

PUBLIC SAFETY BRIEFS

coachella

Firefighters contain blaze at auto wrecking yard

A large pile of metal debris caught fire Thursday, sending up thick, black smoke in Coachella. The fire was first reported about 3:45 p.m. in the 48-100 block of Harrison Street. The pile caught fire at an auto wrecking yard, according to the Riverside County Fire Department. Two dozen firefighters were called to the scene and contained the fire in about one hour. No injuries were reported late Thursday. The cause is under investigation. — KATE MCGINTY

indio

Investigators seek witnesses in crash

California Highway Patrol investigators said Thursday they were looking for witnesses to a March crash that injured a motorcyclist south of Palm Desert. “We think there were more witnesses at the scene or witnesses who passed by,” CHP Officer Joe Zagorski said. “We want to make sure our bases are covered.” The motorcyclist was injured the morning of March 10 on Highway 74 near Vista Point when his motorcycle collided with an SUV for unknown reasons, sparking a fire. The motorcyclist was airlifted to

Desert Regional Medical Center in Palm Springs. The driver of the SUV was unhurt, officials said. Anyone with information about the crash was asked to call the CHP’s Indio office at (760) 772-8911. — CITY NEWS SERVICE

la quinta

Man arrested after leading police on chase

A police chase in La Quinta Thursday ended with the apprehension of a man driving a 1995 Honda being arrested on a felony stop at the corner of Shadow Palm Avenue and Monroe Avenue. During a traffic stop, for a failure

to yield, the man sped away from a Riverside County sheriff’s deputy reaching a top speed of 74 mph. The chase, which lasted seven minutes, started at 3:24 p.m. east of Jefferson Street and ended when the subject surrendered after officers approached with guns drawn. The driver, the sole occupant of the vehicle, was taken into custody with no injuries. — COBURN PALMER

resident. Steven Anthony Chavez, 28, was found around 6:30 p.m. Sunday at the bottom of a dirt embankment near Avenue 68 and Harrison Street, Riverside County sheriff’s Sgt. Brian Reno said. The cause of death was not disclosed and sheriff’s officials would not say if Chavez had any visible injuries, but the case was being investigated by homicide detectives. Anyone with information about the case was asked to contact sheriff’s investigators Jason Corey at (951) 955-2777 or Jorge Ramirez at (760) 863-8990, or leave an anonymous tip at www.riversidesheriff.org/tipline. — CITY NEWS SERVICE

cathedral city

City holding meeting to brainstorm park name

A public meeting will be held Wednesday for residents and city officials to brainstorm a new name for a Cathedral City park. Officials need to name the new park at the corner of Ocatillo and Moreno roads. The California State Parks Department issued a \$4.9 million grant last year for the 5-acre park. The 6 p.m. discussion will take place at the Cathedral City Public Library, 33-520 Date Palm Drive. — COLIN ATAGI

coachella

‘Prince of Persia’ to be screened at park

“Prince of Persia” will be shown on Friday at Bagdouma Park as part of the city’s Movies at the Park series. The movies begin at dusk. People are encouraged to bring a lawn chair, blanket or towel to sit on. The event is free. For more information call (760) 347-3484. — XOCHITL PEÑA

coachella valley

Share your thoughts on pets inside businesses

How pet-friendly should businesses be? Some Coachella Valley business owners bring their dogs to work with them and welcome their customers’ pets with water dishes, treats and special events. Others may be required by law to be pet-free — save for service animals — but will look the other way when a customer brings in a small dog in a carrying case. How do non-pet owning shoppers feel about that? Desert Sun reporter K Kaufmann would like to speak with businesses, dog owners and others about the

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT



COURTESY OF RIVERSIDE COUNTY

New sheriff's station LEED gold-certified

The new Palm Desert Sheriff’s Station, at 73-700 Gerald Ford Drive, is the first building constructed by Riverside County to receive the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold certification. “The Palm Desert Sheriff’s Station’s state-of-the-art design is good for our environment and the county’s bottom line,” said Supervisor John J. Benoit. “This prestigious rating distinguishes the station as a premier prototype of green design in our state.” “We are extremely proud of our project management office and real property team, as well as the designers and constructors, for the effort they made in getting this project done on time and under budget,” said Rob Field, assistant county executive officer of the Economic Development Agency.

current state of business-pet relations in the valley. Share your stories and comments with her at k.kaufmann@thedesertsun.com or (760) 778-4622. — K KAUFMANN

indio

Register your child for safety workshop

Christopher’s Clubhouse, a non-profit organization that promotes child safety and education, is holding a safety workshop from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday at the Indio Teen Center, 81-678 Ave 46. Trained and certified instructors will teach children ages 8 to 13, how to stay safe, avoid dangerous situations and be prepared. A child must be in attendance for all 10 hours to graduate. Cost is \$50 and includes course materials. Limited scholarships are available. Pre-registration is required. To register a child, send an email with the child’s name and age to mika@christophersclubhouse.org. Information: (866) 546-7464 or go to www.christophersclubhouse.org. — XOCHITL PEÑA

la quinta

Council, agencies taking a monthlong break

The La Quinta City Council is

taking a monthlong break from its regularly scheduled meetings starting Tuesday. The council, redevelopment agency and housing authority meetings for Tuesday and Sept. 6 have been cancelled. All three are set to meet Sept. 20. — SONYA ENGLISH

palm desert

Traffic signal to be out as crews work on wiring

The traffic signal at the intersection of Fred Waring Drive and Deep Canyon Road will not be working much of today while Palm Desert city workers repair the wiring. The signal is expected to be down from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., city spokesman David Hermann said. Four-way stop signs will be in place at the intersection, he said. — SHERRY BARKAS

Entry forms available for annual golf cart parade

Entries are now being accepted for Palm Desert’s 47th annual Golf Cart Parade, set to make its way down El Paseo on Oct. 23. This year’s theme is “Carnival Style.” Anyone who wants to enter a golf cart float can do so. The Twentynine Palms Marine Band will start the parade, sponsored by the city of Palm Desert and Palm Desert Area Chamber of Commerce and presented by the

CONTACT US

- How can I get a Community Snapshot photographed for the newspaper? Send event information to **Marie McCain** at localnews@thedesertsun.com with “Community Snapshots” in the subject line. Please include date, time and place along with contact information.
- To submit your photographs, please go to mydesert.com/yourphotos
- How can I get an event listed in news from every city every day? Send items and story suggestions to localnews@thedesertsun.com with “News From Every City Every Day” in the subject line; fax: (760) 778-4654; mail: 750 N. Gene Autry Trail, Palm Springs, CA 92262.

Covering the valley

Missed a recent local story? Visit the Local News page on mydesert.com/news

The seminar will provide information for people seeking bariatric weight loss surgery. Speakers include Bariatric Program Medical Director Dr. Ramy Awad, MD; Program Dietician Amber Seewald, RD; and Bariatric Program Manager Sande Rowle Quattlebaum. To reserve a seat or for more information, call (800) 491-4990 or visit www.desertregional-bariatrics.com. — TAMARA H. SONE

twentynine palms

Combat center wins renewable energy award

The Marines Corps Air Ground Combat Center at Twentynine Palms has been named a winner in a federal awards program renewable energy. The award from the Federal Energy Management Program recognizes effective use of innovative technology, processes and financial practices. The Twentynine Palms combat center saved \$1.1 million last year because of cutbacks in energy and water, according to the press release issued Monday. It cut its energy use by 28 percent between 2003 and 2010, and its water intensity by 64 percent between 2007 and 2010. “The Combat Center continues to explore new ways to initiate strategies resulting in energy savings and utilization of sustainable renewable energy sources,” said Gary Morrissett, the utilities and energy manager for the Combat Center. The team will pick up an award Oct. 13 in Washington, D.C. — KATE MCGINTY

Auen Foundation, at 1 p.m.

Palm Desert Rotary will serve a pancake breakfast starting at 7:30 a.m. in the Bank of America parking lot. Reservations can now be made for the Auen Foundation’s Senior Seating for those 65 and older, near the parking lot at The Gardens. These seats are free and include a box lunch at no charge. Reservations can also be made for “Main Street Seats,” which are mostly in the shade. Convenient Executive Errands concierge service also provides lunch for \$25. Or reserve a VIP box for \$250. Call the chamber at (760) 346-6111 or visit www.golfcartparade.com for reservations, entry forms or more information. — SHERRY BARKAS

palm springs

Bariatric weight loss surgery topic of seminar

Desert Regional Medical Center will be presenting a free seminar, “Surgical Weight Loss-Are You a Candidate,” on Saturday at 10 a.m., in the Stergious Building, 1150 N. Indian Canyon Drive.



Where history flies through the skies...

Palm Springs Air Museum
 Volunteer Opportunities
Ron
760-322-2288

Meet Tuskegee Airman Rusty Burns
Wed. Aug. 17 - 1 PM
 Tuskegee Airmen Curriculum Workshop for Kids of All Ages
Free activities booklet for each child participant
 Workshop is included with museum admission
 Open daily 10 am-5 pm
Palm Springs Air Museum
 745 N. Gene Autry Trail • 10 AM – 5 PM Daily • 760.778.6262 • www.PalmSpringsAirMuseum.org