



# 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 Kirsten Merritt  
Councilmember Tona Belt  
Councilmember Ellen Campbell  
Councilmember Jamie McCorkle  
Councilmember JoAnne Pogue  
Councilmember Henry Longbrake

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: November 22, 2024

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1. This past week, city officials, members of the Needles community, and representatives from the San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health, Sheriffs Department, and Pacific Clinics gathered to celebrate the grand opening of the Pacific Clinics Needles Clubhouse during an open house event on **November 20, 2024, at 1060 E. Broadway Street**. The Planning Commission unanimously approved Pacific Clinics, which provides accessible behavioral health services, including wellness programs, resilience training, recovery resources, skill-building workshops, support groups, and other local resources. Open to community members aged 18 and older, the clubhouse features Wi-Fi, computers, and engaging activities designed to foster connections and promote positive coping skills. The City of Needles is proud to partner with Pacific Clinics and the San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health to deliver this essential resource, aligning with the City's mission to create a safe, healthy, and family-friendly environment. For a glimpse into the event, **see the attached images, and for more information on programs, refer to the flyer or contact Sonia Vicario at 626-753-8725 or [sonia.vicario@pacificclinics.org](mailto:sonia.vicario@pacificclinics.org)**.
2. The Duke Watkins Park Improvement Project, with a budget of **\$3,965,400**, is nearing completion, marking an exciting milestone for our community. This week, the paving rehabilitation of Flip Mendez Parkway was finalized, enhancing access to the park. We thank San Bernardino County Supervisor Dawn Rowe and the San Bernardino County Community Development and Housing Department for their generous **\$175,000** contribution through the CDBG Block Grant Fund, which made this rehabilitation possible. In addition to the roadway improvements, the project brings significant enhancements, including a small dog park, shade structures, a Route 66-themed splash pad, new restrooms, and a state-of-the-art pump track. We invite the community to join us for the **Duke Watkins Ribbon Cutting on December 3, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.** at Duke Watkins Park (1500 Flip Mendez Pkwy) to celebrate the completion of this transformative project. **For a glimpse of the**

**progress, please see the attached image showcasing the newly rehabilitated road.**

3. This week, the City of Needles issued an encroachment permit for Segment 1C of the Needles Highway Project, a key step in revitalizing the highway. This \$8.5 million project, approved two years ago by the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority's Mountain/Desert Policy Committee, will improve a 2.3-mile stretch from David Drive to just north of Not'cho Road. In addition, the County of San Bernardino plans to enhance Needles Highway along a 16-mile segment, starting at "N" Street in Needles and extending north to the CA/NV state line. Construction for Segment 1C is expected to begin in the summer/fall of 2025. **Refer to the attached map for an overview of all project segments**, which received environmental clearance in 2014.
4. In October, the City Council approved Phillips Excavating, Inc.'s proposal for the Well 11 to Well 15 Intertie Project. I am pleased to inform the Council that construction began this week and is expected to be completed by early next year. This project, funded through the State of California's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF), includes the installation of a 16-inch transmission main to transport raw water from Well 15 to the new treatment facility at Well 11. **Refer to the attached images to take a glimpse at the project.**
5. Last June, the City's Animal Shelter launched the Trap, Neuter, and Release (TNR) Program, supported by grants that funded a new vehicle, part-time staff, and essential supplies. This initiative aims to manage roaming cats, reduce disease, and increase adoptions, ultimately eliminating euthanasia at the shelter. To date, over 300 community cats have been spayed or neutered and returned to their areas. The program, scheduled to conclude by year's end, is seeking additional neighborhoods with roaming cats in need of neutering. Residents can report roaming cats by calling **760-326-4952** or through the Needles Connect app, available on the [Apple App](#) or [Google Play Store](#).
6. This past week, City staff met with the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) to restore PurpleAir sensors for enhanced air quality monitoring. PurpleAir, a community-driven system, uses low-cost sensors to measure particulate matter (PM1.0, PM2.5, PM10) by drawing air past a laser to count particles and calculate concentrations. Data is uploaded every 80 seconds and displayed on the PurpleAir map, providing real-time air quality insights. Since 2018, Needles has partnered with MDAQMD to establish two monitoring stations under the Community Air Protection Program (AB 617), supporting public health. [Click here](#) to view current air quality.
7. The City of Needles is hosting a **Community Clean Up** on **Saturday, January 25, 2025, from 8:00 AM to noon**. This event offers a free disposal opportunity for trash and bulky items for city residents. Disposal containers will be available at the following locations:

- **Gates (Safari Drive)**
- **North K (Near Underpass and BNSF Road)**
- **Vista (Nikki Bunch Ball Field)**
- **Cibola (Robuffa near Public Works Yard)**

Please note that this event does not accept hazardous waste and specific materials; **refer to the attached flyer for a detailed list of prohibited items**. The event may end earlier if container capacity is reached. For more information, residents can contact Rainie Torrance at [rtorrance@cityofneedles.com](mailto:rtorrance@cityofneedles.com) or 760-326-2115 ext. 140. We encourage the Council to share this information with the community and support our efforts to maintain a clean and safe city.

8. St. Ann's Catholic Church and Set Free Church are hosting a **free Thanksgiving Meal at St. Ann's Hall on Tuesday, November 28**, from **11:00 AM to 1:00 PM** for onsite dining, with to-go boxes available after 1:00 PM (subject to availability). This event embodies the spirit of giving and community support, providing residents with an opportunity to come together and celebrate the holiday season. Please share this information to help promote the event and encourage participation.
9. In addition to the **Holiday Fun Fair and Lighted Parade on Saturday, December 7, 2024**, the **Palo Verde Needles Center** and community partners are hosting the **Festival of Trees at 725 W. Broadway** with this year's theme honoring veterans. The community is invited to vote for their favorite tree and enjoy festive activities, including free Santa pictures from **12 p.m. to 3 p.m.** IEHP will also be giving away gifts from **12 p.m. to 2 p.m.**, and the event will feature the Needles Women's Club bake sale, Santa's Shop which features free photos with Santa, and more holiday fun. For any questions, please contact Talana Wade at 760-326-5033 or [talana.wade@paloverde.edu](mailto:talana.wade@paloverde.edu). Don't miss this exciting celebration!
10. The City of Needles extends its heartfelt gratitude to the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Colorado River Station, in collaboration with the Needles Police, for their ongoing efforts to slow down speeding drivers and enhance public safety. A few years ago, the City Council invested in a law enforcement trailer designed for multi-functional purposes, including speed awareness, message posting, and license plate reading. Through our close partnership with the Sheriff's Department, we proactively address areas of concern brought to our attention by the community. **The attached image highlights** this equipment being utilized along Highway 95 and in other critical areas, such as the school district and residential streets like Casa Linda. In addition, residents should be aware of updates under AB 1096, clarifying regulations for electric bicycles (**refer to the attached California E-Bike Law**). E-bike riders are encouraged to follow posted speed limits, ensure proper use of bike lanes, and always prioritize pedestrian safety. Thank you to the Sheriff's Department and Needles Police for their dedication to making our streets safer for everyone and the community for staying informed and engaged in promoting safety.

11. The city thanks Inland Empire Health Plan (IEHP) and Tri-State Community Healthcare Clinic for generously providing turkeys to 75 Needles residents just in time for Thanksgiving. Thank you for supporting our community this holiday season! **SAVE THE DATE:** Tri-State Community Healthcare Clinic is hosting a **Holiday Health Fair** on **December 21, 2024**, from **9 a.m. to 12 p.m.** at **820 W. Broadway Street**. Stay tuned for more details!
12. This holiday season, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department is proud to bring you two excellent opportunities to spread holiday cheer and give back to our community through the **Senior Angel Tree** and **Children's Angel Tree** programs.
- **Senior Angel Tree:** Located at City Hall (817 3rd Street), this program invites community members to pick a name off the tree and provide a special gift to a senior in need. Gifts will be hand-delivered by the Sheriff's Department. Please attach your wrapped gift with the Angel Tag to the drop-off location by **December 16, 2024**. Contact Misti Hunt at (760) 326-9207 or [mhunt@sbcasd.org](mailto:mhunt@sbcasd.org) for assistance.
  - **Children's Angel Tree:** In partnership with the Colorado River Sheriff's and Needles Police, this program supports local children in need. Visit the lobby at 1401 Bailey Ave. to select a tag and fulfill a child's wish. Wrapped gifts with the Angel Tag attached must be returned by **December 13, 2024**. Gifts will be hand delivered the week of **December 16–20**. Please contact Michelle Advocate at (760) 326-9215 for questions.
- These programs offer a heartwarming way to bring joy to seniors and children in our community. Join us in making this holiday season unforgettable for those in need. Thank you for your kindness and generosity! **Refer to the attached flyers for additional information.**
13. City Hall will be closed on **Thursday, November 28, and Friday, November 29, 2024**, in observance of Thanksgiving, with regular operations resuming on Monday, **December 2, 2024, at 8:30 AM**. For emergencies during the closure, residents can contact City Staff at 760-326-5700, and our after-hours answering service will promptly direct calls to the appropriate staff member. **Refer to the attached flyer which has been posted on the front door of City Hall for public awareness.**
14. **IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:**
- **December 3 – Duke Watkins Ribbon Cutting:** Join us at Duke Watkins Park (1500 Flip Mendez Pkwy) as we celebrate the completion of the Duke Watkins Park Improvement Project at **10am!**
  - **Reminder: Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Survey Due** Click [here](#) to fill out a survey and [here](#) for more information. Help us build safer and more resilient Needles!

# 1. PACIFIC CLINICS OPEN HOUSE





# 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](mailto:Sonia.Vicario@PacificClinics.org)



**Pacific  
Clinics**

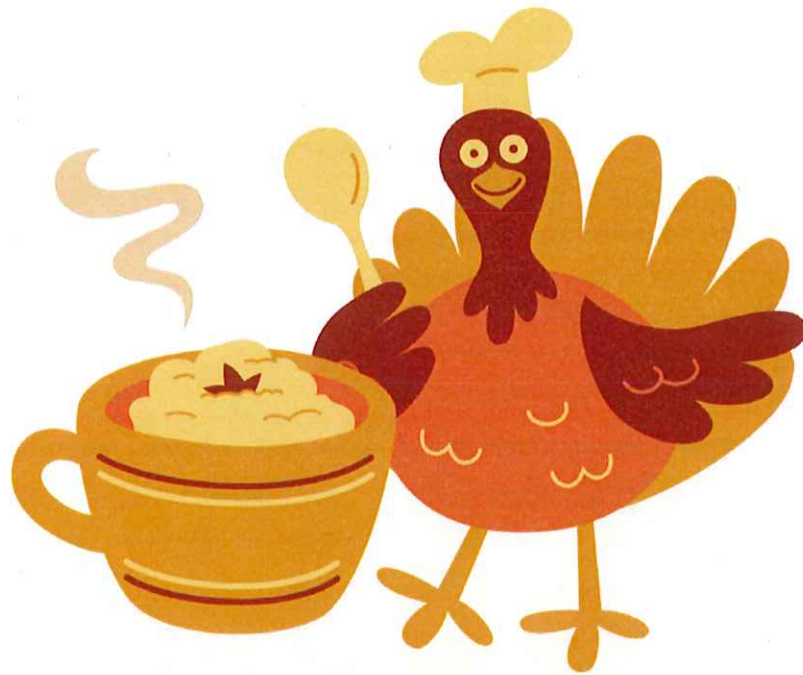
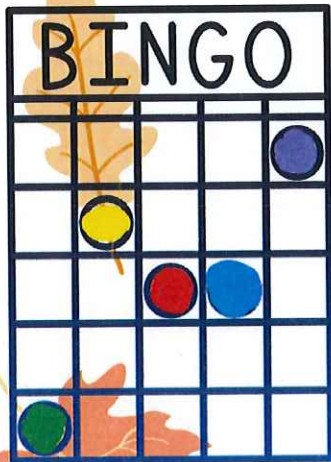
*A Merger of Uplift Family Services and Pacific Clinics*

# F.U.N. Clubhouse Weekly Schedule

Saturday	<b>Closed</b>	
Sunday		
<b>Monday</b>	10:00 Walking Group	2:00 pm Triva
	1:00 pm Employment/Education	3:00 pm Movie & Popcorn
	<i>Housing Resource Bulletin Board available / Assistance available by appointment</i>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	10 am Exercise Group	2:00 pm Self Esteem Group
	1:00 pm Nutrition	3:00 pm Billiards / Free Time
	4:30 pm Cleanup	
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00 am Walking Group	2:00 pm Digital Time
	1:00 pm Life Skills Group	3:00 pm Bingo
	<i>Vocational/Educational Resource Bulletin Board Available / Assistance available by appointment</i>	
<b>Thursday</b>	10:00 am Exercise Group	3:00 pm Arts & Craft
	1:00 pm Nutrition	4:00 pm Cleanup
	<i>Times and schedules subject to change</i>	
<b>Friday</b>	10:00 am Walking Group	2:30 pm Movie & Popcorn
	1:00 pm Life Skills Group	4:30 pm Cleanup
	<b>For information:</b>  <b>Phone: 626-753-8725 / 626-684-0547</b> <b>1060 East Broadway Street Needles, CA 92363</b> <b>Monday – Friday 9 am until 5 pm</b> <b>***Se Habla Español***</b> <b>pacificclinics.org</b> <b>www.facebook.com/groups/PCSBCClubbhouses</b>	

Please join us for a

# THANKS GIVING P A R T Y



LET'S BE THANKFUL TOGETHER!

**NOVEMBER 27**

**1004 E. BROADWAY SUITE 1060**

**NEEDLES CA.92363**



**Pacific  
Clinics®**



JOIN US FOR A  
**HOLIDAY**  
**CELEBRATION**

Games, Raffles, food  
FROM 10 AM TO 3PM

1004 E Broadway st. Suite 1060  
Needles Ca. 92363

**12/20/24**



Pacific  
Clinics®

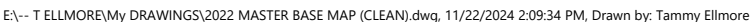
## 2. FLIP MENDEZ PARKWAY



## 2. FLIP MENDEZ PARKWAY



**NEEDLES, CALIFORNIA**  
**PROJECT LOCATION**  
**NEEDLES HWY - SEGMENT 1C**



## 4. INTERTIE PROJECT



## 7. COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

\*CITY OF NEEDLES RESIDENTS ONLY\*

# BULKY WASTE DROP-OFF EVENT

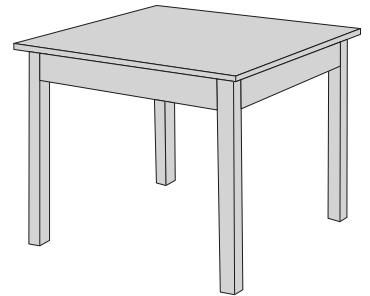
**FREE DISPOSAL OF TRASH & BULKY ITEMS**

SEE LIST BELOW FOR WHAT IS NOT ACCEPTED



**Saturday,  
January 25th, 2025  
- 8 am to noon -**

**Event will end earlier  
if container equipment is full**



**Locations:** Gates (Safari Drive), North K (Near Underpass), Vista (Nikki Bunch Ball Field), & Cibola (Robuffa) Subdivisions

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Rainie Torrance, [rtorrance@cityofneedles.com](mailto:rtorrance@cityofneedles.com), 760-326-2115 ext 140



- Hazardous Waste of any kind
- Commercial Waste
- Industrial Waste from businesses
- Motor Oil/Used Filters
- Household Cleaners
- Sharp Objects/Needles
- Fluorescent Tubes
- Space Heaters
- Musical Cards
- Radioactive Wastes
- Non-Sharp Medical Waste
- Wastes from foreclosed properties
- Auto & Household Batteries
- Pesticides & Fertilizers
- TV's & Computer Monitors
- Microwave Ovens
- Stereos or Radios
- Clothes Irons
- Medical Waste
- Tire/Appliances
- Non-Sharp Medical Waste
- Antifreeze
- Medications
- CPU's & Printers
- Telephone/Cellphones
- VCRs/DVD Player
- Asbestos
- Air Conditioners

## 10. SBCSD SPEED AWARENESS



# 12. ANGEL & SENIOR TREE

## SENIOR Angel Tree



City Hall  
817 3rd Street  
Needles, CA

*All gifts will be hand delivered by the Sheriff's Department!*

## ADOPT A SENIOR

Pick a name off the tree located at City Hall and help a Senior this Christmas. November 21st-December 16th.

Please bring your wrapped gift with the Angel Tag attached to the Drop Off Location by December 16th.

If you need assistance, please contact Misti Hunt at (760)326-9207 or [mhunt@sbcasd.org](mailto:mhunt@sbcasd.org)

### \*DROP OFF LOCATION\*

San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department  
1401 Bailey Ave.  
Needles, CA

(Located in the hospital parking lot)





# CHILDRENS ANGEL TREE

HELP SPREAD HOLIDAY CHEER WITH  
THE COLORADO RIVER SHERIFF'S  
STATION/NEEDLES POLICE BY HELPING  
WITH THE 5TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS  
ANGEL TREE DRIVE.

VISIT THE LOBBY AT 1401 BAILY AVE.  
TO SELECT A TAG AND GIFT A CHILD  
IN NEED. YOUR GENEROSITY BRINGS  
JOY AND HOPE TO OUR COMMUNITY.

PLEASE WRAP YOUR GIFT(S) AND ATTACH  
THE TAG YOU TOOK TO YOUR GIFT(S).

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS,  
PLEASE CONTACT

MICHELLE ADVOCATE (760)326-9215

**Please Return Gifts on or before December 13**

All Angel Tree Gifts will be delivered the week before  
Christmas, December 16th - December 20th





# CALIFORNIA'S NEW E-BIKE LAW:

## *GUIDANCE FOR AGENCIES*

### **Q&A** ***ELECTRIC BICYCLE***

#### » WHAT'S AN E-BIKE?

An electric bike (e-bike) boosts a cyclist's human power with electric power thanks to the help of an electric motor. Some do this using pedals only ("pedal-assist"), while some are equipped with hand throttles. They come in as many shapes, sizes, and types as regular bikes, with the motor ceasing to provide power at 20 or 28 mph.

#### » WHAT'S THE NEW E-BIKE LAW?

The California e-bike law defines an e-bike as a bicycle equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts, specifies three types of e-bikes (see below), and establishes how and where to legally ride them in California.

#### » HOW DOES THE NEW E-BIKE LAW (AB1096) CHANGE HOW E-BIKES ARE REGULATED?

Before 2016, in California, e-bikes were regulated like mopeds and only had access to public streets and roads. E-bikes are much closer in performance and usage to bicycles, so the new e-bike law grants riders access to other California bikeways (see page 2).

#### » WILL ALL E-BIKES BE REGULATED IN THE SAME WAY?

No. The California e-bike law defines three types of electric bicycles based on speed and power control.

- » **TYPE 1** Bikes with a top assisted speed of 20 mph that must be pedaled to operate.
- » **TYPE 2** Bikes with a top assisted speed of 20 mph that can be operated without pedaling by using a handlebar-mounted throttle.
- » **TYPE 3** Bikes with a top assisted speed of 28 mph that must be pedaled to operate.

Because of their speed and power control differences, their access to bike infrastructure is also different. The table on page 2 demonstrates where each type of e-bike can be ridden and other user requirements.

#### » HOW CAN LAW ENFORCEMENT TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DIFFERENT TYPES OF E-BIKES?

Starting January 1, 2017, AB 1096 requires that all e-bike manufacturers apply a label to each e-bike being distributed in California that specifies its type and wattage. This helps law enforcement agencies determine if an e-bike has access to a particular bikeway. Each manufacturer may have slightly different labels.



#### » DO THE SAME BICYCLE "RULES OF THE ROAD" APPLY TO E-BIKE RIDERS?

Yes. E-bike riders are subject to the same rules and legal requirements that apply to people riding traditional bicycles when it comes to speed, proper passing, following local traffic laws, obeying posted speed limits, and other state and local ordinances. Motorists are required to give electric bicycles at least three feet of clearance when passing. All bicycle and electric bicycle riders 17 and under in California must wear a helmet. Like bicyclists, e-bike riders don't require a license, and their e-bikes don't need to be registered.



# CALIFORNIA'S NEW E-BIKE LAW: *GUIDANCE FOR AGENCIES*

## » ARE THERE ANY ADDITIONAL SAFETY CONCERNS WITH THE NEW E-BIKE LAW?

Since **Type 1 and 2 e-bike** performance and usage are very similar to bicycles, they pose similar safety concerns. **Type 3 e-bikes** may pose additional safety concerns, particularly if used in an inappropriate street or trail environment. For this reason, **Type 3 e-bikes** are restricted from Class 1 and 4 bikeways. Under this new law, local authorities and public agencies with jurisdiction over bicycle paths or trails may also prohibit the operation of any type of electric bicycle on a particular path or trail.

## » WHAT SPECIFIC REGULATIONS APPLY TO TYPE 3 ELECTRIC BICYCLES?

**Type 3 e-bikes** are prohibited on Class I and IV bikeways, unless it is within or adjacent to a roadway, or unless the local authority or the governing body of a public agency having jurisdiction over such path or trail permits such operation.






The e-bike type model allows local level agencies, by local ordinance, to permit e-bikes on paths or bikeways where they are traditionally not allowed, in the event that the alternative route is considered hazardous. This is a local jurisdictional decision. Anyone

operating, riding as a passenger on, in a restraining seat attached to, or in a trailer towed by a Type 3 electric bicycle must be at least 16 years of age and must wear a properly fitted bicycle helmet.

### » For more information visit:

<http://www.peopleforbikes.org/pages/e-bikes>.



		VEHICLE		USER				BIKEWAY ACCESS			
		PEDAL OPERATED	MAXIMUM MOTOR-ASSISTED SPEED (MPH)	MINIMUM AGE (YEARS)	DRIVER'S LICENSE	LICENSE PLATE	HELMET	CLASS I BIKE PATH	CLASS II BIKE LANE	CLASS III BIKE ROUTE	CLASS IV PROTECTED LANE
VEHICLE TYPE	BICYCLE 	YES	N/A	N/A	NO	NO	17 AND UNDER	YES	YES	YES	YES
	TYPE 1 E-BIKE 	YES	20	N/A	NO	NO	17 AND UNDER	YES	YES	YES	YES
	TYPE 2 E-BIKE 	NO	20	N/A	NO	NO	17 AND UNDER	YES	YES	YES	YES
	TYPE 3 E-BIKE 	YES	28	16	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO
	MOPED 	NO	N/A	16	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO



### **13. CITY HALL CLOSED**



**THIS OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED THURSDAY  
NOVEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup> AND FRIDAY  
NOVEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup> TO CELEBRATE  
THANKSGIVING. WE WILL REOPEN ON  
MONDAY DECEMBER 2, 2024, AT 8:30 A.M.**