

# **Town of Yucca Valley Community Update December 23, 2014**



## **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

**Welcome to another edition of the Town's Community update. We trust that you will find this information useful and interesting. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays as well as a successful and prosperous New Year in 2015. As always, we appreciate your participation and feedback at any time. Visit the Town's website for contact and additional information at [www.yucca-valley.org](http://www.yucca-valley.org).**

### **Town Offices Will Close During Holidays**

The Town of Yucca Valley has announced that all business offices will be closed between the Christmas and New Year's Day holidays. Except for emergency services and specifically scheduled programs, the Town offices will be closed from Wednesday, December 24th, re-opening for business on Monday, January 5th.

The Town of Yucca Valley Animal Shelter and Animal Control Services will be closed during the holidays, beginning December 24th and will be open for regular business hours on January 2nd, 2015. During the holiday time period, the Yucca Valley Animal Shelter will be available by appointment only for pet owners to retrieve impounded animals. Please contact the Shelter at (760) 365-3111 extension 106 to arrange a meeting time to pick up your pet or to leave a message for a lost or found pet. Shelter staff will return calls each day between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. The Animal Shelter provides kennel runs for anyone who has found a stray pet and wishes to drop off the pet on their own. Yucca Valley Animal Control Services will be responding to emergency calls only during the holidays. Those requiring emergency animal assistance during this time may call San Bernardino County Sheriff's dispatch at (760) 365-2364.

Building & Safety will be providing inspection services during the holiday period, Monday through Friday, not including Christmas Day or New Year's Day. Please contact Building & Safety at 760-365-1399 to schedule an inspection.

The Hi-Desert Nature Museum will be closed to the public for a limited time during the holidays and will re-open to visitors on Friday, January 2nd.

Though the senior lunch program at the Yucca Valley Senior Center will not be affected by the Town office closures, meals will not be served on December 25th, 26th or January 1st. The Yucca Valley Community Center will be open on Christmas Day from 12:30 to 6:00 p.m. for

Tender Loving Cause, a volunteer-led program that provides meals, food boxes, clothing and toys for families in need.

## **Town Seeks Applications for Open Commission Seats**

The Town of Yucca Valley is currently seeking applications for open seats on the Yucca Valley Planning Commission and Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission. Those interested should submit an application to the Town Clerk by Thursday, January 8, 2015. Applications are found on the Town's website at [www.yucca-valley.org](http://www.yucca-valley.org) or at Town Hall. The Planning Commission reviews and offers recommendations to the Town Council on topics such as the General Plan, Development Code, zoning, and other land-use decisions, while the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the Town Council in matters pertaining to the planning of public recreation and the development of open space, parks, playgrounds, playfields and recreational facilities. The Town encourages public involvement on these important commissions.

## **Recreation Department – Upcoming Events and Activities**

### **Personal Self Defense Class**

Learn the time tested art of the Samurai – tailored to today's environment. Participants will learn a variety of self-defense techniques in this 2 ½ hour, one-day workshop that features demonstrations, instruction and lecture. Students are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing. Class takes place on Saturday, February 21, 2015 from 9:00 am to 11:30 am at the Yucca Valley Community Center. Ages 14 and up are welcome. Cost is \$15 per person; students are free with valid student ID. Space is limited, register early!



### **23rd Annual Healthy Hearts 5K Run and 2K Health Walk**

Time to put that New Year's resolution to work! The Healthy Hearts 5K Run and 2K Health Walk is held in conjunction with National Heart Month. The race takes place on Saturday, February 21, 2015 at Essig Park. Race begins at 9:00 sharp; pre-register for express check in! Cost is \$20 for adults, \$18 for children and seniors, and includes a souvenir t-shirt. For more information and to register visit [www.yucca-valley.org](http://www.yucca-valley.org).

**KEEP YOUR**  
**HEART**  
**HEALTHY**

*It's time to put that  
New Year's resolution  
to work!*



## **23rd Annual Healthy Hearts**

**5K Run & 2K Health Walk at Essig Park**

For all ages

**Sat. Feb. 21, 2015**

Pre-register for express check-in • Race begins at 9am  
Cost: \$20 • Under 12 yrs & 60+yrs : \$18 (includes t-shirt)

### **Basic Dog Obedience**

Happy Trails Doggy School trainer Lori Herbel will offer a six-week course to establish skills for successful communication between you and your dog and master the AKC Canine Good Citizen guidelines. Instruction includes Sit, Stay, Come, Down, Leave it, and Heel, in addition to participating in team socialization exercises and target problem solving. The class takes place on Thursday evenings for 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm at the Yucca Valley Community Center beginning on January 8th through February 12th. The cost is \$135 for the six week session; pre-registration is required. Register today online at [www.yucca-valley.org](http://www.yucca-valley.org).



### **Sit. Stay. Good Dog!**

Open the lines of communication  
with your **DOG!**

#### **Basic Dog Obedience**

Thursdays • 5:30-7pm at

YV Community Center

Jan. 8 – Feb 12, 2015

Cost: \$135

**Dogs must be current on all vaccinations  
Pre-registration is required.**

## **Hi-Desert Nature Museum – Upcoming Events and Activities**

### **Hi-Desert Nature Museum Presents “Seaweed, Salmon, and Manzanita Cider – A California Indian Feast”**

**On display January 8 – February 28, 2015**

Celebrating traditional California Indian food sources “Seaweed, Salmon and Manzanita Cider” features historic and contemporary photos, baskets and other artifacts, food specimens, memoirs, and recipes of Native American cuisine. The exhibit also showcases the extensive and sophisticated system of environmental knowledge underlying California Indian use of food resources.



### **Call for Artists – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**

**“Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” Exhibition**

**On Display March 5 – April 25, 2015**

**Opening Reception Friday, March 6, 5:00-7:00 p.m.**

As part of our Earth Day celebration on Saturday, April 18, 2015, the community is invited to contribute artwork made from recycled or reused materials for display in our “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” exhibition. Paintings, sculpture, mixed media creations, photographs of recycled products, or any other art-related objects can be loaned to the museum for display in the exhibition. Individual and group projects are welcome and children are particularly encouraged to participate.



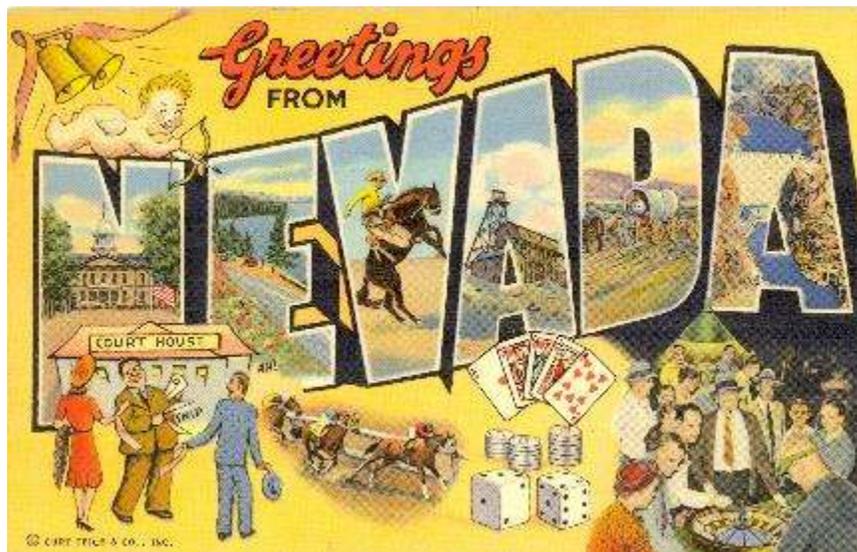
## **Brown Bag Lunch Lecture – Meet Your Neighbor**

**January 8, 2015 at 12:00 p.m.**

**Admission: \$5 and Free for Members**

The lecture covers the 150th birthday of the State of Nevada, being celebrated during 2014 throughout Nevada. The lecture includes ancient and modern history, some geology, biology and botany, and information about some of Nevada's leading and infamous residents through history.

Bring your lunch, bring your friends, or just bring yourself to our Brown Bag Lunch Lecture Series once a month. Speakers will present topics of special interest for high desert residents. The lectures start at 12:00 p.m. Admission is \$ 5 – Free for Members - beverages will be served.



## **County Provides Results after Review of Medical Marijuana Initiative Petition**

The San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters recently completed the review of signatures, submitted as a petition to the Yucca Valley Town Council, allowing a limited number of medical marijuana dispensaries to operate within the Town limits. The Medical Marijuana Dispensary Authorization and Regulation Initiative was recently circulated and received 1,873 valid signatures. The number of valid signatures is in excess of 15% of the Town of Yucca Valley registered voters, thereby necessitating Town Council action prior to the next general election.

Lesley Copeland, Town Clerk for the Town of Yucca Valley will present the completed petition to the Town Council for certification at the next regular meeting of January 20, 2015. Upon certification, the Town Council will provide direction on the initiative in accordance with the provisions of the California Elections Code, including options to request an impact study, adopt the ordinance as drafted, or call a special election on the matter.

## **Parks Division News, Repairs and Improvements**

### **Decorating the Christmas Tree**

The Parks Division helped Yucca Valley get ready for Christmas by setting up and decorating the Town Hall Christmas tree. Thank you to the Park Crew for their efforts on making this annual program successful for the community.



## **Jacobs Park Maintenance**

The Parks Division recently performed maintenance at Jacobs Park, which included cleaning and replacing bulbs in the tennis court lights, repair to the tennis court fencing and light standards, and repairing minor rain storm damage.



## **Code Compliance**

### **Property Maintenance**

Code received multiple complaints in regards to homeless individuals living behind the Welcome Center. Code made contact with the individuals and advised them that Code would be cleaning up any left items on the property. The clean team was contacted and they helped bring the property into compliance.



Code received complaints from the neighborhood regarding improper outside storage and overgrown weeds on a property. A courtesy letter was sent out to the property owner and within 30 days the property was brought into compliance.



Code received multiple complaints of junk and trash at a duplex located on Richard. The property had squatters living in it. The property owner was notified and the owner filed for an eviction. The Sheriffs conducted a lock out and the property owner was able to regain possession of the property and brought it into compliance



## **Yucca Valley Animal Shelter and Animal Care and Control**

### **Animal Shelter – Cats and Kittens Find Homes!**

During November 2014, the Yucca Valley Animal Shelter spread the word that we had a bounty of cats and kittens in need of loving homes. Due to generous citizen's donations to our "Sponsored Adoption" funds, and with the ongoing support from the Helen Woodward Center (an animal adoption facility in San Diego County) we were able to place over 40 of our cats and kittens into new homes. Now that is what we call a Very Mew-y Christmas!!



### **Animal Shelter – Dogs and Puppies Also Get New Homes!**

The Yucca Valley Animal Shelter had large dogs, medium and small dogs, and even a few puppies, all in need of loving homes. Since November 2014, over 80% of our adoptable dogs were placed into new homes. And, as the dogs say..... “Merry Woof-mas!”



### **Animal Shelter is Thankful for Donations!**

The Yucca Valley Animal Shelter would like to thank everyone who donated food, blankets and other items of use for the pets brought to the animal shelter during 2014. Because of the continued support the animal shelter has received, all of the animals brought here have the comfort of a blanket, a chew or play toys and plenty of treats/food to make their stay here easier. The Animal Shelter is also grateful to those who have donated funds to help support our low cost adoption programs. A big thank you to our wonderful and caring community!



## **Long Distant Animal Adoptions**

Often after a pet is adopted from the Yucca Valley Animal Shelter, the new family will send staff photos and give an update on their new family member. The dog “Wolfie” on the left with Santa Claus, lives in Florida with his new family and is reported to love the east coast! The little dog standing on the Red Semi’s step-up is little Piper, who continues to travel nationally with her dad! We always appreciate hearing from our adopters how they and their new companion are getting along! Happy Tails!



## **Streets Division News, Repairs and Improvements**

The Streets Division has been busy this season, cleaning up after rain storms, filling pot holes, and maintaining our roads. The Streets Division has also been working to keep the sidewalks along Onaga Trail free of weeds and Debris.



## **State Route (SR) 247 Shoulder Widening and Rumble Strip Project**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is under construction with a shoulder widening and rumble strip project on SR 247. The project is currently underway from El Cortez Road in Yucca Valley to 0.1 miles North of Napa Road in the County. The project is scheduled to be completed over the next approximately 6 months. The project is planned for 160 days for the pavement work followed by several months for plant establishment. The project may be suspended during winter months due to cold weather, and the project is expected to be completed by end of summer 2015. Drivers should anticipate delays during the construction process.

For Information Contact Philip Havins with Caltrans District 8 at 909-383-6799 or Alex Qishta, Project Engineer (760) 369-1265, ext. 304

## **Paradise Park Improvements**

The Town received a state grant award in the amount of \$168,700 for improvements to Paradise Park. Various improvement options have been identified including construction of a new basketball court, walking trails, and expansion of shade around the playground area.

Status:

The Town Council will be discussing funding and design alternatives to Paradise Park with the State grant and other funds at the January 20, 2015 Town Council Meeting. The conceptual plan below presents options and is not a final development plan. The public is encouraged to come out to the meeting of January 20<sup>th</sup>, and provide input on desired improvements.



## **Jacobs Park Playground Equipment Improvement**

The project includes the replacement of the existing playground equipment, as well as replacing the existing sand with wood chips for ADA access. The playground equipment is designed for both the 2 to 5 and 5 to 12 year old age groups. A new swing apparatus will be installed on the west side of the sidewalk, opposite from the new playground equipment. This will require new curbing to be installed, as well as ADA compliant access and fall zone wood chips. The estimated cost for construction of these improvements is \$107,000, with Community Development Block Grant as the primary funding source.

### **Status:**

The Town Council authorized the bidding for this project. Bids will be open on January 29, 2015. Bid recommendations will be made to the Town Council in February 2015, with the project construction commencing in April/May of 2015, prior to the end of the school term.

# Jacobs Park



## Conditional Use Permit, CUP-3-11, 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.

### **Status:**

This project has been completed. Residents are living in both buildings at this time. This project created high quality affordable housing for low income residents of Yucca Valley and the Morongo Basin.



## **Site Plan Review, SPR-1-14, Hawks Landing Golf Club at Blue Skies**

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

### **Status:**

The driving range has been completed. Paving and striping of the parking lot, including new driveway approaches, have been completed. Work on the clubhouse building is continuing, and is expected to be finished by the end of the year.



## **Panda Express and Taco Bell**

The Panda Express project includes a Conditional Use Permit Amendment and a Tentative Parcel Map for the subdivision of 26 acres into three parcels of 0.84 acres, 0.75 acres and 23.88 acres; and the construction of a 2,230 +/- square foot Panda Express located at the southeast corner of 29 Palms Hwy and Avalon Ave.

The Taco Bell project includes a Conditional Use Permit Amendment and a Tentative Parcel Map for the subdivision of 26 acres into three parcels of 0.84 acres, 0.75 acres and 23.88 acres; and the construction of a 2,423 +/- square foot Taco Bell located at the southeast corner of 29 Palms Hwy and Avalon Ave.

### **Status:**

Both buildings are progressing and both plan to open before the end of the year. The paving of the parking lot is complete. Tables, seating and kitchen facilities are currently being installed at the Taco Bell site. The Panda Express building has just completed interior drywall, and the exterior façade treatment is underway.



## **Ross Department Store, Tenant Improvements**

The project involves a tenant improvement at 57646 29 Palms Highway, inside the former Rite Aid lease space at the Vons Center.

### **Status:**

Tenant improvements have started for this project. According to the contractor, the exterior treatment should be complete this month. Ross is planning a February 2015 opening.

## **Sage Estates, Final Map 17862**

The project involves the subdivision of approximately the development of 107 single family lots on a 63.4 acre parcel. The project also includes 4.68 acres of parks and open space, a sewer treatment plant, and public streets. The proposed project is located at the southeast corner of Golden Bee and Sage Avenue. With construction of this project, additional streets will be added into the Town's Maintained Road System. Simultaneously, the project will also form an assessment district whereby the property owners agree to tax themselves for street and drainage maintenance. Through the use of these tools, the new public streets will not take away existing financial resources from street maintenance efforts throughout the Town.

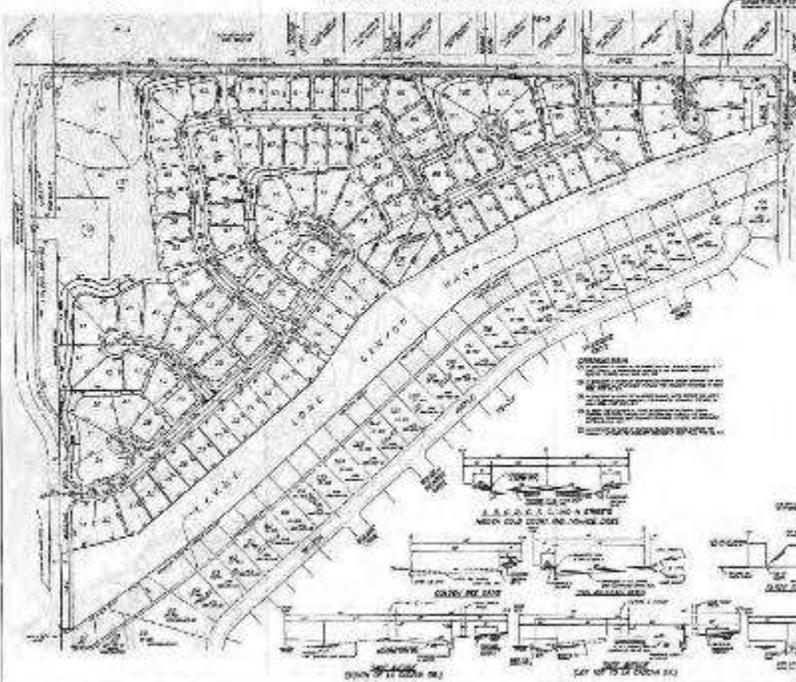
**Status:** Final Map, grading plans, street improvements plans, drainage and flood control plans and related documents have been submitted to the Town and have completed third plan check. According to the property owner, grading is anticipated to begin in early 2015, after obtaining all necessary approvals and clearances.

BY THE CITY OF SANTA ANITA, CA  
**TENTATIVE TRACT NO. 17862**  
 A PORTION OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 19, T.18, S.04, E.08  
 JULY 2007  
 REVISED FEBRUARY 20, 2008



**EXEMPTIONS**  
 THIS TRACT IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE SUBDIVISION MAP ACT, CHAPTER 314, CIVIL CODE, AND THE SUBDIVISION MAP ACT, CHAPTER 314, CIVIL CODE, AND THE SUBDIVISION MAP ACT, CHAPTER 314, CIVIL CODE.

**PREPARED BY**  
 [Signature]  
 [Title]



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