760-326-2115 (press #9)** or using the **Needles Connect app** on the [Google Play Store](#) and the [Apple Store](#). Refer to the attached image for a look at the emergency response in action and the progress of the maintenance work.
8. Needles proudly hosted over **400 riders** this week as part of the **35th Annual Run for the Wall**, a national motorcycle ride that honors **U.S. veterans** and raises awareness for **Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action (POW/MIA)**. The ride begins in **Southern California** and culminates at the **Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.**, with ceremonial stops. Community members, **City officials and staff**, the **Chamber of Commerce**, the **Needles High School Band**, **Teamsters Local 1932**, the **Veterans of Foreign Wars Honor Guard**, the **California Highway Patrol**, and the **San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department** warmly welcomed Riders at El Garces. A special thank you to Mayor Janet Jernigan, the **Needles Military Moms** for providing lunch, and the **Daughters of the American Revolution** for serving ice cream—made possible by **generous local donations**. We also sincerely thank **Assemblyman Jeff Gonzalez** and **State Senator Stephen Padilla** for issuing official **commendations** to the *Run for the Wall* organization and the **City of Needles** for recognizing this **impactful event**.
9. A reminder that **Decoration Day at Riverview Cemetery** is scheduled for **Friday, May 23 at 7:00 a.m.**, marking the **14th year** of this community tradition honoring loved ones and veterans. Volunteers are encouraged to bring **hand tools, trash bags, and water**. The **Memorial Day Ceremony** will be held on **Monday, May 26, at 11:00 a.m.**, with **flag and cross removal at 4:00 p.m.** the same day. Donations are welcome to support cemetery upkeep—contact **Cheryl Sallis at (760) 326-2113 ext. 115** for details.
10. **Tomorrow, Saturday, May 17**, the **Needles Eagles Aerie 2599** will host a fundraiser supporting the **Martinez family** following the tragic loss of **Bryce Martinez and his family** on May 4. The event will be held at **729 Front Street**, beginning at **8:00 AM**, and will feature a **corn hole tournament** (sign-ups at 8:00 AM, bags fly at 9:00 AM), **raffle prizes**, a **cakewalk**, **breakfast burritos** (\$5), and a **Mexican buffet-style dinner** served from **3:00 PM to 7:00 PM** (\$20 per plate, while supplies last). **The community is encouraged to attend and show their support**. Donations of **desserts for the cakewalk** or **side dishes**

for dinner can be dropped off at the Eagles today. Donations **can still be made directly at the Eagles** for those unable to attend. This event is a powerful reflection of Needles' compassion and community spirit in times of hardship. **Refer to the attached flyer for more information.**

11. The **Needles Chamber of Commerce** held its **Good Morning Needles** breakfast series in March, hosted every **third Thursday at 950 Front Street**. The April event featured **Jaclyn Randall**, Dean of **Palo Verde College – Needles Center**, as the guest speaker. She highlighted the college's affordable tuition, **Phlebotomy Technician certification**, **adult education**, and the **Fast Track Vocational Nurse Program** offered at the Blythe campus. Palo Verde College has served Needles since **1998** and will host its **2025 Graduation Ceremony** on **Thursday, May 29, at 3:00 PM** at the **Needles Educational Center**, 725 W. Broadway. This year, **14 graduates** will be recognized. The community is encouraged to attend and celebrate their achievements. See the attached flyer for details.
12. We're proud to share that the **Needles High School Boys Golf Team** has captured the **2025 NIAA Class 2A Southern Regional Championship**—their **second straight title**—and placed **5th at the State Championship**, adding another strong finish to **Needles athletics**. Students interested in joining the team can contact **Coach Jason Parnell** at jason_parnell@needlesusd.net. Eligible **high school students** can join the team at **no cost**, and **golf clubs are provided** by the high school or **Rivers Edge Golf Course**. **Needles students** may also **play for free** at Rivers Edge, with only a **\$7 cart rental fee (valid driver's license required)**. The **Annual Summer Youth Golf Camp** at **Rivers Edge Golf Course** (144 Marina Dr., Needles) begins **June 11 through August 6**. Open to students ages **5–17**, the program costs **\$60 per participant**. Children ages **5–11** will meet from **7:00–8:00 AM**, and those **12–17** from **8:00–9:00 AM**. This is a great opportunity for young golfers to **develop their skills** in a fun and supportive setting to be the next **Needles High School Boys State Champion**. To register, contact **JJ DeLeon** at jjdeleon@golfneedlesca.com or **(760) 326-3931**. **Spots are limited**, so **early registration is encouraged**.
13. The City is proud to recognize that both **Needles High School Baseball and Softball teams** have advanced to the **2025 Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) Class 2A State Championship**, taking place at **Pershing County High School** in Northern Nevada. Both teams are scheduled to compete **tomorrow at 10:00 AM**, with **Baseball facing Lake Mead** and **Softball taking on White Pine**. Each team is aiming to secure **back-to-back NIAA 2A State Titles**. The City extends its **congratulations** to the **student-athletes, coaches, and school staff** for their outstanding accomplishments and wishes them the best of luck as they proudly represent Needles on the state stage.
14. On **Tuesday, May 13, 2025**, the **City of Needles** held a **swearing-in ceremony** during its regularly scheduled **City Council Meeting** at **El Garces**, welcoming **Captain Jacob Gault** as the newly appointed leader of the **San**

Bernardino County Sheriff's Colorado River Station. Captain Gault took the **Oath of Affirmation** in front of family, friends, community members, and local officials—formally committed to upholding the law and serving the residents of Needles and the surrounding region with integrity and dedication. The City congratulates **Captain Gault** on this well-deserved appointment. It looks forward to continuing a strong partnership with the **San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department** to promote public safety and community trust.

15. 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. BEAUTIFICATION



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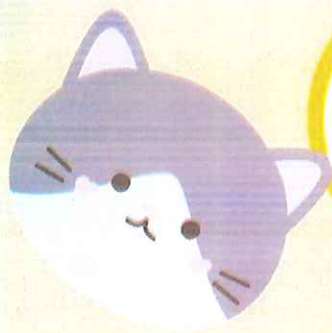


1. BEAUTIFICATION



3. ICE PLANT MITIGATION





Rabies

\$10

FVRCP

\$15 FeLV

\$25

CITY OF NEEDLES DOG LICENSE

SPECIAL PRICING

ALTERED \$15

UNALTERED \$25



Rabies

\$10

DAPPV

\$15

PetSmart Veterinary Services

Dr. Joseph Velasco

Rabies and Licensing Clinic

Needles Animal Shelter

1662 Flip Mendez Pkwy

Needles, CA 92363

May 17th

9:30-12:30

CASH ONLY

Bordetella

\$15

Rattlesnake

\$20

(760)326-4952



Microchips

\$30

ALL DOGS MUST BE ON LEASHES

ALL CATS MUST BE IN CARRIERS



6. MOBILE DENTAL CLINIC



6. MOBILE DENTAL CLINIC



7. WATER MAIN BREAK



8. RUN FOR THE WALL



8. RUN FOR THE WALL



8. RUN FOR THE WALL



9. MEMORIAL DAY

JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL

— ★ ★ ★ —

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

Remembering and
honoring all who served

MONDAY, MAY 26, 2025

11:00 AM

NEEDLES RIVERVIEW CEMETERY



10. FUNDRAISER EAGLES AERIE 2599



Needles Eagles Aerie 2599
729 Front Street

MARTINEZ FAMILY FUNDRAISER

Saturday May 17th
Open 8:00am



Corn Hole Tournament

Sign up 8:00am Bags Fly 9:00am

\$20 Team \$10 Individual

**Breakfast
Burritos
\$5**

**Cakewalk Running
Through The Day**

**50/50
RAFFLE**

Mexican Buffet Style Dinner
3:00pm - 7:00pm

Until Sold Out

Raffle Items Available

**\$20
Per Plate**

"People Helping People"

11. PALO VERDE COLLEGE

PALO VERDE COLLEGE
Needles Educational Center



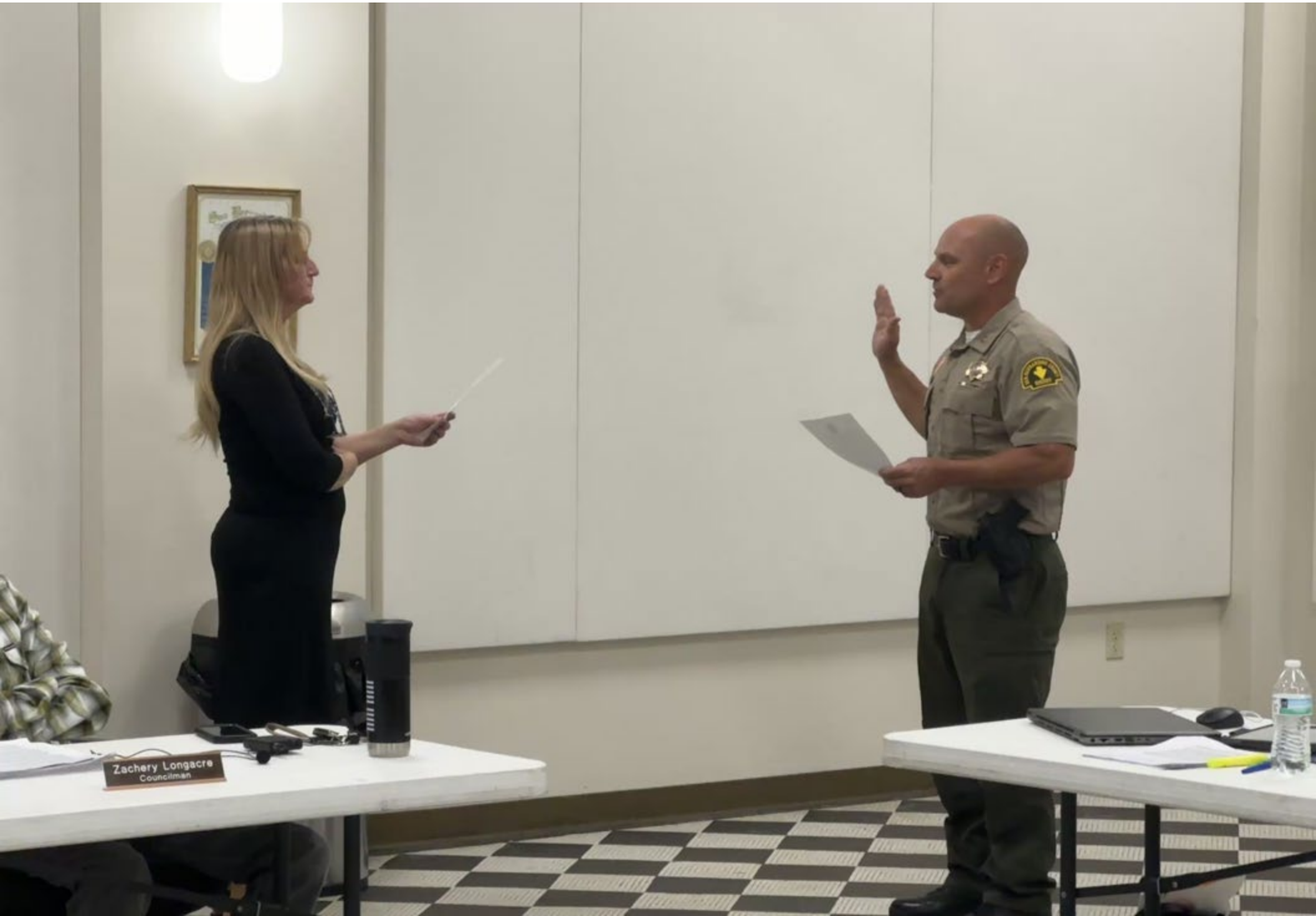
GRADUATION
Ceremony

THURSDAY, May 29, 2025
Graduation 3:00PM




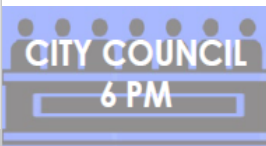
Needles Educational Center

725 W. Broadway, Needles, CA 92363
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 760.326.5033

14. SBCSD CAPTAIN



May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
CITY OF NEEDLES PEE WEE BASKETBALL REGISTRATION MAY 1 - JUNE 2				1	2	3
4	5	6  BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	7  PLANNING COMMISSION 4 PM	8	9	10
11	12  SB COUNTY MOBILE DENTAL CLINIC MAY 12-15 @ CRMC 1-800-722-4777	13  WOMEN'S CLUB LUNCH CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	14  Run Wall WE RIDE FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T	15  GOOD MORNING NEEDLES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITOR CENTER BREAKFAST 7:30 AM EL GARCES 950 FRONT ST., STE A 9-11	16  FIREHOUSE MINISTRIES ENCHILADA PLATE LUNCH 11AM UNTIL SOLD OUT 807 BUSH STREET	17  NEEDLES EAGLES AERIES 2599 729 FRONT STREET MARTINEZ FAMILY FUNDRAISER RABIES & LICENSING CLINIC NEEDLES ANIMAL SHELTER 9:30AM-12:30PM
18	19  PARKS & RECREATION 4 PM	20  BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	21	22  CEMETERY ADVISORY BOARD 3PM	23  DECORATION DAY RIVERVIEW CEMETERY	24
25	26  MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY 11AM RIVERVIEW CEMETERY	27  CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	28  HOUSING COMMISSION 4 PM	29	30	31

June 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2  SUMMER CAMP JUNE 2 - AUGUST 1 M-TH 1PM-5PM NEEDLES REC CENTER	3  BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	4  PLANNING COMMISSION 4 PM	5  HARASSMENT PREVENTION TRAINING 10AM-12PM & 1PM - 3PM EL GARCES	6	7  POOL OPENS 2PM - 6PM
8	9 AQUATIC CENTER SWIM LESSONS START 	10 WOMEN'S CLUB LUNCH  CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	11  RIVERS EDGE GOLF COURSE SUMMER GOLF CAMP STARTS	12	13	14
15	16  PARKS & RECREATION 4 PM	17	18	19  GOOD MORNING NEEDLES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITOR CENTER BREAKFAST 7:30AM 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	OTHER EVENTS THIS MONTH:	<div> CITY OF NEEDLES PEE WEE BASKETBALL Registration: May 1st-June 2nd  Players: Boys & Girls Ages: 3yr-5yr old Jr Pee Wee 6yr-7/8yr old Pee Wee 1st/2nd grade </div> <div> Game Nights: Monday - Thursday Season: June - July Cost: Resident-35 Non-Resident-40 JR. PEEWEE 3-5YR OLD PEEWEE 6-8YRS OLD (1ST AND 2ND GRADE ENTERING 3RD GRADE IN FALL) </div> <div> LEARN TO SWIM THIS SUMMER SESSION 1: JUNE 9 ~ JUNE 19 SESSION 2: JUNE 23 ~ JULY 3 SESSION 3: JULY 7 ~ JULY 17 SESSION 4: JULY 21 ~ JULY 31 **10 AM / 11 AM / 6:30 PM** </div> <div> Please call the Needles Recreation Center @ 760-326-2814 with any questions </div>			

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	16	17  GOOD MORNING NEEDLES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITOR CENTER BREAKFAST 7:30AM - EL GARCES 950 FRONT ST., STE A 9-11 CEMETERY COMM. - 3 PM	18	19
20	21  PARKS & RECREATION 4 PM	22	23  HOUSING COMMISSION 4 PM	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		