

Town of Yucca Valley Community Update May 1, 2014

Participate in the Town's Budget Process

The Town Council invites all residents to participate in the annual budgeting process. Beginning on Tuesday May 6, 2014, the Town Council will receive budget reports on capital projects. Capital projects include street, drainage, park and other public facility construction and maintenance projects. Other "restricted" or "special revenue funds" will also be reviewed on May 6, 2014. On Saturday May 10, 2014, the Town Council will hold a workshop on the proposed FY 2014/2015 & 2015/2016 budgets. On Tuesday May 20, 2014, the Town Council will hold a public hearing on the proposed budget. And finally, budget adoption is currently scheduled for the Tuesday, June 3, 2014 Town Council meeting. Please attend these important budget meetings and assist the Town Council in the formulation its annual operating and capital budgets.

Tuesday, May 6, 2014 – Town Council Meeting: Budget Reports on Capital Projects

Saturday, May 10, 2014 – Town Council Budget Workshop

Tuesday, May 20, 2014 - Town Council Meeting: Public Hearing on Proposed Budget

Tuesday, June 3, 2014 – Town Council Meeting: Budget Adoption

SR62 Sidewalks & Medians: TCRP

The project includes the installation of raised medians on SR 62 from Kickapoo Trail to Elk Trail, and from Cherokee Trail to Acoma Trail. The project also includes sidewalks in sections that have gaps or that are non-existent on both north and south sides of SR62 from Palm to Dumosa Avenue, as well as curbs & gutters. The Town Council awarded the construction contract on July 23, 2013 to C.S. Legacy in the amount of \$2,161,147.00.

Status: The base course paving for the asphalt repairs has been completed, and paving is being completed this week. All the concrete has been placed.



Senior Housing Project

The project includes the construction of a 74 unit affordable senior housing development and the construction of all improvements associated with the project. A managers unit will also be constructed with the project.

There is some confusion on the type of construction being used for the Senior Housing Project. The type of construction is called “factory built housing”. Factory built housing complies with the same regulations and standards (California Building Codes) as other residential units that you see constructed in the community. The only difference is that a portion of the structure(s) have been constructed in a factory and not on the project site. Factory built housing is not the same as “manufactured housing”, which is not constructed to the standards established in the California Building Codes. The construction of the Senior Housing Project meets or exceeds all standards and regulations established in the California Building Codes, and those are the same standards and regulations to which you see residential construction occurring on individual lots within the Town.

Status: The installation of modules for building one has been completed, and welding of the steel reinforcing has begun. Scaffolding for the completion of the exterior is expected soon. The current tentative schedule calls for the delivery of modules for building two to begin the week of May 5, 2014.



Hawks Landing Golf Course at Blue Skies

The project involves the reconstruction of the former Blue Skies Golf Course.

Status: Final grading and irrigation construction is continuing along with concrete and landscaping work. Approximately 100 trees have been planted onsite in addition to the existing trees. Sod installation is also well underway at the tee boxes and greens. They are also placing sod adjacent to the lake. The fairways will be hydroseeded in the near future.



Marshalls/Petco

The project involves the construction of 34,650 square feet of retail space for a Marsha/Petco commercial building at the Home Depot front parcel.

Status: The masonry work for the Marshalls building is ongoing, and the walls are well underway. The façade for Petco has been sheeted, and stucco will begin next week. Interior work on the Petco building includes mechanical and plumbing systems. Percolation testing for both buildings was completed last week.



Dumosa Traffic Signal

The project consists of the design and construction of a traffic signal at the intersection of SR62 and Dumosa Avenue.

Status: Final Plans have been submitted to Caltrans for approval. The Engineering Division expects Caltrans to review and approve the plans by mid-May, 2014.

Science Saturdays at the Hi-Desert Nature Museum

The Hi-Desert Nature Museum continues their popular education program, Science Saturdays, with two exciting topics for the month of May. This series of discovery opportunities for children is designed to ignite curiosity by presenting information and performing experiments relating to biological and physical sciences. It is recommended that children be of school age for this program. Science Saturdays are held from 11:00 – 11:30 a.m. and are offered free of charge with no pre-registration required

Weather

Saturday May 10, 2014

11:00 – 11:30 a.m. – Free of charge and no pre-registration required

Meteorology is the study of the atmosphere, its composition, and the changes that take place in it, which helps us understand the weather. During this Science Saturday Museum Educator, Crystal Mason, will help children will uncover the mysteries of the atmosphere and its phenomena including how we forecast the weather and what clouds can tell us.



Harmful and Helpful Bacteria

Saturday May 24, 2014

11:00 – 11:30 a.m. – Free of charge and no pre-registration required

Bacteria are all around us, in the air, the water, the soil, and the bodies of plants and animals. This may sound scary since some bacteria create disease but some bacteria are helpful to humans. Without helpful bacteria humans wouldn't be able to live! Join Museum Educator Crystal Mason as she explains helpful and harmful bacteria through microscopic pictures.



Hi-Desert Nature Museum Presents

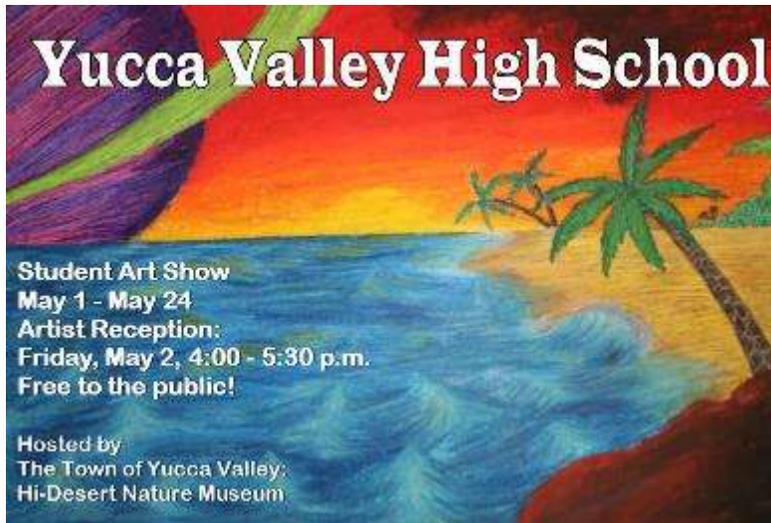
Yucca Valley High School Art Show And Opening Reception

May 1 through May 24, 2014 - Yucca Valley High School Art Show

Friday, May 2, 2014 from 4:00-5:30 p.m. – Opening Reception

The Hi-Desert Nature Museum will present the Yucca Valley High School Art Show from May 1 through May 24, 2014. This annual exhibition highlights the finest work of some of this community's rising talent from Yucca Valley High School. The display consists of paintings and drawings covering a large variety of compelling subjects and artistic styles. An opening reception will be held on Friday, May 2 from 4:00-5:30 p.m., and is free to the public.

For 50 years the Hi-Desert Nature Museum has been dedicated to the process of education by exploring the natural, artistic and cultural heritage of the Morongo Basin and High Desert. The Museum seeks to inspire wonder, discovery, understanding and responsibility in its community and visitors through exhibits, programs, and collections in the arts, history, and natural sciences. The Hi-Desert Nature Museum is operated by the Town of Yucca Valley and is located in the Yucca Valley Community Center Complex at 57116 Twentynine Palms Highway. The Museum is open Thursday-Saturday from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Admission is free; donations support the educational mission of the Museum. For more information, contact the Hi-Desert Nature Museum at (760) 369-7212 or see our web site at www.hidesertnaturemuseum.org. Visit us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter!



Las Vegas Doberman and Doxie Rescue comes to the Yucca Valley Animal Shelter

The Yucca Valley Animal Shelter recently received a young female red Doberman, named Daisy, to place up for adoption. Wanting the best possible placement for this breed of dog, staff contacted the Doberman Rescue Agency out of Las Vegas. This same rescue agency has helped the animal shelter before with another Doberman received a few years back. One of the rescue's volunteers, Jennifer, came to the Yucca Valley Animal Shelter and not only took the Doberman back to Las Vegas but a very nice Doxie mix that had been at the animal shelter for a few months and had not been adopted. Both animals and Jennifer arrived safely in Las Vegas and have been placed in foster care till they are adopted into their new homes.



Animal Shelter Visitors and Adoptions

The Yucca Valley Animal Shelter recent adoptions include: Courtney along with her husband, son and the Boxer puppy, adopted "Shiloh" a red and white male Husky; Carrie adopted a small, male Terrier mix; and Rosario adopted a 9 week old orange tabby kitten named "Squeak."



Recent adoptions also include a little Doxie mix puppy named “Tiny” adopted by Candie and her husband. Jennifer and her husband Anthony, along with their two children, came all the way from San Diego to adopt “Oliver” a Miniature Schnauzer



Animal Control Call for Service

Snake Lounging Around on Patio Furniture

In April, 2014, Animal Control dispatch received a call from a resident who reported that he had a large venomous snake on his property which was located near the site of the golf course renovation. An Animal Control officer responded to the location, and discovered a 3 ½ foot (non-venomous) Gopher snake peacefully laying on the arm of a chair on the rear patio. The snake was removed and re-located, and the officer provided the man with some educational information regarding local snake species. Animal Control officials would like to remind local residents to be aware of the possibility of snakes and other reptiles visiting their properties during the warm spring and summer months. To reduce your risk of an un-wanted encounter, Animal Control offers the following tips:

1. Keep the area around your home clean and free of debris;
2. Trim vegetation, including bushes, so that the ground is clear;
3. Keep garage doors and sliding glass doors closed, particularly early in the morning and in the late afternoon;
4. Limit the amount of standing water that you leave near your home. For additional information on snakes and other wildlife, be sure to visit the Hi-Desert Nature Museum in Yucca Valley.



Dogs Left in Cars in Warmer Weather

During April, 2014, Animal Control Officers responded to multiple reports regarding animals being left in vehicles during the heat of the day. On two separate occasions, an officer was able to make contact with the owner after confirming that the reported animal had been in the vehicle for periods of 20-40 minutes. Although the outside temperature was only around 83 degrees, the temperatures inside the vehicle were measured at between 96 and 102 degrees. The respective owners were given a notice regarding violation of the California Penal Code, which prohibits owners or caretakers from leaving their animal in a vehicle when the temperature or conditions are found to be detrimental to the animal's welfare.

In January, the owner of a dog was cited when Animal Control officers and Sheriff's deputies confirmed that a dog had been left in a vehicle for over an hour in temperatures that measured over 95 degrees. The dog was confined in a wire crate in the direct sun, and was found to be in distress. In that case, the dog owner was found guilty in court, and paid a fine of 300 dollars.



A "CAT"astropic Case of Misinformation

On April 28, 2014, Yucca Valley Animal Control was contacted by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in regards to a report of a tamed bobcat being kept inside a home in the Yucca Valley area. According to the report, a woman had taken in the bobcat several years before, but had become frightened when the animal had attacked her that morning. A Game Warden responded to investigate the report, and requested that an Animal Control Officer accompany him to assist with the capture of the animal if needed. When the officers arrived at the location, the woman willingly complied with the Game Warden's

request to see the animal. Upon viewing the animal, both officers agreed that the “bobcat” was not a wild animal, but a very large, un-neutered, common house cat. The owner was given some educational information by the Game Warden, and the Animal Control Officer provided her with resources for low cost neuter services.

Code Compliance

Property Maintenance

Code received a complaint of outside junk and trash located on Hillcrest Drive. Code issued a citation to the property and within 21 days the owner brought the property into compliance.



Property Maintenance

Code received a complaint about a boat not secured on a trailer and was concerned with the neighborhood children’s safety located on Hilton. Code sent out a courtesy letter to the property owner and within 30 days the property was brought into compliance.



Property Maintenance

Code received a complaint about the outside junk and storage located on Mariposa. This property had an ongoing case with Code and Code Compliance issued a citation to the property owner. The owner was able to evict the tenants and brought the property into compliance.



Parks Division Repairs and Improvements

Essig Park Improvements

The Parks Division has been planting new trees at Essig Park. They will ultimately be adding eight new trees to provide shade and beauty for the park's visitors. They have also installed a new picnic table on the large dog side of the park.



Sports Field Improvements

The Parks Division has also been installing a new master flow valve and flow sensor system to improve the irrigation system at one of the Town's sports fields. Flow meters are critical in managing water use at all Town park facilities.



These are just examples of on-going maintenance and improvement efforts that are necessary in keeping the Town's park facilities prepared for the high levels of use by Basin residents.

Streets Division Repairs and Improvements

Flood Control Access Road off of Golden Bee Drive

There has been a problem with individuals using the Flood Control access road off of Golden Bee Drive for illegal dumping, and creating unsafe conditions. Previous efforts to prevent unauthorized access with chain guards have been unsuccessful. To help prevent the problem in the future, the Streets Division installed concrete k-rail barriers to stop unauthorized access.

