

Ryan Kelley Updates Our Community on Important Issues

By Celeste Misch

LaVon Jaksch, was sworn in by Supervisor Ryan Kelley on this day, August 2, 2021, to serve on the Advisory Board Committee as an Advisor to Imperial County Supervisors. Supervisor Ryan Kelley also commissioned Ms. Jaksch to the board of the Coachella Valley Energy Commission to give voice and representation for Salton City and the West Shores. She attended the first Coachella Valley Energy Commission meeting on August 5, 2021. This first meeting was mostly an organizational meeting.



Supervisor Ryan Kelley swears in LaVon Jaksch to serve as an Advisor on the Advisory Committee to Imperial County Supervisors

Advisory Committee to Imperial County Supervisors is now comprised of: Steve Clifford, Director; Celeste Misch, Secretary Advisor; Carlene Ness, Advisor; Charles Bennett, Advisor and LaVon Jaksch, Advisor.

Imperial Irrigation Board of Directors formed The Coachella Valley Energy Commission and approved its bi-laws on July 13, 2021. The commis-

sion will provide diverse local representation to address the unique energy needs for the greater Coachella Valley portion of IID's services area.

This newly formed Coachella Energy Commission is composed of two IID Directors and nine representatives from across the counties of Riverside and Imperial, along with the Cove Communities Services commission, the Tribal Nations and two at large members selected by the full commission. The ultimate goal for Imperial Irrigation District is to be allowed to handle local issues at the local level.

IID's concern is Assembly Bill 1021, sponsored by Assemblymember Chad Mayes. AB 1021 is aimed at forcing Coachella Valley representation on the IID Board. The bill requires the Imperial Irrigation Department Board to expand from five to six members, with the new delegation being appointed by the 4th District Riverside County Supervisor, as well as \$500,000 being set aside to study the issues of equal representation.

Bill AB 1021 passed with a vote of 73 to 1 in the Assembly in June, 2021 and has moved onto the State Senate. Bill 1021 is an act to add section 56378.2 to the Governmental Code, and to add section 21562.6 to the Water Code, relating to irrigation districts.

Ryan Kelley, Imperial County Supervisor, 4th District addressed the following:

DESERT SHORES RESTORATION PROJECT: The county is initiating the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation and will be doing the Environmental Review for California. The state of California has already initiated the National Environmental Review (NEPA). The Desert Shore Restoration Project remains on schedule and will begin restoration in March, 2022.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: The Imperial County Planning and Service Department is responsible for enforcing the state of California's building codes and local ordinances. The

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We have not received much in the way of donations for many months. We are asking you to please donate anything you can. We know times are hard for everyone during these trying times but we have to survive also, if you want your newspaper. So, please, any little donation you can spare will help pay for the cost of toner and paper.

We have now made donating convenient to those who have smartphones. Please use the Zelle App you have installed on your smartphone. Use the following information to create a new contact if you do not have me added to your list of contacts:

Roni Hewitt ronihew@gmail.com 760-399-0483

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.... Roni

We thank you all in advance.

Sincerely,
West Shores News

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Note: These rates also include graphic flyers for holiday events from the different category rates. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Roni at WSNews2019@gmail.com.

WEST SHORES NEWS VOLUNTEERS

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Important Issues Updates

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Planning and Service Department has begun an increased number of site inspections at the West Shores. Supervisor Ryan Kelley will give us statistical information soon.

SQUATTERS: Supervisor Ryan Kelley has asked Jim Minnick, Imperial County Planning Director to coordinate with the CEO's office and the Sheriff's office for a congruent plan dealing with squatters.

DESERT SHORES PARK: Although a rendering for this park was done, we're going to get a better one. The Public Works Department is working with a conceptual artist to give an actual visual image of what the park will look like. The conceptual art rendering will be something that you can see and give your comments on.

Since the July 2, 2021 Advisory Committee meeting, there has been further conversation with the Salton Community Services District and an MOU is being drafted by our County Counsel, to be shared with SCSD for the continuation of maintaining the park and all costs incurred for water and maintenance, SCSD has agreed to do so. Imperial county will put about \$175,000 for grass and irrigation. The grass and irrigation encompasses' the size of a soccer field.

ROAD REPAIRS: Roads scheduled for repair are: Nile, North Marina (East side of hwy. 86), Treadwell, Atlantic Blvd., and Sunrise (East side of hwy. 86) will be added. All of Salton Sea Beach roads will be repaired beginning July 1, 2022 and 2023. Bombay Beach will also get all of their roads repaired beginning 2022 and 2023.

SUPERVISOR RYAN KELLEY NOTED: "This county has more road miles than fifty-two other counties in the state of California. Imperial County is right behind Los Angeles in the amount of road miles that we have. We are number thirty-nine on funding from the state of California to maintain these roads. The formula was created in the 1960's of how much money was portioned out to the county. It was based on population and road maps. Other county populations have grown significantly, ours has not. We are trying to make the best impact where we can with what we have.

DUAL USE ROAD WAYS: John Gay, Public Work Director is talking with the California Highway Patrol Commander, regarding dual use roads. Mr. Gay thinks that he will have some success with the CHP for dual use roads by utilizing the Salton

City's frontage road areas. Ultimately, CHP will decide yes or no on dual use roads. John Gay is penciled in to speak at the next Advisory Committee meeting on Monday, September 13, 2021 at the Senior Center, at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: A public forum to bring up our public transportation needs would be the Imperial County Transportation Commission. Meetings are every fourth Wednesday of each month. You can attend the meetings via zoom, so you don't have to drive to El Centro to attend the meeting. Web-site: www.Imperialctc.org.

ILLEGAL DUMPING: Salton Community Services District has been going around each community, picking up a lot of the illegally dumped trash. Sheriff's and Deputies are also watching out for illegal dumping while on patrol.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH: Carlene Ness has recently formed a Neighborhood Watch team in Desert Shores. She has a team of eight residents, each one residing on a different street. They will be watching out for illegal dumping and all other illegal acts in their community. Ms. Ness highly recommends other neighborhoods put together a Neighborhood Watch team.

TRAILERS ON VACANT LAND: The county has its hands full with the number of trailers being pulled onto vacant land with no permits, no utilities, and no sewer. It is a health hazard and against the law for human waste to be dumped on the ground. Pictures have been taken, and all pictures have been and are being forwarded to the county.

The Planning and Building Department is currently conducting inspections at the West Shores. Imperial County has asked the Imperial County Planning Director get the Environmental Health Department and the Sheriff's office together and come up with a game plan.

Public Utility services cannot be hooked up to any structure, home or trailer without an inspection of that property which includes verification of ownership, that the structure is a habitable structure, and the structure is zoned appropriately.

STOP SIGNS: Stop sign requests can be sent to the county. A traffic study will need to be done to determine if a stop sign is warranted. They will count how many cars travel the intersection and how many accidents have occurred at that intersection. You can also make requests for

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Back To School Shopping Spree

August 14th , 2021 shopping spree with our Imperial Sheriff's; one student from Sea View Elementary and two students from West Shores High & Middle School.

We are grateful to Aide Flores and her Team from the Imperial County Sheriff's Office for giving our Youth a chance to have a positive connection with our Local Law Enforcement! Thank you Mrs. Flores, Sergeant Barboza, Deputy Tanuvasa and the entire Imperial County Sheriff Team. The feedback we received from the Parents and Students was of gratitude for a pleasant day shopping with the Sheriff's.

Don't forget if you're interested in Law Enforcement, The Sheriff's Explorer Program is being reintroduced at our local Junior High and High School (WSHS)

Please participate and stay active!

This is Mrs. Roxie and I will see you around town!

Art and the Salton Sea

By Michelle Gilmore

A new summer internship for a group of tribal youths, ages 14 to 23, is offering them an opportunity to learn skills from Cahuilla and non-Cahuilla artists. Blending cultural artwork and elements of social and climate justice.

Position Vector Salton Sea is a permanent site-specific art installation to be completed by the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians (TMDCI) in partnership with land artist Hans Bauman. The project is intended to measure the disappearance of the Salton Sea on Torres Martinez tribal lands. The National Endowment for the Arts, the California Arts Council and California Humanities are supporters of the project.

The internship falls under a broader art project related to the Salton Sea that the tribe has been developing for the past several years. The interns have been making large ceramic rings, editing videos and drawing maps while getting paid a daily stipend. The interns have been creating the large clay rings, which will eventually be placed in the lake. The rings will illustrate the water's decline as it gets lower & lower.

The project is structured to engage the community through a series of educational cultural-art workshops. The workshops are being offered by the artist and culture bearers from within the Torres Martinez community. Supported by youth apprentices, the workshops promote participation in the creative development and construction of artwork. The artwork addresses the crisis of the Salton Sea through the lens of indigenous knowledge and artistic expression.



A prototype of one of the ceramic rings along with some of the intern's collective artwork will be displayed in September at the San Diego Institute of Contemporary Art.



Imperial County Sheriff's Office

August 17 at 1:46 AM · 🌐

The Imperial County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention and Sheriff's Activities League would like to thank JC Penney's, the Imperial County Deputy Sheriffs Association, Trifecta Construction, Harvest Farms, The Imperial Valley Children's Coalition and the ICSO employees for their donations and support for the 2021 Back to School Shopping Spree. We helped 34 kids from around the valley receive new clothes and a backpack with school supplies!

R & C Neighborhood Watch - August 3rd Meeting

By Michelle Gilmore

A meeting was held on August 3, 2021, that included Supervisor Ryan E. Kelly, Undersheriff Fred Miramontes, Chief Deputy Scott Sheppard, Attorney Jose Luis Fuentes, Neighborhood Watch Director Carmen Hammon along with several concerned residents of the Salton City area.

Lidia Sierra opened the meeting, thanking everyone for their time and attention to our community concerns. Ms. Hammond spoke very eloquently regarding problems in our neighborhoods with squatters, drug activity and the homeless population. She expressed her appreciation for what is being done but hopes that the community will see more enforcement and assistance from the Sheriff's Department.

Attorney Fuentes requested Mr. Kelley to facilitate a meeting between himself and the Sheriff's Department, the District Attorney, Michael Kelly, Ryan Kelley and residents from Desert Shores, Salton Sea Beach, West Shores and Salton City.

Rogelio Robles spoke about his concerns regarding the growing homeless population, the number of run-down vacant houses and the need for jobs for local construction workers. Mr. Robles would like to see improvements to the two area parks, more trees for shade, someplace for kids to play safely so they don't get into trouble or cause problems out of boredom. He explained that the community needs Ryan Kelly's directions as to whom and which agencies citizens need to contact to solve specific problems. Mr. Robles also expressed an interest in possibly starting a Boy Scout Troop and the Sheriff's office stated they would be

willing to work to get a Troop going. It was suggested after the meeting that a 4-H group might also be considered as it includes both boys and girls; and does not necessarily require animal husbandry as it is commonly believed.

In a group discussion, it was suggested that a traffic signal should be considered at the intersection of Highway 86 and Treadwell. In March 2021, Border Patrol Agent Alejandro Flores Banuelos was fatally struck while assisting another motorist during a period of low visibility. It was also recommended that 'high wind' warning signs be installed along certain stretches of Highway 86 as well. Mr. Kelley said that Public Works would need to do a warrant study.*

Manuel Ramos took the floor and also discussed his concerns that any new construction regarding the geothermal plants would be given to larger non-local companies; excluding many local construction workers and companies. He explained that the community has numerous qualified workers willing and able to work on the future projects. His opinion was that if the money was paid to local workers the money would then stay in the community.

Rogelio Robles asked Mr. Kelley if Salton City would ever consider having a used oil recycling tank. Mr. Kelley said at one time, Salton City had a tank but it was removed. He suggested the Imperial Valley Resource Management Agency be contacted in regards to recycling.

Mr. Kelley asked if a non-profit had been set-up for the neighborhood watch. He said he has a check available *Continued on Page 7*

R & C Neighborhood Watch

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and is willing to increase the amount. Mr. Kelley also said there were Federal Grants available from Homeland Security. Attorney Fuentes asked Mr. Kelley for a letter of support.

There was also an open discussion regarding the community Advisory Board. Several of the group felt that they were marginalized at some of the local meetings and that their voices were not being heard. Mr. Kelley explained that the board members had been appointed by him; however, none of them have any more power or authority than anyone attending the meetings.

Rogelio Robles asked Supervisor Kelley to write the agenda for the next Neighborhood Watch meeting and he agreed. The meeting will also be a Zoom meeting and Mr. Fuentes will be responsible for the Zoom portion. The meeting is scheduled for September 7, 2021 at 6:00 p.m to be held at Salton Sea Mobile Home Park, 336 Sea View Dr, Salton City.

The first issue on the agenda should be public safety. Chief Sheppard spoke in response to the panel's many questions as to why law enforcement isn't doing more to curb crime in our communities. He explained that the Sheriff's department was following a Judicial Order from Sacramento; only violent offenses receive jail time. His officers were mandated by Senate Bill-262-Bail.* Mr. Kelley suggested reading the bill and then writing to our Senators voicing our opinion on this bill. It was suggested that we should vote "NO" as this bill is what is hindering law enforcement.

Several topics were discussed off-record as these items were legally sensitive and had the potential to place several people in harm's way. The meeting lasted well over two hours and at the end it was felt that the group's voices were heard and a better understanding was reached by all in attendance.

*See additional articles in the West Shores Newsletter.

What is Neighborhood Watch?

A Neighborhood Watch Program is a group of people living in the same area who want to make their neighborhood safer by working together and in conjunction with the local law enforcement to reduce crime and improve their quality of life.

Neighborhood Watch groups have regular meetings to plan how they will accomplish their specific goals. Groups have specific leaders and assigned responsibilities. This program empowers citizens and communities in the fight against all crime as well as active in emergency preparedness.

There are many aspects to Neighborhood Watch. There will be skill building, presentations, meetings, training and activities to help grow and maintain the effectiveness for your Neighborhood Watch.

There are roles that need to be filled such as liaisons, block captains and others that will help organize and put strategies in action to better your neighborhood. Remember, this is your neighborhood and no one knows it like you do!

R & C Neighborhood Watch - August 12th Meeting

By Michelle Gilmore

The third meeting of the Rostro & Corazon Neighborhood Watch was held on August 12, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Seaview Estates Clubhouse. Once again Officer Aide Flores-Gallegos along with Officer Monica Robledo were in attendance. Officer Flores-Gallegos is a Crime Prevention Coordinator II, with Imperial County Crime Prevention Unit.

Officer Flores-Gallegos explained that watches are set-up by blocks, with street maps and population determining each Watch group. An example map was provided and everyone was encouraged to use the map as a guide or template to chart their own blocks. She again explained the need to have a designated Block Captain. This individual would be responsible for planning and coordinating meetings/events, maintaining notes and records for both the group and the Sheriff's Department.

A review of the community's known concerns was discussed. Currently those concerns are: graffiti, trash, crime, mail theft, arson, nuisance properties, squatters, homeless population, and drugs. There is a youth program through the Sheriff's Department to address the local graffiti problem. Reports of any graffiti should be reported to the Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff's Department has numerous programs and are more than willing to work with any group wanting to start a program. For more information, she suggested going online to the Sheriff's website.

A Home Inspection Program is available to anyone interested in having the Sheriff's Department inspect their homes. Recommendations (only) would be made on upgrading locks on doors, windows and exterior lighting. It was also mentioned again that the Imperial County District Attorney's office has funds available from the state for anyone who has been a victim of a crime. These funds can be used to purchase security systems and cameras. These funds are for victims only and not available for any crime prevention. Contact Brenda Jacobo at the District Attorney's office at (442) 265-1175.

Officer Flores-Gallegos again emphasized the need to report ANY and ALL crime or suspicious activity, vehicles or person. A second handout was provided titled "Help Catch a Criminal" and "How to Obtain a Vehicle's Description". These handouts were explained in detail and should be a valuable aid to Watch members.

As a result, a request made by Neighborhood Watch, it was announced that the Imperial County District Attorney, Supervisor Ryan E. Kelley, Attor-

ney Jose Luis Fuentes, County Supervisor, Chairman of the Board Michael W. Kelley and the Sheriff's Department will be attending the next Neighborhood Watch meeting. This meeting will be held at the Clubhouse of the Seaview Estates Mobile Home RV Park, 336 Seaview Drive, Salton City at 6:00 p.m. on September 7, 2021. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

If more information is needed or anyone is interested in joining the Neighborhood Watch, you can contact Director Carmen Hammond at (760) 625-4794 or Director Graciela Ramos at (760) 835-1000.

Happy Reading! See you there.



Ryan Kelley Continued Stop Signs

(Cont. from Page 3)

a Safe Route to School by way of the school district. There is money available through the office of traffic safety.

IMPORTANT

The Advisory Committee to Imperial County Supervisors will not have a meeting in September, 2021. This is because, September 6th, the first Monday of the month is Labor Day, a Nationally recognized holiday. September 13th, the second Monday of the month, Imperial County is setting up for elections and we cannot use the building.

Regular Advisory Committee meetings will resume Monday, October 4th at 6:00 p.m. at the Senior Center, 1375 Borrego Salton Seaway (Hwy. S-22), Salton City.

West Shores Baptist Church

FREE MOVIE NIGHTS

3383 Seaview Ave,



Showing: The Chosen Series by Dallas Jenkins

All welcome.
Come get cool &
enjoy the show...

1st & 3rd Saturdays of every month
Beginning August 7 at 6:30pm

New Vaccine Mandates

By Roni Hewitt

President Joe Biden announced the new Wuhan coronavirus vaccine, testing and mask mandates for all federal government employees.

Every federal government employee and onsite contractors will be asked to attest to their vaccination status. Anyone who does not attest to being fully vaccinated will be required to wear a mask on the job no matter their geographic location, physical distance from all other employees and visitors, comply with a weekly or twice weekly screening testing requirement and be subject to restrictions on official travel. The federal government employs more than 4 million Americans, including over 2 million in the federal civilian workforce, throughout our country and across the world. Biden is directing his team wanting to apply similar standards to all federal contractors. The Administration will encourage employers across the private sector to follow this standard. In addition, Biden is also instructing the Department of Defense to mandate the vaccine for the U.S. military.

Meanwhile, a number of unions are opposing vaccine mandates. While the White House is considering mandatory COVID-19 vaccination as a condition of employment for federal employees, the APWU leadership continues to encourage postal workers to voluntarily get vaccinated. "It is not the role of the federal government to mandate vaccinations for the employees we represent," the American Postal Workers Union, which represents 220,000 employees, released in a statement.

Booster Shot Recommended For All Americans

by Roni Hewitt

As expected, federal health officials recommended that all vaccinated Americans get booster shots eight months after they become fully vaccinated. Those shots could begin the week of Sept. 20. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) said data "made very clear" that protection against SARS-CoV-2 infection begins to decrease over time following the initial doses of vaccination — which prompted their recommendation of booster shots for all.

It is advised to get a booster shot eight months from the date they received the second dose of either the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine, or after the one-shot Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Booster shots for immunocompromised people will have higher priority.

Californians looking forward to a large summer concert indoors will need their vaccination cards on hand or a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours before the event. Beginning Sept. 20, all events with 1,000 or more attendees are required to enforce the new policy. The mandate is set to remain in place until Nov. 1.

The new rule comes on the heels of similar mandates for health care workers, hospital visitors and all K-12 school staff. The Delta variant has proven to be highly transmissible, making it easier to spread in large crowds where people are near each other for long periods of time.

IID To Increase Rates 16%

By Roni Hewitt

California's limited power supply will cause electricity bills of Imperial Irrigation District power customers to greatly increase starting this month, it was announced recently. The district said IID customers can expect a roughly 16% hike in their monthly bills starting in August. The increase is due to higher costs for purchased power, fuel, and other market conditions. Customers can expect these increased costs on the Energy Cost Adjustment portion of their electric bills. The district explained that the increase is not to generate revenue, but to offset the added costs faced by the district.

IID serves electricity to more than 150,000 customers in parts of Riverside and San Diego counties, and all of Imperial County.

In my personal opinion, if we multiply 16% increase of each and every 150,000 customers, I doubt their "higher costs" will amount to that total. But will they let us know the exact amount they will receive from the increase hike and the total of their higher costs? This is on top of the recent CVWD rate increase. Goody!

Dear West Shores Community,

My sincere apologies for not reaching out to you all earlier and introducing myself. My name is Jose Luis Fuentes-Roman. I have been a community lawyer for almost 24 years. I graduated from Loyola Law School in 1997 and obtain my bar license #192236 the same year. I did my undergraduate work at the University of California, Berkeley with a double major in Philosophy and Rhetoric. By nature, and through experience, I am a litigator. *There is no opponent too big (national or international) or amount in controversy too large that I cannot handle.* I am selective in the cases that I handle because they need a social justice component. I am litigating against the World Bank, and have litigated against the United States Government, the Mexican Government, Chevron Corporation, University of California, San Francisco, Sacramento, Solano, & Los Angeles Counties, and the Sheriffs. www.sfla.com

I was brought to this community not to litigate, but to bring about the counseling aspect of my title, *counselor-at-law*. As such, I am counseling Rostros y Corazon, an unincorporated association of West Shores residents, on principals of social change. Rostros y Corazon is endorsing the social change of Salton Community Services District in this November 2, 2021, elections by endorsing three new candidates, Lidia Sierra, Manuel Ramos, and Rogelio Flores-Robles. Lidia is a social worker, Manuel is a retired correctional officer, and Rogelio works in telecommunication.

www.rostrosycorazon.org

Just what is a Warrant Study anyway?

By Michelle Gilmore

According to the manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) – a warrant is a threshold condition based upon average or normal conditions that, if found to be satisfied as a part of an engineering study, shall result in analysis of traffic conditions or factors to determine whether a traffic control device is justified.

Okay, I had to read this 3 times before it made any sense. So basically, what this means is a road, street or intersection is studied to see how much traffic usage there is and/or how many serious or fatal accidents have occurred at a particular location. If usage is heavy or the percentage of accidents is high, then it may be warranted to install warning signage, a stop sign or signal lights.

So, if you didn't know before, you know now what a warrant study is.

If you have concerns or suggestions, Imperial County Public Works is the department that handles these projects. Contact Imperial County Road District #3 at (442) 265-1818.

There is also a simple online form to fill out to report pot holes in your area. So, stop complaining and start reporting!! See the ICDPW website or complete the form on the following page.

FOOD BANKS

- 9/8 FIND WS High School 8 AM**
- 9/17 USDA - Assembly Of God Church 8-9 AM**
- 9/22 FIND WS High School 8 AM**



Imperial County Planning & Development Services Planning / Building

Jim Minnick
DIRECTOR

COMPLAINT AND INVESTIGATION REQUEST

DATE: _____ RECEIVED BY: _____

LOCATION OF VIOLATION: _____

CROSS STREET: _____

OWNER: _____ PHONE: _____

Nature of the complaint / Reason for investigation:

Conditions observed / Comments:

INSPECTED BY: _____ DATE: _____

***** INFORMATION BELOW IS CONFIDENTIAL *****

COMPLAINANT: _____ HOME PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

IS FOLLOW UP CONTACT REQUIRED? YES NO

DOES COMPLAINANT WANT TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS? YES NO

FOLLOW UP DATE (S): _____

IS:\forms_isis\complaint-investigation form 08/25/2008, revised 05/25/10 db

IID Monitors Water Shortage

By Roni Hewitt

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation officials declared the first-ever water shortage on the Colorado River on Monday, Aug. 16, and the Imperial Irrigation District weighed in on Tuesday, Aug. 17. That declaration has triggered cuts in water supplies to some Arizona farmers and areas of Nevada for 2022.

In the U.S., Arizona will be hit the hardest and lose 18 percent of its share from the Colorado River next year. That’s around 8 percent of the state’s total water use. Nevada will lose about 7 percent of its allocation, or 21,000 acre-feet of water. Mexico will see a reduction of roughly 5 percent, or 80,000 acre-feet. California is spared from immediate cuts because it has more senior water rights than Arizona and Nevada. The Imperial Irrigation District has addressed the cuts, though the district won’t yet be affected by the recently announced shortage reduction.

Imperial Irrigation District is actively monitoring the ongoing drought conditions and forecasted reservoir elevations as the district looks to protect the Imperial Valley’s sole water supply. IID supports a collaborative approach to river management and renewed efforts of the Basin States to ensure the long-term reliability of the Colorado River system; however, the district will protect and defend the senior water rights that form the foundation of our rural community.

The district will continue to work with its growers and Southern California water conservation partners to ensure the efficient management of all Colorado River resources, and anticipates additional discussions with federal and Basin State representatives to further opportunities to protect critical system elevations. IID is a long-standing advocate for the expansion of water storage opportunities in Lake Mead and looks forward to identifying additional water conservation or reuse opportunities, including those within IID’s service area while fully protecting public health and wildlife at the Salton Sea.

The 2022 cuts are triggered when predicted water levels fall below a certain threshold. Hydrologists have predicted that by January, Lake Mead will drop to 1,066 feet above sea level, below the 1,075-foot threshold. More cuts are triggered when projected levels fall to 1,050, 1,045 and 1,025 feet above sea level. Eventually some city and industrial water users could be affected.



CA Stimulus Checks Are Coming Will You Get One?

Millions of Californians who were left out of the first round of checks, will receive a \$600 California Stimulus check. Governor Newsom signed the \$100 billion California Comeback Plan for the second round of stimulus checks.

Only those who made up to \$75,000 last year, an estimated 11 million middle-income Californians, will receive the second round of \$600-plus checks. Another \$500 will go to families with children, and an additional rebate of \$500 would go to many people living in the country without documentation.

It's important to note that the new stimulus would go only to residents who did not receive the first \$600 payment: those who made \$30,000 or less in 2020. Low-income residents who received the first \$600 - or in some cases \$1,200 - will not get a second \$600 payment.

Although, those who did receive the first stimulus payment could potentially be eligible for the \$500 payment if they are a qualified family and meet income requirements with a dependent. There is also a \$500 payment for individual taxpayer identification number filers.

Release Dates Of Stimulus Checks by Last 3 Digits of Zip Codes

001 - 065	10/04 - 11/05
066 - 221	11/05 - 11/19
222 - 302	11/01 - 11/19
303 - 543	11/15 - 12/03
544 - 709	11/29 - 12/17
710 - 998	12/13 - 12/31

NEW MANDATE FOR ALL SCHOOLS K-12

By: Celeste Misch

Up until August, 2021, when it was announced at an elementary school in Oakland, Governor Gavin Newsom had issued a mask mandate that applied to teachers and students, but left the decision of whether or not the covid-19 vaccination would also be required to local school districts.

However, amid growing concerns about the highly contagious delta variant, Governor Newsom has issued a new mandate that requires not just public schools but all schools, teachers, school staff, and all school volunteers to be vaccinated or undergo weekly covid-19 testing. This mandate will affect 320,000 California school teachers, and tens of thousands of others from cafeteria employees, school bus drivers to cleaners and volunteers.

California is the first state in the nation required to conform to this new mandate and all schools are expected to be in compliance by October 15, 2021. In addition, because the delta variant virus has surged, particularly in children who are too young to be vaccinated, Newsom has not ruled out expanding the same requirements to students after a vaccine is approved for children under 12 years old. Governor Newsom stated: "we'll consider all options in the future".

A growing number of Teachers Unions have eased their opposition to vaccine mandates, however, a union spokesperson noted that details of how the new mandate will be enforced are unknown at this time and the logistics still need to be worked out.

Two of California's largest teacher's unions; The California Teachers Association and the California Federation of Teachers, fully support Governor Newsom's policy. Both unions cited a national polling that indicates nearly 90% of educators have been vaccinated but said, because of the rising spread of the delta variant particularly among children; this makes the new policy necessary. Spokesperson, Mathew Hardy for the California Federation of Teachers said, in support of Newsom's plan that allows an option for testing "We do not think people should lose their job over this".

FDA is planning to amend the emergency use authorization orders for Pfizer and Moderna covid-19 vaccine to allow a third dose for certain inoculated people who may not have had adequate protection from just the two doses.



With so much at stake, it is important people pay close attention to who they choose to replace Governor Newsom. Some may talk a good game. Some are well qualified for the job, others are not. So, please take a moment to research the candidates and make an informed decision.

It will be of utmost importance the new Governor be open to working directly with the people of this state to help solve some long-standing problems, the tone-deaf legislators have failed to act on. We can make wanted and needed changes on our own. Water storage and infrastructure modernization, School Choice initiatives and other important propositions CAN be brought to ballot through the public initiative process. The people have the power to recall government officials who fail to do their job. We can amend the state constitution and enact laws through the public initiative process and there is nothing standing in our way.

September 15th, a very large team of people hope to start rebuilding California, from the ground up. Their motto: "When we stand together, there is nothing we can't do", says it plainly.

Please don't forget to make your vote count on September 14th.

Coachella Valley Job Fair Announced

The Valley Wide Employment Expo will be held virtually on Sept. 23, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., according to the Palm Springs Chamber of Commerce.

The event is free to attend for both job seekers and employers, and priority registration will be given to employers who currently have job openings.

An optional pre-expo workshop will be held for job speakers a week before the event on Sept. 16 at 9 a.m. in English, and at 1 p.m. for Spanish speakers.

Salton Sea Management Program Request for Additional Concepts for Water Importation to the Salton Sea

The Independent Review Panel tasked with studying the feasibility of importing water to the Salton Sea is offering an opportunity for parties to submit new or updated information by October 12.

The Panel will accept new concepts for water importation that were not submitted in 2018 as well as updates to the 11 concepts previously submitted. For more information visit <https://saltonsea.ca.gov/planning/water-importation-independent-review-panel/>

The Panel is inviting all proposers to present their concepts this fall. The optional 30-minute presentations will allow proposers to highlight their concepts and any new information and field questions from the Panel.

New concepts and updates are due October 12.

Questions for the Independent Review Panel and its support team can be submitted via email to: sslt-eval-input@ucsc.edu. If you submitted a concept in 2018, use this email:

link-sslt-eval@ucsc.edu.

A public meeting is planned for early November where the public will have the opportunity to ask questions or give comments about the project to the Panel. Further details will be available soon.

Salton Sea Priorities Laid Out By Supervisor Perez

As the new president of the Salton Sea Authority board of directors, Riverside County Supervisor V. Manuel Perez says he will guide "continued efforts to advance habitat and dust suppression projects" at the Sea, and he has laid out his priorities.

Perez's goals as board president include: securing funding for more Salton Sea projects; leading a series of outreach and community engagement sessions; building out projects across the entire Salton Sea region, including the North Shore demonstration pilot project at the northern end, and supporting projects in Imperial County at the southern end and to the west in the community of Desert Shores; begin identifying Perimeter Lake projects; and reviewing evaluations and getting feedback from the Salton Sea Authority board on a long-term strategy of water importation.

Perez said he looks forward to working with state and federal government partners, and continued collaboration with State Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia and U.S. Representative Raul Ruiz.

The Salton Sea Authority is a joint powers authority comprised of Riverside County, Imperial County, Coachella Valley Water District, Imperial Irrigation District and the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians.

Supervisors Hear About New Youth Program

A program to stop juveniles from entering the legal system is getting its footing

The Imperial County Probation Department, in partnership with county Parks and Recreation, will develop an after-school and Saturday program for youths in outlying areas of Imperial County called Project 2020. Young people in Seeley, Ocotillo, Palo Verde, Heber, Calipatria, Niland and Salton City may benefit through the offering of recreation, homework assistance, and arts and cultural activities.

The Imperial County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously at its meeting recently to add a supervising probation officer and four youth service specialists for the program.

"Really, what we're doing is continuing the tradition of reaching out to our underserved communities and trying to keep young people from entering the juvenile justice system in the first place by giving them opportunities that may not exist otherwise due to perhaps their geographical location, family income, things of that sort," Probation Chief Dan Prince said on Tuesday. "We feel that these young people should have the opportunity to do the same things as others in the community."

Vice Chairman of the Board, Jesus Escobar, said he thought the program would do well for the community, but was hesitant as the funding source was grants, which aren't set in stone.

Prince replied that the grants have been stable through the last several years, and funds are already in place should grant funding lower.

Funding for the program comes from Youth Offender Block Grant funds from the state, which are funds to provide youths with these opportunities for structured, supervised and pro-social activities after school and on weekends.



Henry the Truck CHEVROLET 1940 to 1942

By Denny DuVall

The 1940 Chevrolets came in three flavors - Master 85, Master, and Special. These cars were completely redesigned from the '39 models. These cars were advertised with the slogan "Royal Clipper Styling". The grill and front end had a strong resemblance to the higher priced Buicks.

Wheelbase was now 113 inches. There were 14 colors to choose from. The price leader was the Master 85 series that retained the I-beam front axle and a relatively Spartan level of trim. The Master Deluxe series featured independent front suspension, and better trim. The third and fancy series this year was the Special Deluxe, with better trim and appointments. Such as stainless steel hood and belt-line trim, dual wipers, dual air horns, a 30 hour dashboard clock, and a deluxe steering wheel with a horn ring. This model proved to be this year's best seller. Colander year production increased by 38%

A convertible returned to the Chevy lineup in the top of the line, Special Deluxe series. 1940 production was as follows: Master 85 series; \$659.00-\$903.00; 104,044 units. Master Deluxe series: \$689.00-\$766.00; 229,373 units; Special Deluxe series: \$720.00- \$934.00; 431,199 units.

The 1941 Chevy's, came in two series: Master Deluxe and Special Deluxe. This year's cars were substantially bigger and more impressive than the 1940 year models. The 6 cylinder inline motors now made 90 horsepower over the 85 horsepower motors of 1940. The Master 85 series was dropped for 1941. The '41 Chevrolet Coupe Pickup was one of the most attractive and popular models of the pre-war Chevrolets.

The 1942 year cars would be cut short because of the war effort. This model would be similar to the '46 to '48 year models that were produced after World War II. The most popular model for '42 was the 2 door fastback. A total of 61,855 models were made before production being halted on February 2,

1942. Beginning January 1,1942 all bright work was curtailed in the automotive industry by the Government. Left over '41 and '42 model cars were rationed out on an as needed basis for civilian and military use. Some production was started up in 1945. These cars were sold as 1946 year model cars.

Between 1942 and 1945 Chevrolet manufactured 60,000 Pratt and Whitney bomber and cargo plane engines; 500,000 trucks; 8 million artillery shells; 3,000 90mm cannon barrels; one million tons of aluminum forgings; one million tons of grey iron castings; 2,850 tons of magnesium forging; and 3,800 T-17 Staghound armored scout cars. Guess you could say Chevrolet stayed busy through-out WW II! I will pick up with the post war Chevrolets in the next column.

C'ya -----Henry the Panel Truck.



T-Shirts are \$13 each
\$10 benefit Eco Media
\$3 benefit Salton Community Parents Association



Sizes Medium, Large and XL
They ran out of small and XS

Email to order:
saltoncommunityparents@gmail.com

Banish Caregiver Burnout Keep a Loved One With Dementia Engaged

Resource AARP August Webletter

More than a year into the global pandemic, a picture is coming into focus of the toll that COVID-19 has taken on family caregivers' sense of isolation and stress.

In a survey of caregivers, 72 percent of unpaid American caregivers agreed that the pandemic has caused them to feel more burned out than ever before. One of the biggest challenges faced during the pandemic is not being able to take a break. Creating time to rest and recharge, even for 15 minutes, requires forethought, planning and effort. If the one you care for suffers from Alzheimer's disease or dementia, that time can be even more scarce.

It's more important than ever to encourage caregivers to accept help in whatever form and to look for ways to engage their loved ones in activities that will allow them to step away, even for a short while. Especially for those at the beginning of the memory-loss spectrum. As the disease progresses, life gets harder. It's important to establish those relationships and routines now, while your loved one can accept other people in their daily life.

Finding small moments of respite means keeping a running list of activities that may allow you to do simple things like take a bath, phone a friend, complete an activity uninterrupted or have a few minutes of precious silence to close your eyes. Put some thought into what your loved one enjoyed before dementia. Make sure the activity is expressed in language that makes the person feel as if they are

contributing and the activity is useful. We all want to feel included and valued. Self-esteem is such an integral part of any human being.

Here is a list of suggestions for caregivers of dementia and Alzheimer's patients.

- Create a collage from magazines.
- Twist nuts and bolts together or sort them in containers.
- Play music the patient loves.
- Do a paint-by-numbers piece or another art project (don't worry if it's done correctly).
- Fold clothes or sort socks.
- Wash, sort or polish silverware.
- Sort objects, and find tops for plastic containers.
- Look at coffee table books.
- Clip coupons.
- Color an American flag.
- Make cards with stamps, stickers and colored pencils.
- Mold dough or use modeling clay.
- Do simple jigsaw puzzles.
- Sand wood or do other easy and safe workshop projects.
- Decorate placemats.
- Pull weeds and rake leaves.
- Trace cut leaves.
- Sort coins.

Not ID But Proof of Vaccination Required

By Roni Hewitt

Anyone looking to have a meal or get a drink at an indoor restaurant or bar in Palm Springs will have to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a recent negative virus test under a regulation that took effect Thursday, August 25th.

The Palm Springs City Council unanimously approved the requirement on Aug. 4 but it wasn't implemented until three weeks later. The rule requires all indoor restaurant/bar patrons to prove they are vaccinated or produce a negative COVID test taken within 72 hours.

The mandate only applies to indoor seating. No proof is required to eat outside. In addition, the order does not apply to those under the age of 12 who cannot get the vaccine.

SHAME ON YOU!!!

By Roni Hewitt



For quite some time, West Shores News has ran articles regarding trash along our streets and in the desert. Salton Community Services District specifically feels a considerable volume and variety of solid wastes was being generated by households within the district. It is becoming increasingly necessary for the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the

residents that solid waste generated in these areas be promptly and safely collected and disposed of in an orderly and efficient manner.

An orderly collection of solid waste will reduce illegal dumping and the harm to the environment resulting from this illegal dumping or lack of refuse pick up from residential properties.



Salton Community Services District has been given the authority by the State of California to arrange the collection of solid waste and provide for payment by those properties benefited thereby. With that in mind, the District entered into an agreement for solid waste and recycling services with Burrtec Waste and Recycling Services to remove the waste that has piled up





SHAME ON YOU!



around residential houses.

Consider yourself warned! I am not giving out addresses on these pictures but anyone who recognizes one of these locations can report it to the SCSD office in the hopes the place will be forced to clean up their

property.

We are not forgetting the trash that is getting dumped along our streets. For the people doing the dumping, **SHAME ON YOU!!!** If anyone who has seen the person or the vehicle doing the dumping, please take down the license plate and report it to SCSD or complete the Complaint Form on Page 12.



For those fairies that are cleaning up the trash along the streets of Salton City, **BLESS YOU!** I have heard that the employees of SCSD are cleaning up the streets. Thank you!

Community Crime Prevention Coordination Meeting

By Michelle Gilmore

Please join us on September 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. for a community meeting to participate in an open discussion with County Supervisor Ryan Kelley, the Imperial County District Attorney and the Sheriff’s Department. If you are interested in what’s happening in our neighborhoods with drugs, crime, illegal dumping, trash, squatters and the growing homeless population, then this is a meeting you don’t want to miss. Our one goal is the betterment of our community. Bring your questions and leave with answers. The meeting will be held in the Clubhouse of the Seaview Estates Mobile Home RV Park, 336 Seaview Drive, Salton City. Hope to see you there!

Reunión de Coordinación para la Prevención del delito

Únase a nosotros el 7 de septiembre de 2021 a las 7:00 p.m. para una reunión comunitaria para en una discusión abierta con Supervisor del Condado Ryan Kelley, el Fiscal de Distrito del Condado Imperial y el Departamento del Sheriff. Si está interesado en lo que está sucediendo en nuestros vecindarios con las drogas, el crimen, vertedero ilegal de basura, los ocupantes ilegales y la creciente población de personas sin hogar, entonces esta es una reunión que no quiere perderse. Nuestro único objetivo es el mejoramiento de nuestra comunidad. Traiga sus preguntas y salga con respuestas. La reunión se llevará a cabo en la casa club de Seaview Estates Mobile Home RV Park, 336 Seaview Drive, Salton City. ¡Espero verla allí!

California Senators Seek to Expand Federal Authority Over Threatened Salton Sea

By Roni Hewitt

California Senators Alex Padilla and Dianne Feinstein introduced a bill recently to expand federal authority over the ecologically threatened Salton Sea east of San Diego County. The Salton Sea Projects Improvements Act would significantly expand the ability of the Bureau of Reclamation to partner with state, local, and tribal governments to address the public health and environmental crisis at the Salton Sea. The bill also increases the amount the Bureau of Reclamation is authorized to spend towards these efforts from \$10 million to \$250 million.

The legislation was originally introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Raul Ruiz of Coachella earlier this year.

“The joint environmental and health crises at the Salton Sea have been neglected for too long, and the impacts of that neglect have wreaked havoc on the environment and surrounding communities,” said Padilla. “This bill will begin to provide the necessary federal investments to protect critical habitat, improve air quality for the largely disadvantaged communities who live nearby, and boost the local economy through expanded recreational opportunities,” he said.

Calendar of Events

- 9/7 **R&C Neighborhood Watch**
Salton Sea Mobile Home Park
336 Sea View Dr., Salton City
7:00 PM
- 9/8 **FIND WS High School - 8 AM**
- 9/14 **Recall Gavin Voting Day**
Senior Center
- 9/17 **USDA - Assembly Of God Church**
8-9 AM
- 9/22 **FIND WS High School 8 AM**

GET OUT AND VOTE

California Gubernatorial Recall Election will be held September 14, 2021. Your Polling Place is the West Shores Senior Citizens Center, 1375 Borrego Salton Seaway S-22 . Polls open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Must be registered to vote by Sept. 14th 2021 .

Proudly wear your “I VOTED” label

Lithium and the Salton Sea – Part 2

By Michelle Gilmore

As reported in the August edition of the West Shores News, Lithium is a valuable multiplayer in the future of ion-batteries and the transition away from fossil fuels. The race is on to strike “White Gold” at the Salton Sea and a Lithium boom could be coming to our Salton Sea area sooner rather than later. If you’re interested, keep reading.

What is the Financial Impact?

Momentum is gathering at all levels of government to support and develop a secure and sustainable U.S. Lithium supply chain in California's "Lithium Valley". Lithium Valley refers to the entire region of the Salton Sea, more specifically, the southern end of the Sea. The potential economic ramifications have drawn comparisons to Silicon Valley. A couple of decades ago, the term ‘Silicon Valley’ was coined, and we know what that did for California’s economy. The Lithium Valley could have the same impact.

Governor Newsom has stated that California will phase out gasoline-powered cars, making a transition away from fossil fuels. Electric vehicles are driving unprecedented growth in the Lithium market. Electric vehicle sales have grown 40% annually, making Lithium in high demand for decades to come. Lithium demand is expected to quadruple over the next 10 years. Accordingly, lithium is helping to push towards a fossil-free future. Lithium is abundant around the Salton Sea area and has the potential to play an important role in the region's future economic development.

State officials envision not just Lithium extraction and power plants, but also constructing links along the supply chain, battery-building facilities, in addition to electric vehicle manufacturing plants. Such an expansive project could transform the entire Imperial Valley, which is home to 181,215 people, 85% of which are Latinos: who face few job opportunities outside of farm work. The concerns of many are the unequitable distribution of resources, as many feel marginalized and excluded in any decision making.

There is an opportunity for jobs. There is also an opportunity for economic benefit for community development. But sadly, the way the system is set-up in this region, the monies aren't always reaching those disadvantaged and vulnerable populations. It

is estimated that the Salton Sea area could produce 600,000 tons of Lithium carbonate annually, worth \$7.2 billion.

The California Energy Commission (CEC) has stepped up as an investor doling out \$16 million in grants to a handful of companies. Hoping to determine if it is technically but more importantly if it is commercially feasible to extract Lithium that the geothermal plants are already pulling from the Salton Sea. However, competing projects are taking very different approaches to extracting the vital raw Lithium. There are several companies developing facilities to pull Lithium from our Sea.

Cal Energy Resources, a subsidiary of the giant Berkshire Hathaway Energy Renewables, is using \$6 million in State grants to piggy-back a pilot project of Lithium extraction onto its existing geothermal plants near Calipatria. In January, a \$14.9 million grant from the federal Department of Energy was added. These grants require Berkshire to spend about \$19 million of its own money, bringing the total outlay to nearly \$40 million. Warren Buffet has run Berkshire since 1960 and owns 30% of its stock. Berkshire Hathaway Energy Renewables already owns 10 of the 11 geothermal plants around the Salton Sea. Berkshire Hathaway wholly owns GEICO, Duracell, Dairy Queen, Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railroad, Lubrizol, Fruit of the Loom, Helzberg Diamonds, Long & Foster, FlightSafety International, Pampered Chef, Forest River and NetJets. Berkshire Hathaway also owns 38.6% of Pilot Flying J and has minority holdings in Kraft. A giant indeed.

Lilac Company Solutions, based in Oakland, California has a unique ion- exchange technology. Lilac’s solution eliminates the need for new evaporation ponds. Instead, Lilac offers a new ion-exchange system of extracting 80% of the Lithium in a matter of hours, versus years, with a footprint 1,000 times smaller than ponds. Thereby enabling Lithium producers to accelerate project development, boost Lithium recovery, streamline operations and unlock new resources at minimal cost and leaving a low environmental footprint. At the Salton Sea, investors plan to use specially coated beads to extract Lithium salt from the hot liquid pumped up from an aquifer more than 4,000 feet below the surface. The self-contained system will be connected to geothermal

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Lithium and the Salton Sea

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power plants generating emission-free electricity. In the process, they hope to generate the revenue needed to restore the Salton Sea, which has been fouled by toxic runoff from area farms for decades.

Breakthrough Energy Ventures, whose investors include Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates, Amazon's Jeff Bezos, and media magnate Michael Bloomberg, led a \$20 million funding round for Lilac Solutions last year according to Fortune.com. As the saying goes "Follow the money".

The Salton Sea might yield 600,000 tons of Lithium per year from the 11 geothermal plants clustered around the southeastern edge of the Sea at a cost of about an Olympic-sized pool of water per ton. These plants have been operating for years converting the 500 degrees F water into steam to generate electricity. Water super-heated by the rocks beneath the earth's surface contain large amounts of dissolved Lithium.

Controlled Thermal Resources (CTR) has developed and managed renewable energy projects at the Salton Sea for over 25 years. A 25 year, AA rated Power Purchase agreement was executed with Imperial Irrigation District (IID) in 2020 underpinning the development and the financing of the first CTR project: Hell's Kitchen Geothermal LLC. The California Energy Commission has awarded Controlled Thermal Resources two grants totaling \$4.46 million. Stage 1 of the project will generate 400 plant and construction jobs, furthering the 186 ongoing operational jobs. Future development has the capacity to create approximately 2,000 jobs. Concerns have been voiced that many of these jobs will be taken by non-local workers, especially with new construction. It is believed by some that if the majority of the jobs were given to local workers, then money would stay in our community.

The geothermal fluids, called brines can reach temperatures as high as 572 degrees F (300 degrees C) underground; dissolving Lithium and other metals from between rocks. As well as using the heat from the fluids to generate power, CTR aims to extract Lithium from the fluids before re-injecting it into the ground. CTR says the technique, called direct Lithium extraction, produces negligible carbon dioxide emissions and eliminates the need for evaporation ponds which use and lose vast quantities of water. CTR is working with Oak-

land based startup Lilac Solutions, which has developed a new, more efficient ion exchange technology to extract Lithium.

One of the newest entries in the Salton Sea Lithium race is Terra Lithium. This is a company that has a 50-50 joint venture between a start-up, All American Lithium, and a subsidiary of Occidental Petroleum Corp.; one of the biggest oil producers in the United States. Terra Lithium is led by former Shell Oil Company CEO Marvin Odum.

The Salton Sea has hosted many similar but failed projects in the past. Currently, to extract lithium evaporation ponds are used. Projects of this type leave a massive footprint and effect nearby water resources; they can take 10 years to develop and at best, capture only 50% of the Lithium available. The whole process is antiquated, ineffective and unsustainable.

As reported in the Desert Sun newspaper, years ago Simbol Materials LLC claimed to have cracked the code at its Salton Sea demonstration plant, by developing a much hyped and highly secretive Lithium extraction process. Simbol's technology so impressed Elon Musk that Tesla made a \$325 million buyout offer. The deal didn't go through, and Simbol collapsed in 2015, closing its plant. All American Lithium is the latest duplication of a company that originally formed to acquire the assets of Simbol Materials.

On July 2, 2021, Controlled Thermal Resources and General Motors announced that GM was investing in CTR's Hell's Kitchen project. The Hell's Kitchen project plans to start producing Lithium in engines 2024. General Motors would be the first in line to the Lithium produced from the project's geothermal brine extraction process; which is the secondary process to the geothermal energy produced at the Salton Sea Known Geothermal Resource Area. The Known Geothermal Resource Area is in and around the Salton Sea, the majority of which is located on lands owned by Imperial Irrigation District (IID). This area is estimated to contain up to 2,000 megawatts of untapped geothermal energy.

General Motors and other automakers need large amounts of Lithium if they want to meet their electrification goals. For GM, it also includes a complete transition from internal combustion

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Moon Patrol

By Eric Williams

I never understood people who ride a bicycle with headphones on. Besides the danger that you distract yourself and get hit by a car or befall a similar fate, in the words of Bruce Lee, you will “miss all that heavenly glory”. Open your eyes, open your ears and take in what is around you. There is beauty in everything, no matter where you find yourself.

In early August, I made my fourth trip from Chicago to Salton City to spend a few days riding a bike around town. I have biked all over the country and I have logged thousands of miles at home, but there is no place I enjoy more than Salton City in the hottest part of summer. On my last day this year, I watched the mercury climb over 120°F but I still knocked out 15 miles. In those conditions you have to ride on what I call a ‘Moon patrol’. Slowly but surely, conserve your energy and keep your heart rate low. And what better place to do that kind of riding than in a huge city with open streets and plenty for the eyes to feast on!

Since I was a little kid, I have been intrigued (obsessed?) with maps and streets. I learned how the Chicago address system worked long before I could even drive, or was near old enough to explore the city on my own. Besides the beauty of the desert, Salton City offers a nearly infinite maze of streets. The complexity is mind bending - I love riding but my second favorite pastime (which I use to occupy myself the other 11 months of the year) is studying the map and determining various routes around the city. In literature, Don Quixote fancied himself a brave knight, but the giants he slayed were only windmills. I suppose I am not much different, as I imagine myself to be an explorer on the edge of humanity, exploring quiet streets alone in the oppressive heat, hiding under a palm as I check the map and plot my next turn.

Sometimes I don’t follow a route at all, and just try to get lost. Then when sufficient miles have been logged, I check the map and find my way back. The main arteries of the city are great starting points for any ride. Before my first visit, my only goal was to navigate Marina Drive (connecting with Azure Ave). I thought if I can pull this off and I never get to go back, I’ll have something to be proud of. On my last trip, I did it again - but I did two laps around the city (about 17 miles). Salton Drive is a great road: well paved, beautiful scenery and one of the longest stretches in the city. Dolphin Drive isn’t as straight-

forward but an entertaining loop back to California Ave and eventually South Marina Drive. No week would be complete without doing at least one figure-8 around Loop Drive and one should never neglect the barren beauty of the air park. There is an ATV trail that connects the end of the frontage road in Truckhaven with Airport Ave if you don’t mind getting stuck in the sand in Arroyo Salada.

I make sure to wave to everyone I see during my rides. I usually get a wave back. I just want people to know that I am just a quiet cyclist and I don’t mean to bother anyone. I suppose I might seem a bit odd riding all alone in the hottest part of the day. If you see a guy hiding under a tree drinking water with a large brim camouflage hat on, don’t be con-

Vaccine Testing Mandates Blasted

The California State Senator who represents Southwest Riverside County and the Coachella Valley, announced she has introduced a resolution aimed at roadblocking COVID-19 vaccination and/or testing mandates in the state.

Sen. Melissa Melendez (R-Lake Elsinore) introduced Senate Concurrent Resolution 59, which, if adopted, could, for example, prevent an employer from taking any action against an employee who refuses COVID-19 vaccination and/or testing.

In a statement released Monday, Melendez attacked state mandates that are now in place for health care workers, state workers, and workers in congregate settings. These workers must get vaccinated or submit to regular COVID-19 testing. There are exceptions based on religion and/or health status. The California State University and University of California systems have adopted a similar policy for students, faculty and staff.

"Californians have a right to decide what they choose to put in their bodies without being threatened with their jobs by government or employers," Melendez said. "Our Constitution allows free-thinking people to take responsibility and make decisions for themselves and their families; and those decisions should be free from retaliation or coercion by their government."

The Food and Drug Administration announced that the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine received full FDA approval. The vaccine will now be marketed as Comirnaty. The approval potentially paves the way for more employers and institutions to mandate COVID-19 vaccination.

DENNY'S DESK

THE SPELLING OF BOREGO

By Denny DuVall

I am often asked if I haven't spelled Borego wrong when someone reads one of my columns, or my book titled "That's my Story and I'm Stickin' to it."

So perhaps it is time to explain myself to my many friends and readers. There are some that are unable to relate to facts and this column will go right over their heads. Those types will continue to stumble through life with their stupidity, and I personally don't give a damn!

My Dad, Ed DuVall came to Borego Valley in 1928 from the St. Louis area. He arrived with his younger brother Glen, sister, Drilla, Mother, Mary, and her brother, Gilbert Rock. Gilbert, Glen, and Drilla homesteaded in the Clark Dry Lake area, in the North East end of Borego.

In the latter 30's Ed and Glen DuVall bought the 120 acres in section 15 that was owned by Ed Winn. Mr. Winn had an established General Store and a cabin across the street. Both still stand today.

In 1935, Ed DuVall meet Alta Jones, a school teacher from Los Angeles that belonged to the Sierra Club and would come down to Borego to hike and enjoy the desert. Ed and Alta married in 1936. They adopted me in 1939, and rest is history.

In the late 20's, an Indian Elder explained the spelling of Borego to my Dad. In the Indian culture, if you can't follow the tribal rules, you meet with the elders and you were given a day's supply of food, and are told to leave.

Over time there were quite a few outcasts and every time they would try to establish a place, they were told you are in or summer place or our winter place and were kicked out again. They eventually ended up in Borego Valley, and none of the other tribes kicked them out.

So these Indians named the Valley Borego. This meant, this is the place we have been looking for, this is home. There is also a mountain to the west that they named 'Chief Rain-In-The-Face', and to the North on Coyote mountain an entity they named the Indian Maiden.

Those that are uninformed have referred to these as 'Indian Head' and DeAnza's Angel (referring to Juan Bautista de Anza's trek through Borego in 1775. DeAnza was also one of many contributors to

the enslavement of the indigenous people over the years. Even today they have no love for Juan Bautista de Anza.

Another celebration that has been played over the years in Borrego Springs is the celebration of the first 'white child' to be born on de Anza's trip through Borego. There are some details that have been conveniently left out of that trip. Whenever de Anza went on one of his explorations, he always took along a dozen or so whores so he and his officers could keep warm at night, among other things. Some say the child they celebrate was born to one of the ladies of the night. There seems to be a gray area in the interpretation of this story, eh folks.

So how did Borrego Springs get its name, and was it really mis-spelled Borego for over a hundred years? Prior to 1955, all trust deeds and legal documents refer to Borego with the one R spelling. Stay tuned to this station.

First of all there are no 'springs' in Borego, and there never have been. There was a place east of the sink area that is referred to as 'Borego Spring'. In the 'teens' and early 20's, model T's and other cars that overheated would stop there for water. To get water you would have to dig down a foot or so and wait for some water to show up. This water was very alkaline and could be used in a car, but not for potable use.

In 1948 (or so) A.A. Burnand, Bud Kuhrts, Robert Digiorgio, and other players decided that 'Borego' was just too plain and they decided to spice it up a little. So they added an 'r' making it Borrego (Spanish) and added 'Springs' to it thinking they could shirt-tail off of Palm Springs, and that the valley would be off and running. Not so, grasshopper.

Another question I get a lot is why is the 'circle' referred to as 'Christmas Circle'? In the beginnings of Borrego Springs and the creation of the Circle, a large (25' or so) pine tree was put up and decorated in December and up to 1955 or so one of the service organizations would give out presents to the younger children of Borrego. Santa would arrive by Jeep, fire truck, and once by helicopter.

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4 Year-Old Dies of COVID

By Roni Hewitt

With shock and much sympathy, I found out that a 4-year-old child from Riverside County recently died after contracting COVID-19, becoming the youngest person in the county to die from the virus since the pandemic started. county officials announced August 28th. The child whose name is being withheld, had no underlying health issues.

The death took place during the first week of August, but health officials reported the cause of death this week after receiving confirmation from the coroner's office.

"Our thoughts and sympathies go out to the family, friends and others who are impacted by the death of this child," said Dr. Geoffrey Leung, public health officer for Riverside County. "This tragedy reminds us that this virus does not discriminate between the young and old. The death of this child strengthens our commitment to halt this pandemic before the loss of another young life."

According to Riverside County records, there have been 4,727 COVID-19-related deaths since the start of the pandemic. Most of the deaths have been those over 30 years of age, but there's been a few people 24 and younger who have died from the virus. Of those, some have had underlying health issues. For that age group, the death count is 23.

The loss of this child reminds us all that protecting those in our community not yet eligible for vaccinations, including children under 12, should be our top priority. County health officials have said face masks and vaccination among eligible populations can help protect those who are vulnerable. To date, 46,992 COVID-19 cases have been reported in kids ages 0-17; in the 18-24 age group, 45,305 cases have been reported.

Few school districts in Riverside County are providing a public view of how many COVID-19 cases are cropping up on their campuses. The Palm Springs Unified School District is. By August 28th they have reported more than 100 active COVID cases among students and staffers. Coachella Valley Unified School District, as of August 28th also, reports 25 students and 3 staff with active COVID virus. This report shows only one staff with the virus from West Shores High School.

California became the first state in the nation to require vaccination or weekly COVID-19 testing for all teachers and school employees, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced August 11th. Several large school districts have already issued similar mandates this month, but the new policy is one of the

toughest approaches yet to ramp up vaccination rates in California as the highly contagious delta variant continues to drive up cases this summer.

The order took effect August 13th. All schools across the California must be in full compliance by Oct. 15. The state assured that strong testing resources would remain available to K-12 campuses.

As you can see by the following chart from Imperial County, dated August 28th, the Delta variant does not care what age it infects. Can we blame the lax masking regulations? Can we blame the lack of vaccinating children younger than 12 years of age?

Variants of Concern by Age Range	
0-17	72
18-49	198
50-64	36
65+	16
Total	322

Look at the chart below. Yet again, the West Shores Community is left out. Does that mean most of us head north for our medical treatments? Even so, I know for a fact that some of my friends do go to Brawley and El Centro for their medical care. Also, I know for a fact that quite a few citizens from Salton City have come down with COVID. Why are they not included in the following chart? I found this chart on Imperial County Health Department's COVID website, dated August 28th.

Variants of Concern by City	
BRAWLEY	42
CALEXICO	25
CALIPATRIA	4
EL CENTRO	66
HEBER	6
HOLTVILLE	9
IMPERIAL	57
SEELEY	2
THERMAL	2
OUT OF COUNTRY	8
OUT OF COUNTRY	101
Total	322

VA to Begin Processing Blue Water Vietnam Vet Benefits Jan. 1

Resource: AARP July 29, 2021 Newsletter

The Blue Water Navy veterans - those who were stationed on ships in deep waters off the coast of Vietnam - their survivors and certain dependents will soon receive their long-awaited benefits for exposure related to Agent Orange

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) began processing claims Jan. 1, 2020. Before President Donald Trump signed the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 into law in June, only Vietnam War veterans who served on the ground or within inland waterways were eligible to receive disability compensation and other benefits based on a presumption of herbicide exposure. Benefits include health care, compensation and an Agent Orange Registry health exam.

Priority Processing

To speed up the review process, Department of Veterans Affairs officials say they are compiling ship information, digitizing naval records and developing a communication campaign to reach Vietnam veterans.

Veterans in one or more of these circumstances will move up in the claims line:

- Older than age 85
- With life-threatening illnesses
- At risk of homelessness
- In financial hardship

Veterans who served as far as 12 nautical miles offshore from Vietnam between Jan. 6, 1962, and May 7, 1975, as well as those who served in the Korean demilitarized zone between Jan. 1, 1967, and Aug 31, 1971, can apply for compensation if they have developed one of 14 conditions.

Survivors can file claims for benefits based on the veteran's service and cause of death from one of the conditions associated with Agent Orange. Additionally, the law provides greater access to the VA's Home Loan Program, which provides no-down-payment home loans, regardless of loan amount. The home-loan fee is reduced for eligible reservists and National Guard borrowers who are using their home-loan benefits for the first time.

Blue Water veterans who previously filed a claim that was denied may provide new or additional information regarding their claim when reapplying. To do so, veterans should use VA Form 20-0995, "Decision Review Request: Supplemental Claim." The new law allows Veterans Affairs to automatically review claims now in the review process or under appeal.

Lithium Part 2

Continued from Page 22

engines by 2035. That massive transition only intensifies competition for the raw materials that make up important parts of such batteries. According to Controlled Thermal Resources, in addition to utilizing renewal energy, their project uses a closed-loop direct extraction process that returns spent saltwater to underground water sources leaving no tailings. Tailings are a type of waste residue from the extraction process.

French-Italian automaker Stellantis has also gotten into the competition by entering into an agreement to acquire Lithium for its electric vehicle fleet from Controlled Thermal Resources (CTR) Hell's Kitchen project which is still under development. Stellantis is well-known for its many European vehicle lines like Alfa-Romeo, Fiat, Maserati, and Peugeot as well as numerous brands that started out as American companies including Jeep, Chrysler and Dodge/Ram.

On July 8, 2021 the company announced that it had signed a memorandum of understanding with CTR along with Germany's Vulcan Energy Resources Ltd. For access to the Lithium that is the primary component of the rechargeable Lithium-ion batteries that will power Stellantis' fleet.

Don't miss October's issue where Ryan Kelley shares his views on our Lithium Valley.

THE SPELLING OF BOREGO

Continued from Page 24

So both Borego Valley and Borrego Springs have a history and can stand on their own. Borrego Springs is 73 years and counting and Borego Valley considerable longer. For me, and hopefully you, I recognize that Borrego Springs is a township that is located in Borego Valley. This allows both to exist together in harmony.

If you can accept this concept and enjoy Borego's Indian heritage you will get a lot more from your visit no matter how long you stay.

That's my story and I'm stickin' to it!-----

WEST SHORES CITIZEN'S ON PATROL NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

By: Celeste Misch

There is an understandable confusion of people thinking that the Neighborhood Watch program and the West Shores Citizen's on Patrol program are one and the same. They are not. There are some very distinct differences between the two programs. The West Shores Citizen's on Patrol is a professional volunteer organization.

Three years ago, Ron Spears on the Salton Sea Restoration Committee began the formation of the West Shores Citizens on Patrol program. It is a professional volunteer organization that has been active and successful in Palm Desert and several Riverside counties for many years. Our 4th District Imperial County Supervisor, Ryan Kelley is involved in the creation of the West Shores Citizens on Patrol and its integration with laws and regulations of Imperial County as well as with coordinating the Imperial County Sheriff's Department and training requirements of volunteer patrol officers.

The West Shores Citizen's on Patrol obtained non-profit corporation order number on October 22, 2020. An Employer Identification Number is established with the State of California, and a bank account has been established from donations with Bank of America under the name of West Shores Citizen's on Patrol. Ron Spears and Carlene Ness will be co-signers.

WHAT VOLUNTEER PATROL OFFICERS DO:

Volunteer patrol officers will have specific requirements regarding observation and communication with dispatch of the Imperial County Sheriff's Department and will not be involved in apprehension or detention of possible criminal suspects. Volunteer Patrol Officers will observe for all suspicious activity, abandoned cars, illegal dumping of trash, and break-ins. They are also expected to be available to help with vehicular accidents at the request of the Imperial County Sheriff's department.

Patrol volunteers will be asked to contribute 20 hours per month, or less if a volunteer has a job working 40 hrs. per week. To qualify as a volunteer, you must be over 21 years of age and have a valid driver's license, pass a background check and pass a certification program.

Volunteers will be covered under the normal

volunteer agreement with Imperial County and will be reimbursed for gas expenditures according to Imperial County's reimbursement guidelines. The Citizens on Patrol headquarters will be located at the Salton Community Services District building.

The West Shores communities to be patrolled first will be; Desert Shores, Salton Sea Beach, and Salton City. Vista del Mar being the largest community to cover will be added as soon as the program is off the ground floor.

The West Shores Citizen's on Patrol is established. All that is needed now are community citizens to volunteer for this well-established, important, and prestigious service to our communities. Only Six volunteer patrol officers and two volunteer back-up patrol officers are needed to start. Eric Hanson has already volunteered himself and his drone service. All we need to get started is the rest of you.

Some of the items patrol officers will be supplied with (but not necessarily limited to) are:

- ◆ Traffic Cones
- ◆ Flashlights
- ◆ Communication Devices
- ◆ Reflective Vests
- ◆ Polo Shirts (for uniforms)
- ◆ First Aid Kits
- ◆ Yellow Caution Tape
- ◆ Special Clip Boards
- ◆ Caps (protection from sun)

This program will only be as successful as your willingness to participate. This is a realistic chance for you to protect your communities, families and friends and to make the West Shores a safe and enjoyable place to live.

Updated information can be found on the West Shores Citizens on Patrol face book page. Just enter West Shores Citizens on Patrol in your face book search at the top of your face book page or go to the Salton Sea Restoration Committee page. There will be posts about the West Shores Citizens on Patrol.

Contact Ron Spears: 760-333-9468, email: ronnvi@aol.com

Go Fund Me Account: [gf.me/u/xhrxnu](https://www.gofundme.com/u/xhrxnu)

What is Senate Bill 262-Bail

By Michelle Gilmore

Senate Bill 262- Bail is intended to keep local jail populations low to mitigate outbreaks of Covid-19 and to minimize cost of personnel to supervise the incarcerated; regardless of the negative impact on public safety or the data to justify the order. The emergency rule was rescinded in June.

This bill would require bail to be set at \$0.00 for **ALL** offences except, among others, serious or violent felonies, which include violation of specified protective orders, battery against a spouse, driving under the influence and sex offenses. In addition to \$0.00 bail for misdemeanors and “low-level felonies” this bill requires that bail money be refunded if the arrestee makes all court appearances, their charges are dropped or the case is dismissed.

In my opinion, this bill is a threat to public safety. We need accountability in the criminal justice system. Criminals, especially repeat offenders, need to be in jail where they can't continue in their criminal activities. Law enforcement is restricted by the bill. Repeat offenders harm our community. Sometimes the criminal is back on the street within hours. I do not want affordable bail for carjackers, robbers, sexual abusers, illegal weapon charges and the list goes on and on.

I intend to write to our Senators to inform them that I vote “**NO**” on Senate Bill 262. If you agree or even if you disagree, here is the contact information:

Dianne Feinstein feinstein.senate.gov

Alex Padilla @SenAlexPadilla or by calling (202) 224-3553

Or can also call the United States Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121. You will be connected to the Senate Office you request.

Or you may write to: Office of Senator Dianne Feinstein or Office of Senator Alex Padilla, United States Senate Washington D.C. 20510.

Save the Dates Aug. 31 & Sept. 2 for Community Meetings

The Salton Sea Management Program is hosting two virtual community meetings August 31 and September 2 to share updates and hear from residents.

The meetings provide an opportunity to share experiences, meet new members of the SSMP team, hear from experts about the process to study proposals to import water to the Salton Sea and learn more about the long-range planning process the state is launching this summer.

Afternoon and evening meetings are planned so more people can attend. Spanish interpretation will be provided. The August 31 meeting begins at 2 p.m., while the September 2 meeting begins at 5:30 p.m.

Attendees will be able to access the meetings over Zoom, Facebook Live, or call in by telephone. For more information, visit www.salttonsea.ca.gov or email cnra-salttonsea@resources.ca.gov.

Chair Selected for Panel Studying Water Importation

Dr. Rominder Suri will serve as chair of the Independent Review Panel evaluating long-term water import strategies for Salton Sea restoration. His work with the USAID-funded Egyptian Center of Excellence for Water has placed him in international settings where diplomacy, as well as technical expertise, are required.

Suri has published papers on water treatment processes. He has studied traditional and novel treatment techniques. His work has resulted in building treatment facilities in Brazil and Ireland. Water quality impacts will be an important consideration in the evaluation of seawater importation concepts for long-term restoration of the Salton Sea.

As the chair of the independent review panel, his duties will include the selection of panel nominees, leading the drafting of reports, setting agendas for and managing all meetings, and supervising all votes and deliberations by the panel.

The water importation concepts will be reviewed by the panel's experts. The panel will hold its first meeting this fall. At that time, members of the public can share opinions and information about sea water importation options.

Suri will attend the August 31 and September 2 community meetings to provide additional information about the water importation feasibility study.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 3251



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WE NEED NEW MEMBERS!**

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**Indoor Shuffleboard
Darts & More**



**We Have Trivia Night. A big hit with our group.
It is usually played on Thursdays once a month.**

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***We are always
looking for new
members!***



***Donations are
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NOTICE:

You must be 21 to be in the Bar Area

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V.F.W. POST 3251

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Open Daily at 3 PM



Served Daily:

Taquitos

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Corn Dogs

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*All Dinners Include Dessert & are \$7
Served Between 4-6:30 PM*

- September 6 Lasagna Night



- September 13 Beef Stroganoff



- September 16 Trivia Night

Starts Promptly at 6:30

Hosted by Stephen Prager



- September 22 Birthday Bash



- September 25 Steak Dinner \$15

Tickets on Sale Now Thru Sept 20

