



City of Needles

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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

MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PATRICK J. MARTINEZ, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: WEEKLY MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 23, 2026

- 1. Needles Selected to Host NIAA 2A State Softball & Baseball Tournaments**
This week, Needles Unified School District announced that the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) 2A State Softball and Baseball Tournaments will be hosted in Needles. This regional event is expected to bring teams, families, and visitors to the community, supporting local businesses and advancing the City Council's goal of promoting sports tourism. The City extends its appreciation to Needles Unified School District for investing in improvements to the local softball fields in preparation for tournament play, including regrading and replacing the infield dirt. These upgrades help ensure the facilities are tournament-ready and support long-term recreational use for local youth and visiting athletes.
- 2. Run for the Wall (RFTW) Needles – May 13, 2026**
The annual Run for the Wall (RFTW) procession—honoring Veterans and raising awareness for POW/MIA accountability—will stop in Needles on **May 13, 2026**. RFTW is an organized cross-country motorcycle ride that begins in Ontario, California, and concludes at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C. Last year, more than 300 motorcyclists were welcomed at El Garces in Downtown Needles, and this year is expected to draw another strong turnout. The event continues to be supported by community members, city officials, and local organizations, and more details will be shared as the event approaches. More information is available at the official Run for the Wall [website](#).
- 3. Route 66 Bike Week – April 20–26, 2026**
The City is pleased to share that **Route 66 Bike Week** will take place **April 20–26, 2026**, celebrating the historic Mother Road through a weeklong ride experience and motorcycle culture. The event highlights the spirit of the open road and will feature a scenic ride from **Needles to Seligman**, encouraging participants to explore Route 66 communities and support local businesses along the way. This event supports City Council goals related to tourism

promotion, community pride, and economic activity. Refer to the attached flier for more information or click on [this link](#).

4. Phase V Street Paving Improvements – Construction Begins Next Week

The City Council recently awarded the Phase V Street Paving Improvements Project to Vance Corporation, with construction scheduled to mobilize next week. Phase V includes paving improvements on Parkway Street, Lillyhill Drive, Coronado Street, Cortez Street, Peru Street, and Balboa Street, improving neighborhood streets. The \$1.37 million project is funded through FY 2026 Measure I funds and Cannabis Tax Revenues and is part of the City’s 15-year Pavement Management Plan, reflecting continued reinvestment in local infrastructure through the City’s “Tax Dollars at Work” program. A ribbon cutting will be scheduled in February to recognize this important infrastructure milestone and the City’s ongoing commitment to roadway safety and reliability.

5. Water Main and Manifold Improvements Project – Construction Update

The City’s Water Main and Manifold Improvements Project continues to make significant progress. This week, the contractor is nearing completion of the replacement of the 6-inch water distribution main on River Road near Park Drive and Monterey Street, marking an important milestone in improving system performance. Next week, construction will advance to upgrades of the manifold at the golf course maintenance yard. These improvements will increase system capacity, enhance reliability, and strengthen long-term water service delivery. This project reflects the City’s continued investment in critical infrastructure, public health protection, and the long-term sustainability of essential services.

6. 19th Hole Bar & Grill Remodel Project – Progress Update

Work associated with the 19th Hole Bar & Grill kitchen remodel at the City-owned facility at River’s Edge Golf Course is moving forward, with ADA-related improvements currently underway. These upgrades are part of the broader \$500,039 project to modernize the kitchen and related facilities and bring the building into compliance with current accessibility, health, and building standards. The improvements will support continued restaurant operations while enhancing safety, functionality, and long-term use of this important golf course amenity. This project aligns with City Council goals to improve public facilities, support local economic activity, and enhance community amenities that contribute to quality of life.

7. Guardrail Repair – “D” Street / Lillyhill

This week, the City completed repairs to the damaged guardrail adjacent to the “D” Street Bridge to improve roadway safety and reduce risk to motorists (refer to the attached image for a glimpse). City staff collaborated with San Bernardino County Flood Control and Caltrans to confirm infrastructure ownership and ensure the repair was completed appropriately and in a timely manner. The City extends its appreciation to Phillips Construction for their efforts and responsiveness in supporting this repair. This project supports City Council goals related to public safety, infrastructure maintenance, and enhancing overall quality of life.

8. Well #12 at River's Edge Golf Course – Service Restoration

River's Edge Golf Course staff responded to a motor failure at Well #12 on January 13, 2026, which temporarily took the well out of service. Staff immediately coordinated with contractors to assess damage and secure replacement equipment. While repairs were being arranged, the City's Public Works Department assisted with supplemental watering to help maintain turf conditions and minimize impacts to course operations. This week, contractors installed a new motor, restoring the well to full operation. The City appreciates the coordinated efforts between Golf Course staff, Public Works, and contractors that ensured a timely repair and helped protect this important recreational asset.

9. Needles Pride Program – First Community Cleanup Day Success

This past weekend, the City successfully hosted its first Needles Pride Program Community Cleanup Day at Duke Watkins Park. This cleanup effort supported park readiness and strengthened neighborhood pride ahead of the upcoming sports and visitor season. More than a dozen volunteers assisted with litter removal and general beautification throughout the park area, improving overall site conditions and presentation. The event resulted in the collection of **1 ton of trash**, including tires, litter, and dead vegetation, and helped reinforce community stewardship and civic pride. The City will schedule another cleanup next month. Be on the lookout for the next opportunity to participate.

10. Needles Elks Junior Golf League – Program Begins Tomorrow

The City is pleased to share that the Needles Elks Lodge #1608 Junior Golf League begins tomorrow, January 24, 2026, at River's Edge Golf Course. This no-cost youth program serves students in 6th through 9th grade and provides an opportunity to learn golf fundamentals while gaining playing experience on River's Edge, Los Lagos, and Huukan Golf Courses. The league will run through March 2026 and conclude with a hosted luncheon for participating students and their immediate families. The City extends its sincere appreciation to the Needles Elks and River's Edge Golf Course for their leadership and continued investment in local youth opportunities.

11. Home Run Derby Fundraiser – Needles Little League

The Needles Little League will host its Home Run Derby Fundraiser tomorrow, Saturday, January 24 at 12:00 p.m., at Ed Parry Field. This family-friendly event will raise funds for the Little League Shade Structure Project, helping improve comfort for families and players during the season. The derby will feature a structured format with participant awards, a snack bar, and live music by DJ Loke. This week, Public Works supported event readiness by preparing the fields and grounds, repairing a leak at the Little League snack shack, and repainting the affected area (refer to attached image). The City encourages the community to come out and support this fundraiser, which aligns with City Council goals to promote youth recreation, strengthen community partnerships, and enhance community amenities that improve quality of life. For additional information, please contact Josh Raley at 760-220-7886.

12. County Mobile Dental Clinic Returning to Needles – CRMC

The City is pleased to share that the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health will return with its Mobile Dental Clinic at the Colorado River Medical Center (Parking Lot), 1401 Bailey Ave. on **February 17–20**. The clinic will provide essential services for low-income California residents, including screenings, exams with dental x-rays, cleanings, fluoride varnish, fillings, and limited root canal treatments/extractions for Medi-Cal recipients and uninsured residents. Appointments are strongly recommended and can be scheduled by calling 1 (800) 722-4777 (press 5). Additional information is available on the County Department of Public Health website at this [link](#).

13. Needles Animal Shelter – Donation Needs

The City’s Animal Shelter is currently accepting donations to support daily operations and animal care. Requested items include dry large breed dog food, canned wet dog food, dry adult cat food, canned wet cat food, bleach, and 13-gallon trash bags. Donations may be dropped off during business hours, **Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** For questions, please contact the Animal Shelter at 760-326-4952.

14. Congratulations Michael Willis – Journeyman Lineman Certification

The City proudly congratulates Michael Willis on earning his Journeyman Lineman Certification and being promoted from Apprentice to Lineman. This key professional milestone strengthens the City’s ability to deliver safe and reliable electrical services to the community. Michael’s successful completion of the power line training program—recognized throughout the United States and several foreign countries as a high-quality program—reflects the dedication and skill required to advance in this critical field. His continued professional growth highlights the City’s investment in workforce development and our commitment to maintaining a high standard of public service.

15. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Prescribed Burn Operations – Lake Havasu Refuge

On **January 20, 2026**, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service reported that a prescribed burn conducted earlier in the week on federal lands near the Lake Havasu National Wildlife Refuge expanded beyond its original scope due to stronger-than-forecast winds. The burn was initially planned for approximately 1,800 acres; however, shifting wind conditions caused embers and burning debris to scatter into surrounding vegetation and marsh areas south of Topock Marsh, contributing to fire growth exceeding 4,000 acres. U.S. Fish & Wildlife stated that 86 fire personnel were assigned to support containment operations and prevent the fire’s boundaries from expanding further. Additional resources included mutual aid from regional fire agencies in Mohave Valley, Bullhead City, Golden Valley, Northern Arizona, and Buckskin, along with support from the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Fish & Wildlife personnel. No structures were reported to be threatened.

16. **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** to participate. Residents can subscribe and sync the calendar to mobile devices for real-time updates, making it easier to stay informed and engaged.

17. **Needles Sunday Farmers Market at Santa Fe Park**

The Needles Sunday Farmers Market continues each week at Santa Fe Park, providing residents and visitors with an opportunity to shop local and support small businesses. Hosted by Tumbleweed Markets Inc., the market features a rotating mix of vendors offering fresh produce, baked goods, coffee, handmade items, flowers, and other local 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 market is also welcoming new vendors, further expanding opportunities for local entrepreneurs and artisans. This effort supports the City Council's goal of promoting community engagement while strengthening local economic activity. Additional vendor information is available by contacting Market Manager Patrick Lauterio at (760) 848-8289 or needlesfarmers@gmail.com.

3. ROUTE 66 BIKE WEEK SELIGMAN

ROUTE 66 BIKE WEEK

A WEEK LONG "BENEFIT" RIDE, SPANNING 8 STATES TO SUPPORT THE MOTHER ROAD & PROMOTE MOTORCYCLE TOURISM.

April 20-26, 2026

**ALL PROCEEDS
BENEFIT THE
SMALL BUSINESSES
YOU SHOP AT.**



**START, STOP & SHOP
ANYWHERE YOU WANT**

**BIKER RALLY ACTIVITIES
@ THE SADDLE SORE RANCH
IN GOLDEN VALLEY, AZ
WED THRU SUN.**



CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO

ROUTE66BIKEWEEK.COM



5. WATER IMPROVEMENTS



6. 19TH HOLE REMODEL



7. GUARDRAILE REPAIR



8. WELL #12 RIVER'S EDGE GOLF COURSE



8. WELL #12 RIVER'S EDGE GOLF COURSE



9. NEEDLES PRIDE



9. NEEDLES PRIDE



10. ELKS JUNIOR GOLF LEAGUE



NEEDLES ELKS LODGE #1608 JUNIOR GOLF LEAGUE

Needles Elks Lodge #1608 in association with River Edge, Los Lagos and Huukan Golf Courses is proud to present a Junior Golf League for students in 6th grade thru 9th grade.

This is an opportunity for students to learn about golf and get time on three beautiful courses in our local area.

There is no cost to the students for the league!

The students will play at each course three times between January and March and on the final day of the league, the Elks will host a luncheon for the students and their immediate families at the Lodge located at 10000 Lillyhill Drive Needles Ca. 92363.

The League will start on January 24, 2026, at the Rivers Edge Golf Course at noon PST. All Arizona courses start at 1PM Arizona time and Rivers Edge are at noon PST.

1/31/26 Los Lagos
2/21/26 Rivers Edge
3/14/26 Huukan

2/7/26/26 Huukan
2/28/26 Huukan
3/21/26 Rivers Edge

2/14/26 Los Lagos
3/7/26 Los Lagos

Locations are subject to change based on availability of the golf course.

TO SIGN UP PLEASE TEXT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO 917-797-1205

Student Name
School Attending

Guardian(s) Name
Grade

Contact Number:
Age

For further information you may contact the League Coordinator:
Brian Dooley at 917-882-9711

11. HOME RUN DERBY



HOME RUN DERBY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24 • 12:00 PM START

Ed Parry Field • NEEDLES, C.A

Come swing for the fences at the 2026 Needles Little League Home Run Derby! Open to all ages – from youth to adults! Snack bar will be serving food.

Divisions

- 6 & Under
- 7-8
- 9-10
- 11-12
- 13-15
- 19+ Adult Division

(Legends Division 40+ if turnout allows)

REGISTRATION

Sign up early or register at the field starting 11:15 AM

Entry Fees

- Ages 6 & Under – \$5
- Ages 7-12 – \$10
- Ages 13-18 – \$15
- Adults – \$20
- Extra 10 swings – \$5
- Second-chance swing – \$2

Awards

- Movie tickets
- Snack bar bucks

Zelle: @NeedlesLittleLeague@gmail.com

Questions? Contact Josh Raley 760-220-7886
or Ashley Smith 928-605-5010

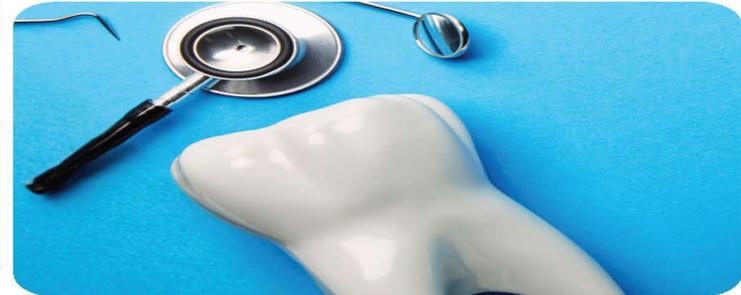
11. HOME RUN DERBY



12. ON-THE-GO DENTAL SERVICES RETURN



Appointments are strongly recommended



Dental Services
Mobile Dental Clinic On-The-Go
No insurance? We can help!

Who Can Benefit?

Open to low-income California residents

Services Provided

- Basic dental screenings, and assessments
- Preventative care and oral health education
- Comprehensive exam with dental x-rays for diagnosis and treatment planning
- Cleanings
- Application of topical fluoride varnish
- Fillings
- Limited root canal treatments and extractions

Where?

Colorado River Medical Center
(Parking Lot)
1401 Bailey Ave., Needles

When?

- Tuesday, Feb. 17, noon-3:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Feb. 18, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 19, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- Friday, Feb. 20, 9 a.m.-noon

*To apply for Medi-Cal,
scan the QR code or visit the link:*

bit.ly/SBCMedi-Cal



1 (800) 722-4777
To make an appointment, press 5



dph.sbcounty.gov

13. ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS



Needles Animal Shelter

NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS!

-  **Dry Large Breed Dog Food**
-  **Cans of Wet Dog Food**
-  **Dry Adult Cat Food**
-  **Cans of Wet Cat Food**
-  **Bleach**
-  **13 Gallon Trash Bags**



15. PRESCRIBED BURN TOPOCK

