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Holtville Tribune
VOL 115 NO 17 IMPERIAL COUNTY, CA -
THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2019 CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED
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Veterans Enjoy Pre-Easter Meal And Break In Routine

BY WILLIAM ROLLER

On April 18, a warm Thursday just preceding Easter, eight veterans at the Blossom Valley Inn enjoyed a dinner that rejuvenated their spirit thanks to Holtville's American Legion Auxiliary Post 138.

The youngest, Neil Granillo, a veteran of the Gulf War era, was in his element with the donated meal of pepperoni pizza, chocolate-vanilla swirl ice cream, snacks and Dr. Pepper.

"I like to eat," admitted Granillo. "I liked the potato chips and soda."

Going on his fourth year of residency, Alejandro Cota, who

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AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY Post 138 members Karen Gibbs (far left), Heather Brachtenbach, Helen Wilson and Kim Vincent (back row) on April 18 visit Blossom Valley Inn residents (front row) veterans in Holtville. *WILLIAM ROLLER PHOTO*

Special Moments Highlight Golf Ball Drop

BY SHAWN CARROLL

It would be hard to pick just one special moment from last Saturday's Fourth Annual Halos & Tiaras Golf Ball Tournament and Ball Drop.

Those assembled at the Barbara Worth Country Club for the announcement of the tournament winners and the dropping of the golf balls finally got to meet John Reed, who has donated his time and his helicopter for the last four years for the fundraiser. This year's event just happened to be the day after his birthday.

Troy Wakefield, a big supporter of the foundation aimed at helping local children diagnosed with cancer, was asked to speak. He emotionally talked about the loss of his wife to cancer a few years ago and how much it meant to him to be able to help the kids fighting the disease. He buys 10 of the golf balls every year and always comes through with lots of raffle prizes as well.

The organization presented Alex Valenzuela Jr. with a $1500 scholarship. Alex is a survivor himself and was chosen to drop the golf balls from the helicopter shortly afterwards.

A toast was held to Robin Iten, who started the organization to help other children after her granddaughter, Caelynn Iten, was diagnosed with the disease. The toast took place on the same patio where Robin gathered a small group to present her plan and ask them to help.

Robin died of cancer in 2017.

"She's with us here today," said Marcy Bingham, one of those founding members. "We can feel her, and we couldn't do this without her."

"She's going to take Robin's legacy and take it to a whole new level," Wakefield said of Caelynn, saying he sees big things in her future.

Everyone was eagerly awaiting the dropping of the numbered golf balls, which sold for $100 each in hopes of claiming the $10,000 prize for the one that landed in a hole on the golf course. With 300 balls sold, the chances of any particular person winning aren't that great.

It was Ball No. 204 that was

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Shell Games: Egg Hunt and Turtle Races Take Over Holt Park

CARLOTA GUEVARA PLACES her daughter, Monique Perroni, in the lap of the Easter Bunny during Holtville's Easter festivities on April 20 in Holt Park. *WILLIAM ROLLER PHOTO*

BY WILLIAM ROLLER

As everybody knows from Aesop's Fable, a tortoise is no match for a hare, but when Holtville Chamber of Commerce held a turtles/tortoise-only race the playing field was leveled for a photo finish among game competitors.

A buzz swept through the gathering at Holt Park in Holtville on April 20 as the second annual Turtle/Tortoise Race doubled entrants over the inaugural event a year ago. Despite typical lethargy, their attempts to stay on track and out of one another's way made for comic delight.

"Kids love turtles because they seem prehistoric. By the way they move and eat, they look like dinosaurs," said Julie Velasco, a chamber director. "We have all sizes here today so we'll have to break it up and hold different heats."

Velasco had quite a bit of skin in the game with three of her own tortoises racing. Despite being way ahead of the pack, Velasco's African tortoise, "Humphrey," nearly snatched defeat from the jaws of victory when a foot from the finish line he reversed course and scooted back halfway to the start.

Humphrey did manage to get his bearings, reversed course again and crossed the finish line many lengths ahead of the competition in his "run-for-the-roses" and earned a first place purse of $25.

Second place of $15 went to Humphrey's stable mate, Trustee, third and $10 was won by Speedy and fourth was his home companion, Pokey, owned by Judy Tagg. Both Speedy and Pokey were sporting fashionable Easter bonnets that might have been a hit on a couture runway.

"Oh my gosh, it was so much fun, I thought about doing the decorations last night," said Tagg. "I got my headband out and glued the hat and the energizer bunny to that so it wouldn't harm Speedy and Pokey when they wore it."

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CHILDREN DASH TO collect treats during Holtville's Easter festivities on April 20 in Holt Park. *WILLIAM ROLLER PHOTO*

Holtville Hosts Realistic Crisis Drill

BY WILLIAM ROLLER

Dozens of emergency personnel and vehicles descended on Holtville High School on the morning of April 22 and while thankfully there was no actual crisis, the confluence ensured when there is responders will be ready

"An active shooter scenario is something we thought through as good preparation so we discussed simulating a drill with our partner agencies," said Alex Silva, Holtville Fire Department chief.

Silva invited several agencies with 79 participants. Among them were El Centro Police Department, Imperial County Sheriff's Office, Naval Air Facility El Centro fire department, Red Cross and two student explorer units. They joined to conduct a mock rescue drill.

"Our objective was getting in the habit of knowing what to do in situations like this," said John Robles, firefighter and drill coordinator. "This is good training for several scenarios we're focusing on: active shooter, bomb threats and mass casualties. So far it's

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Rose Patzloff: A Life Marked With Love & Kindness Part II

BY MARCIA R. JENNINGS

Reconstructing history is an iffy process. If someone doesn't write about an incident right after it happens, as Rose would do in her "famous" diary, we then have to rely on memory. And memory, as anyone knows, is fallible. But in Rose's case, when I interviewed a few of her friends, they were all consistent in what they said about her. All agreed that Rose is thoughtful, loving, caring, dependable and always smiling.

As for the diary itself, many years have passed, and if it still exists, it's probably put away somewhere for "safe-keeping" -waiting to be rediscovered. Therefore, I can only give you flickers of Rose's life; things that she remembers, or that her friends tell me. But I hope it will be enough to understand the essence of Rose.

The subject of the "famous diary" was brought up by Betty Rodahl.

"Rose kept a diary. Not just a regular diary, but a diary that also listed travels and every-day incidences that happened to Rose, as well as her friends. Anytime someone forgot a particular date, Rose was the go-to person."

Who knows how this got started? To quote Albert Einstein, "Necessity is the mother of invention." Maybe too many disagreements were popping up on dates and events, and Rose-ever the organizer-covered the need.

Where there is no doubt is that Rose (and late husband Joe) both enjoyed their parenting years. To use a much used cliché, the years passed by quickly for them because they were so involved in their kids' schooling, and in all of their extra-curricular activities.

"I remember Rose and Joe being very supportive parents to Michael and Dina," says Sharon Ainsworth. "They sacrificed themselves as parents."

Rose only recalls the enjoyment of it all and chaperoning on many of her kids' activities. Michael, for instance, belonged to Jack Kelly's Holtville Junior High School award winning marching band. Of those outings, Rose remembers two special occasions: watching the band perform in Pasadena for the Rose Bowl Parade and accompanying them to Disneyland.

Dina played basketball, and Rose and Joe made sure to be at all her games. Both Michael and Dina were year-round competitive swimmers, quite a commitment. Nevertheless, Rose and Joe would take them wherever they needed to go, whether it was local or out of town.

There are also memories of how friends remember Rose in the workplace. Bunny Hartshorn, a Finley teacher at the time, remembers working with Rose.

"Rose would always go the extra mile to help you out. She always knew where everything was," Bunny recalls.

Her husband, Charles Hartshorn,adds, "There was a child in the classroom who had very serious reading problems. That year, Rose worked with her on a one to one basis. That same child eventually went on to graduate from college."

Not that everything was work. Rose also knew how to enjoy herself. For instance, Kathy Toth remembers their favorite pastime was going out to eat and engaging in hearty laughter.

On the theme of laughter, Rodahl adds another memory: "Every Friday, after the football games, we would all head out to Rose and Joe's house and just sit around talking, eating home-made dessert, and laughing. It was the perfect ending for the day."

Rose has been a member of the Holtville Woman's Club since she was a young married woman. It's a touching and historical fact that many of the women who attended back then (about 30-40 years ago) still attend now.

Women such as Shirley Daniell, Judy Santistevan, Sharon Ainsworth, Mary Jane Kirchenbauer, Pat Salcido, Dorothy Kelly, Paula Daniel, and Joanie Thornburg, just to mention a few. It is a living testament to the longevity and the energy of the women living here in the Imperial Valley.

Bridge is major component of the club, and Rose happened to be an excellent bridge player. At some point she served as the club's bridge chair, ran its bridge marathon and, as if that weren't enough, was also its amenities chair.

Apparently, not tuckered out with so much bridge playing, Rose, along with Mary Jane Kirchenbauer, Sharon Ainsworth, and Judy Santistevan, and their corresponding spouses, formed another bridge group separate from the Woman's Club.

Says Santistevan, "She always brought great baked desserts. We all wanted the recipes, so we'd write them on the back of the score cards. Rose was good at keeping track of everyone else's cards. Every time she made a bid, we knew she had a winning hand."

She adds, "Besides, Joe and Rose were a perfect match. He was a joker, and Rose laughed at all his jokes."

Paula Daniels confirms this, saying, "Those two were always together and always happy. They had a very close relationship."

However, there are many moments in Rose's life when the need to care and help sparkled brightly. I repeatedly heard that Rose was the first to send a get-well card or a sympathy card, but her caring (as well as Joe's) extended further than that.

"When my husband John passed away, Rose and Joe were the first ones to arrive and offer support," Kirchenbauer remembers. "I am very grateful that they were there."

Santistevan echoes the same sentiment, saying, "When my husband unexpectedly collapsed, Rose and Joe were there to help. They were the first ones anyone called."

Maybe Lewis Carroll, in Alice's Adventures in Wonderland was thinking of people like Rose and Joe when he wrote: "One of the deep secrets of life is that all that is really worth doing is what we do for others."

Marcia R. Jennings is a member of the Holtville Woman's Club.

Woman's Club Of Holtville Community Birthdays

APR. 24: Jeffrey Jessee, Katrina Rose Bornt, Lee Farris†
APR. 25: Edmond A. Vigneau, Jared Britschgi, Hanna Ludwig, Katie Cameron Brady, Ryan Wasson David Hilfiker, Allison Chandler, Peggy Rubin Maston
APR. 26: Douglas-Jon Iten, Michael Gettle, Robert De La Rosa III, Ignacio Villasenor
APR. 27: Hal King, Jeremy Ming
APR. 28: Alan Fjeldsted
APR. 29: Dina Patzloff, Jamie Strahm
APR. 30: Rick Ludwig, Shayne Brady, Aspen Silva, Thea Tremaine
MAY 01: Elizabeth Schaffner, Kim Brady, Mark Weil, Presley DePaoli, Cynthia Farris Briseno.

Anniversaries

APR. 25 : Mr. & Mrs. George Morris
APR. 26 : Mr. & Mrs. Mike Boston
APR. 27 : Mr. & Mrs. Mike Hulsey, Mr. & Mrs. Blake Plourd
APR. 29: Mr. & Mrs. Norberto Irungaray Jr.
MAY 01: Mr. & Mrs. Loren Strahm, Mr. & Mrs. Mark Hulsey

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Members Of The CNPA

Community Calendar

American Legion Bingo
Bingo Bingo Bingo! Thursday, April 25. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Bingo begins at 6:00 p.m. Public is welcome. Please join us and support our Veterans and Active Duty Service Members! More info: 619-807-8431.

Artist Showcase
Friday, April 26 from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Holt Park Gazebo.

Holtville Car Show
May 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Holt Park.

Pine School Promotion Ceremony
Tuesday, June 4 at 7 p.m.

Holtville Middle School Promotion Ceremony
Wednesday, June 5 at 7 p.m.

Holtville High School Graduation Ceremony
Thursday, June 6 at 7:30 p.m.

Let's Talk About It!
WELLNESS RADIO

With Scott Dudley & Maria Wyatt

If you have any questions that you would like answered on the show, please send an email to wellnessradio@co.imperial.ca.us

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Week of April 29th

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Annemieke Golly, Ph.D.
Co-Author "First Step to Success Program"

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Con Dalia Pesqueira y Raquel Villa

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(Originalmente transmitido en junio 2014)
Es una intervención comprobada utilizada tanto en el hogar como en la escuela. Asegura que los niños obtengan las habilidades sociales para tener éxito en la escuela, desarrollando destreza como la de compartir, cooperar y seguir instrucciones. El siguiente incluye: 1) instrucción de habilidades individuales con un entrenador de comportamiento, 2) retroalimentación continua y oportunidades para practicar habilidades en el aula, 3) un componente del hogar, que vincula las habilidades introducidas en el contexto de la escuela. Únase a nosotros como Lillian Vero nos describe como el programa es utilizado localmente.

Lillian Vera
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Legion Auxiliary Selling Poppies To Aid Local Veterans

BY WILLIAM ROLLER

Because America's veterans selflessly sacrificed for our country, Holtville's American Legion Auxiliary Post 138 makes recognizing them a priority, an effort that includes distribution of the iconic red poppies.

Since 1921 the red crepe paper poppy has been replicated from the Flanders, Belgium, poppy, scene of some of the bloodiest battles in World War I. Despite the devastation war had wrought, in the spring following the 1918 armistice among the ruins where men had fallen, poppies bloomed again. As such, it became the symbol of the dead and their memorial flower.

Now, they are distributed each year by Auxiliary volunteers. Karen Gibbs, Auxiliary poppy chairperson, has dedicated 16 years to helping distribute the flowers. Gibbs, who said she orders 800 bunches from the San Diego Veterans Administration Hospital, explained they are made by hospitalized veterans and for some it is a sole source of income.

The poppies come in the mail flattened in bundles and can be puffed into floral arrangements with artificial flowers and secured into potted planters, Gibbs explained.

"We offer them for donation at Donut Avenue, the Rotary Club and hit all the businesses as they open and some are very generous," she said. "We already sold our fancy wreaths; some get up to $25. All proceeds help our veterans and their families. We helped Karina Wheeler's family, whose husband, Mark, is a Border Patrol agent and veteran and has stage four cancer.

Others who benefit include several veterans with health problems who are residents at the Blossom Valley Inn, an assisted living facility at 708 E. Fifth Street in Holtville.

Poppies are popping this time of year because May, of which the final Monday is Memorial Day, is Poppy Month, celebrating America's active-duty and retired service personnel. In recognition, on May 6 at the Holtville City Council meeting Gibbs, accompanied by other Auxiliary members, will pin a poppy on Mayor Ginger Ward.

Heather Brachtenbach, Auxiliary chaplain, pitched in with helping make poppy planters and assembling Easter baskets to donate to veterans at Blossom Valley on April 18. An Air Force staff sergeant from 1986 to 1992, she recalled her time in the military as a great way of life that afforded her an education and a chance to travel abroad.

"The benefits of the military never stops. I go for all my check-ups at the hospital in La Jolla," she said. "And they'll even provide transportation there if you don't have a car. I tell young people, join the military, you'll be more employable. I was hired half the time because I was a veteran. They know we're disciplined and love to serve."

Also pitching in was Helen Wilson, whose husband, Glen, served on the USS Taluga in Japan from 1954-60. Two of her brothers served in Vietnam.

"I give to the VFW and the WoundedVet.org but I thought I could do more by getting involved with Auxiliary Post 138." said Wilson. "I coordinate our monthly steak dinners (fundraisers) and get to visit with the vets and help them out."

Kim Vincent, president of Auxiliary 138, has dedicated much of her time to veteran causes across Imperial Valley. Vincent makes it a point to interview veterans at the Blossom Valley to learn more about them.

"I find out what they like so for some I got six-packs of Dr. Pepper," she said. "And for those who like to read, I got books--puzzle books or even sketch pads for the ones who like to draw. And Wendell (Stirling) mends his own clothes so we get him little sewing kits. This is an opportunity to outreach to them and bring a bit of cheer in their lives."

OBITUARIES

Herbert Gene Wilcox
1937 - 2019

As he requested, there will be a family gathering at Lake Poway, CA in celebration of his life.

Herbert Gene Wilcox, 81, passed away peacefully at his home in Banning, CA. He was born in Pleasant Grove, AR on December 14, 1937, he was the son of Derfie and Opal Wilcox. He graduated from Central Union High School in 1955 and then attended Imperial Valley College. He married Joyce Manning in 1960. Gene, known affectionately as "Geno", was an active citizen of Holtville.

He was co-owner of Dale Cooper Insurance with the late Joel Chambers and owner of Gene Wilcox Insurance. He enjoyed coaching Little League, and was a Boy Scout leader. Gene served in the Optimist Club of Holtville, was president of the Holtville Rotary, Master Mason of Holtville, and president of the Holtville Chamber of Commerce. In 2003, he was awarded the honor of Grand Marshal in the Holtville Carrot Parade. Also in 2003, Gene and Joyce moved to Sun Lakes in Banning, CA. They were married for 59 years. While living in Sun Lakes, Gene enjoyed fishing, golf, and time with his family and friends.

Gene is survived by his wife, Joyce; daughter, Kellie Ames, her husband, Mark and their two children Hunter and Emerson Ames; son, Michael Wilcox, his wife, Traci, and their children, Travis and Taylor Wilcox; his two brothers, JD Wilcox and David Wilcox; his nieces and nephews and the rest of his relatives and friends.

Tony Joe "T.J." Escalera
1948 - 2019

Mass was held on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 for Tony Joe "T.J." Escalera with Decan Domingo Enriquez at St. Mary's Catholic Church in El Centro, CA. Burial immediately followed at Evergreen Cemetery in El Centro, CA.

Tony Joe "T.J." Escalera, 70, of El Centro, CA passed away peacefully at his home in El Centro surrounded by his wife, children and grandchildren after a short illness. TJ was born to parents Fred and Antonia Escalera in Calexico, Ca July 27, 1948. He was raised in El Centro attending El Centro Elementary schools and graduated from Central Union High School in 1966 and was a proud member of the Spartan Band where he played the snare drum and was also a member of the baseball team. He received an AA from IVC and went on to Eastern Oregon University on a baseball scholarship. He met the love of his life, Debbie Escalera and they married March 24, 1973.

He was an employee at IVC in the 70's working in the printing and graphic design department where he was also an instructor teaching printing classes. In 1978 he was hired by Richard Alford at Alford Distributing. He was a sales driver and eventually climbed the ladder to a Sales and Marketing Manager. He took pride in his job, especially the Calexico route which, was the heart and soul of the company's success. He received many awards throughout his tenure such as, employee of the month/year and his most current was an award from The National Beer and Wholesale Association Spotlight in 2015. He retired in 2016 from Alford's with 38 years of service. If you asked him recently what he did for a living, he would tell you he was a Profession Little League Coach where he was known as "Coach Papa".

He started coaching his son AJ in the early 90's at Sunbeam. He continued coaching in 2004 and for the next 15 years, he coached his three grandchildren on every Sunbeam team they played for. He currently served their board as the Vice-President. He was very involved with events in the community and organizations around the Imperial Valley such as, member of the local Muscular Dystrophy Association, St Mary's Parish, Calexico and El Centro Chamber of Commerce, El Centro Babe Ruth, Desert Golf Association and IVBN. Some of his proud accomplishments are Los Vigilantes' 50th Ramrod in 1995-1996 and Hispanic of the Year for the 20/30 club. He was involved with baseball and softball throughout the community. Playing in adult men leagues and co-ed softball leagues along with coaching many youths in the valley. He was also an avid golfer. If you needed to find TJ you could find him on the ball field coaching and/or watching his grandchildren or on the golf course.

He was preceded in death by his parents Fred and Antonia Escalera, Mama Lupe Escalera'; brother Darrell Escalera; father and mother-in-law, Meril and Arlene Richmond. Survivors include his wife of 46 years, Debbie Escalera; daughter and son-in-law, Stephanie and Ruben Niebla; son Anthony (AJ) Escalera; grandchilden who were his pride and joy, Anthony Jacob Escalera, Jaelyn and Johrden Niebla and Ashley Ruiz. Siblings Larry Escalera, Brunie (Ralph) Gomez, numerous nieces and nephews.

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City Council Moves Forward on Road Rehab, Planning Vacancy

BY WILLIAM ROLLER

The Holtville City Council on April 22 approved a number of street and sidewalk repair projects that are expected to relieve congestion and reduce air pollution.

The votes were 3-0 with Council Members Mike Goodsell and James Predmore absent.

The projects will be funded in part through the Federal Highway Administration with matching dollars from revenues generated through Measure D, the countywide sales tax dedicated to road repairs.

The first project authorized is Orchard Road repair between the south city limits at the Alamo River Bridge and Fourth Street at a cost of $442,000.It will be ground down, crack sealed and have an asphalt rubber hot mix placed over it, followed by other resurfacing layers.

A paved road shoulder will cover both east and west edges. This is a priority, officials said, because it is a widely used road serving agriculture and other industries and connects to State Route 115. Completion is expected by June 2020.

Another project is the Cedar Avenue sidewalk improvement at a cost of $210,000. Plans include replacement of the curb and gutter and new sidewalks will be installed in areas where there is no existing sidewalk.

Additionally, a noncompliant handicap curb will be replaced and a new storm water catch basin at mid-block will replace the old one. This project is expected to finish by June 2021.

A Ninth Street sidewalk project is also in the works between Beale and Oak avenues. This project also reduces vehicle and dust emissions on a route leading to Holtville Middle School where the northeast portion has no current sidewalk.

"There's a double benefit since we cover bare ground so less dust emissions," City Manager Nick Wells said. "Because it's close to the school, parents are likely to encourage their kids to walk to school with sidewalks installed and adults will take advantage too. There'll be more physical activity, good for the whole community."

The Ninth Street project will cost $331,000 and completion is expected by June 2020.

Meanwhile, road repair projects that were on hold are back in the pipeline. These include Pine and Maple avenues between Fifth and Sixth streets, Chestnut Avenue between Fourth and Fifth streets, Cedar Avenue from Ninth Street to the north city limits and a section of Mesquite Avenue from Fifth Street to Zenos Road.

These projects are expected to be completed by the end of July 2019. The cost is expected to be $3.5 million from a bond and other sources.

In other news, since Mike Pacheco was appointed to the city council seat recently vacated by former Mayor David Bradshaw, Pacheco's former seat on the city planning commission is now vacant. A notice will be posted to the Holtville website through the second week in May seeking candidates.

Applications will then be forwarded to the planning commission for review and recommendations. The council is likely to vote for a new planning commissioner by the May 28 meeting.

Also, Fire Chief Alex Silva presented Paola Rangel, a community outreach specialist with the Burn Institute, with a check for $1,650 raised from the department's Fill-a-Boot fundraiser. The funds go toward gas, food and hotel vouchers for people to visit with family members recovering from injury at the Institute's San Diego center.

"I think this was a great cause and thank the community for all their help and support," said. Silva.

Farmers Market & Street Fair

LAST THURSDAY'S Holtville Farmers Market & Street Fair offered perfect weather and an enjoyable evening for those residents who turned out for the event. The *Big Bad Wolf* band (at right) performed a full set over the course of the evening, which saw Holt Park sidewalks lined with vendors (above) offering food, craft items and service offers.

Veterans.....from front page

was an Army staff sergeant in Vietnam serving in special forces (Green Beret), was glad for the "I'm not so much for pizza, but I did have some ice cream and, oh yes, I really enjoyed it," said Cota. "And my family from Brawley will visit for Easter."

Ron Hennessey, an Air Force veteran, thanked all the ladies of the Auxiliary for putting the Easter baskets of snacks and toiletries together and appreciated their smiles. Hennessey was an electric-power production specialist in the military.

"I had a crew of seven men and I was very proud of them," recalled Hennessy. "Healthwise, I'm doing fine. My room is O.K.--but I'd rather have one of my own."

The holiday meal brought to mind seasons past for Jim Hicks, a former national guardsman.

"The pizza today was much better than last Christmas," he said. "They treat me well here. Sometimes things go up and down, same with the room. I like to listen to the radio time-to-time. Most people like rock 'n roll. Little Richard was my favorite guy. But people passed him by; he didn't last too long."

Wendell Stirling, who joined the Army just after turning 17, worked in radio/telephone operations during the Korean War. He especially appreciates his upstairs room where the radio reception is better.

"I used to like to listen to shortwave radio they had during the Cold War, but it's no more," he said. "Cuba would broadcast anti-American and Holland, pro-American. I used to like to listen to the propaganda from both sides."

Auxiliary president Kim Vincent said the tradition of holiday visits to Blossom Valley Inn veterans began five years ago with the first Veterans Day Parade in which some of the inn's resident vets participated.

"So, it's all come full circle," said Vincent. "I think at that point we realized we had to go down and support them."

KAREN GIBBS, member of American Legion Auxiliary Post 138 visits Ron Hennessey, veteran and resident of Blossom Valley Inn, in Holtville on April 18. *WILLIAM ROLLER PHOTOS*

JIM HICKS, a veteran and resident of Blossom Valley Inn talks during the Easter celebration hosted by the American Legion Auxiliary last Thursday.

KIM VINCENT, Molly Estrada and Helen Wilson of Am. Legion Auxiliary 138 assemble donations for resident veterans at Blossom Valley Inn last week.

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POLICE BRIEFS
City of Holtville

Compiled and Edited by Shawn Carroll

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

JUST WON'T GO: At 11:20 p.m. an employee at a local convenience store called sheriffs because a male subject was refusing to leave. The caller added that it appeared the man had been drinking. Deputies responded and talked to the man.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

FENDER BENDER: At 11:36 a.m. a minor traffic accident was reported to have taken place at Eighth and Olive. The caller only reported the incident because the other driver was said to not have a valid driver's license. A deputy was sent to check on the accident.

WANTED MAN: At 12:15 p.m. a deputy reported stopping to check on a pedestrian at Fifth and Walnut. The man was found to have a warrant out for his arrest relating to a possession of drugs while in jail or prison charge and was taken into custody.

NO TAGS/NO INSURANCE: At 8:54 p.m. a deputy reported making a traffic stop at Seventh and Holt. The driver was cited for not having current registration tags and driving without insurance.

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

STREET DISTURBANCE: At 2:16 a.m. a Wooldridge Avenue resident reported a fight of some type taking place next to a vehicle on the street out in front of the family's home. The caller was unable to provide a description of the vehicle but heard someone yelling at someone not to "hit her again." Deputies and the fire department were quickly dispatched.

HURTING HERSELF: At 1:54 p.m. the Brawley Police Department relayed a concern that a local resident was said to be cutting herself on a social media website. Deputies were sent to check on the young woman.

SHOULD KNOW BETTER BY NOW: At 3:46 p.m. a deputy reported stopping a driver at Seventh and Holt and giving a warning about not wearing a seat belt.

BEING REASONABLE: At 5:48 p.m. a Figueroa Avenue resident called to complain about a neighbor who was playing music really loud. A deputy spoke to the offending party, who agreed to lower the volume.

STOP MEANS STOP: At 7:51 p.m. a deputy reported stopping a driver who failed to make a complete stop at the intersection of Ninth and Chestnut and warning him about his driving habits.

FIREBUG: At 9:55 p.m. a 911 call was received about a male subject setting a palm tree branch on fire at Sixth and Holt. A deputy was in the area within a couple of minutes but didn't find anyone in or around the park, and no signs that anything had been set on fire.

MONDAY, APRIL 22

VACATION WATCH: At 5:11 p.m. a resident requested extra patrols around his home while he was out of town for the next week. He said that all of his exterior lights were on motion sensors and a vehicle would be left in the driveway. The request was relayed to other shifts.

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

ONE THING LEADS TO ANOTHER: At 1:32 p.m. a deputy advised dispatchers that he would be pulling over a driver at Sixth and Palo Verde. The motorist was cited for failing to stop at a stop sign and driving without insurance.

REPO'ED: At 1:37 p.m. an employee of a repossession company out of Yuma notified local dispatchers that they were in the process of picking up a 2019 Kia from in front of a local residence. The owner was said to be aware that it was taking place.

VANDALIZED: At 1:57 p.m. a resident requested that a deputy take a report on vandalism that had been done to his property. He said that he would call back later with an estimate of the damages done.

School Drill.....from front page

gone well with pretty good outcomes."

It was done with community cooperation, explained sheriff's Sgt. Jorge Cabanillas. The surrounding area was cordoned off for two blocks and neighbors were informed by fliers. Additional notice was posted on the school's electronic marquee on Olive Street and parents of students were emailed and texted while notice was posted on the school's Facebook and Twitter accounts.

School was not in session due to the Easter break.

"The idea was to use the rescue task force concept," said Cabanillas. "We get the RTF as close as possible to where victims are located, treat and rescue them. The other thing, have all the agencies familiarize themselves with RTF and learn how to work together."

He added a previous training session was held at the county courthouse in March. Agencies asked explorers to volunteer as assailants and victims.

"The high school is a great venue because there's so many buildings it adds an element of realism," stressed Cabanillas. "Historically, a lot of active shooter incidents occurred at high schools so this is an accurate scenario training."

Despite the intense activity and early morning start, high school neighbors "were accepting of the realistic operations underway," said Travis Layton, an Olive Street resident. "Every job needs training. This was absolutely not at all disruptive. If it saves just one life, it's all to the good."

Maria Cortez, an Eighth Street resident, explained she watched the drill with close attention.

"When I saw the helicopter (REACH air ambulance), it was emotional," she recalled. "The sheriffs had a guy in handcuffs, but then he ran away. But it didn't interfere at all with us. They left a flyer Thursday (April 18)."

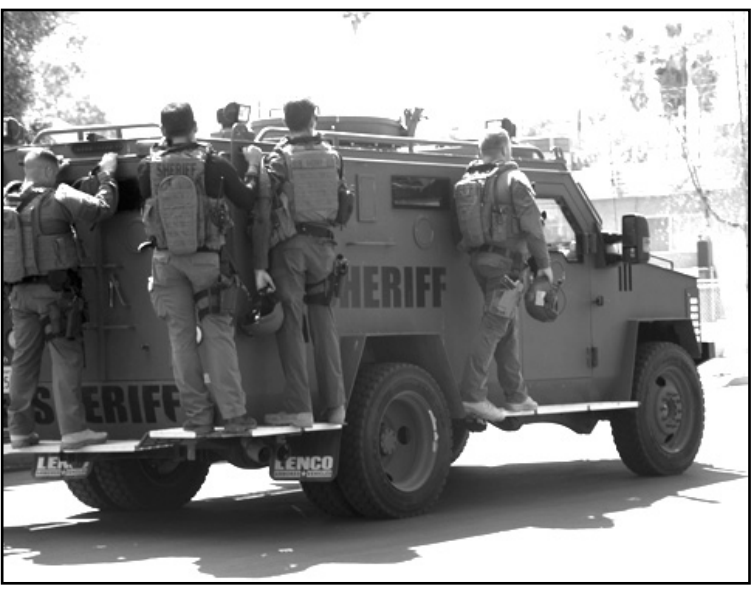
Carmen Garibaldi, who was doing gardening with her two dogs under foot, added, "It was not disturbing. They let us know on Friday."

The experience was a positive, said Rick Luna, an explorer and sophomore at Central Union High School.

"It (drill) pretty much shows you how much effort you have to put into it," he said. "Today there was a lot of small things. We learned to perform as a team. Overall, it was worthwhile."

Giselle Anguiano, also a Central High sophomore and an explorer, said the exercise was good preparation for her planned career.

"When I turn 18 I'd like to train as a dispatcher," she said. "Today was the first time we got to see the police actually working. It was realistic when you had all the cops and SWAT teams yelling at you. It made me admire them more because they' re moving so fast, trying to make sure everybody's safe."



AN IMPERIAL COUNTY Sheriff's Office armored vehicle moves to engage a mock active shooter during a mass casualty drill held on April 22 at Holtville High School. *WILLIAM ROLLER PHOTOS*

A RESCUE TEAM engages an active shooter during Holtville Fire Department's first responders drill at Holtville High School on Monday.

A MOCK VICTIM is loaded into an ambulance during a mass casualty drill held on April 22 at Holtville High School. *WILLIAM ROLLER PHOTO*

Border Patrol News

Convicted Sex Offender Arrested by Border Patrol

U.S. Border Patrol agents assigned to the El Centro Sector arrested a previously deported sex offender last Thursday evening.

On April 18, at around 10:55 p.m., agents assigned to the Calexico Station, arrested a man suspected of illegally entering the U.S. approximately three miles east of the Calexico West Port of Entry. Agents arrested the man and transported him to the El Centro station for immigration and criminal history screening.

Border Patrol agents conducted records checks, which revealed that the man, later identified as Sebastian Mina Gonzalez, a 29-year-old Mexican national, had a conviction for sex with a minor three years or younger on Apr. 6, 2011 out of Newport Beach. He served 30 days in jail and three years probation. Additionally, Mina was previously removed from the United States in 2011.

Mina is being held in federal custody pending further criminal prosecution.

In fiscal year 2019, El Centro Sector Border Patrol agents have arrested and removed 15 individuals either convicted or wanted on sexual assault charges after they entered the United States illegally.

Halos.....from front page

found in the hole on the nearby green, and a check of the list revealed the winner to be none other than Robin Iten. No one expected that, and certainly no one expected her husband Mike to donate half the prize money back to the organization a few minutes later.

The board of directors later decided to retire the No. 204 in Robin's honor.

A TOAST TO Halos & Tiaras founder Robin Iten was led by board membrs Julie Rivera Chavez, Sonia Flores Hurtado and Marcy Bingham.

MIKE ITEN is surrounded by grandchildren, relatives and supporters after winning the grand prize in last Saturday's Golf Ball Drop.

THE THREE TOP TEAMS in last weekend's golf tournament show off their custom trophies during the awards ceremony.
SHAWN CARROLL PHOTOS

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The Business Buzz

One Stop Medical Center To Open In Calexico

BY JAYSON BARNISKE

Tien Vo and his wife, Venus Vo, a nurse practitioner, have opened a full-service urgent care center at 222 E. Cole Blvd. in Calexico.

Easy Access Vo Centro Medico bills itself as "a one stop shop" that includes a pharmacy, and in-house laboratory, X-ray, ultrasound and 3-D ultrasound. The location is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

It will host a grand opening on May 23 at 5 p.m. with free food, beverages and entertainment.

"Many patients have problems with transportation," Venus said, explaining locating the clinic in Calexico will help those who have difficulty accessing care in neighboring El Centro. "Patients can't get rides, go to the pharmacy, or have their labs or imaging done. The next time we see patients they are unprepared."

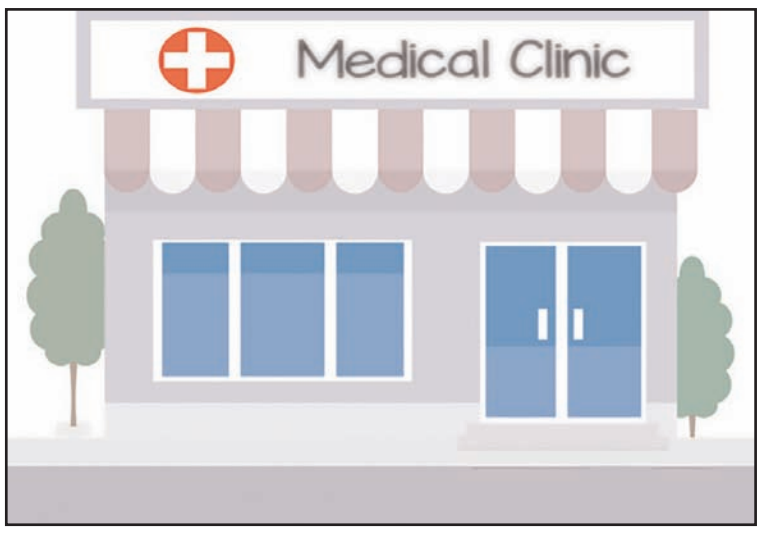
The couple said they observed the need over the last decade during which Tien made house calls. Easy Access also operates a clinic at 1590 S. Imperial Ave. in El Centro.

"We have had patients we have been bed bound for 10 years," Venus said. "Dr. Vo has been doing house call for four years. He does Calexico, Imperial, El Centro and Brawley. You name it. Normally he does it on the weekend."

Commenting on her husband's work hours Vo added, "All hours you can count. We see it firsthand how patients are struggling. Sometimes they only have one bus pass. It makes it really difficult for patients and us. Our schedules are very flexible. If a patient is sick, we never turn them away and we can always see them on the same day or the next day."

The Vos note they are part of the next generation of medical providers and seek to be innovative and compassionate in their approach.

"This is why we formed Easy Access, meaning you can have access to us any time," Venus said. "Not only do you see primary care doctors at our center, but we have specialists, we have an in-house pulmonologist (lung doctor), general surgeon and cardiologists."



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Imperial County Refuses Ransomware Demands, Rebuilds Network

BY RICHARD MONTENEGRO BROWN

A hacker who hijacked Imperial County's website, email and phone system through a wide-ranging ransomware attack never gained access to any personal information, nor was any information permanently lost, county officials said.

The county's computer network has been rebuilt from the ground up for the most part with the help of a third-party vendor after the Imperial County Board of Supervisors opted to reconstruct its systems rather than give into the demands of hackers, board Chairman Ryan Kelley said April 19.

Two teams worked through Easter weekend on the attack: one conducting a forensic investigation on what happened, and another continuing to rebuild the downed network that on April 13 crippled the county's email and phone systems and cut off the county's access to its own information, officials confirmed.

As of April 23, the county's email system was still down, with county departments using gmail accounts and other alternate email addresses, county Public Information Officer Linsey Dale wrote in an email.

Phone system access had been restored, but on April 22 and April 23 Dale said there were still "some minor disturbances that technicians continue to work on."

The county's website, www.co.imperial.ca.us, has been up for several days, but Dale said as of April 23 it was "not at full capacity." She wrote that links to the events calendar, news and job opportunities remained offline.

"The board chose to rebuild and not pay the ransom. It will be a painful process, but we will use our resources to create a more secure environment for our access and controls rather than paying a hacker who breached our systems," Kelley told the Calexico Chronicle.

There have been reports the hacker sought a ransom of more than $1 million for the return of access, but county officials have not confirmed that amount.

County Supervisor Raymond Castillo likened the attack to a home invasion.

"Imagine your house being burglarized," Castillo said, referring to the loss of property and feeling of helplessness. "We're still trying to assess the extent of the damage done to the system."

Sometime April 13 Imperial County officials discovered the ransomware attack when a note appeared online announcing the attack and demanding payment in bitcoin, Castillo said. Bitcoin is a type of digital currency that can be used anonymously through the Internet.

While county officials would not reveal how much the ransom demand was, the board decided it would need to beef up its system to prevent such attacks any way and opted to fight back.

Kelley said the decision came during an emergency special meeting April 15. He said the board weighed its options with county staff and the county's insurance carrier and decided not give into the hackers' demands.

"The options were to pay a ransom or rebuild," he said.

Kelley and Castillo were asked whether the price to rebuild the network was more or less than the cost of the ransom demand. Kelley said he could not answer yes or no and that the cost of rebuilding the system is a "moving target at the moment."

He added, "We were going to have to rebuild or reinvigorate the system whether we paid or not," he added.

Kelley wouldn't say how the board voted when considering to pay or rebuild, but he did say, "There was a united voice of the board."

Kelley also would not say how much in county funds have already been diverted to restoring the network, just that money was allocated during the special meeting.

As of April 23, county officials still were not addressing questions about how much in public funds have been spent as a result of the cyberattack.

During the April 23 county board meeting, as part of the consent agenda, the board voted 5-0 to issue the county's chief executive officer, Tony Rouhotas Jr., and the county's purchasing agent "blank check" powers for expenditures related to "urgent technology matters" stemming from the attack.

Late April 18, Dale sent out a press release through a temporary gmail address (imperialcountypio@gmail.com) revealing that the county had been the victim of the ransomware malware variant Ryuk, rendering the county's access to its own online and network services and devices nil.

Sometime after the discovery, the county contacted the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which was still working with the county on the forensic investigation, Castillo said.

Castillo added the county also received help restoring its systems through the California State Association of Counties.

In addition to communicating with the public through temporary email addresses and alternate phone numbers last week, the county, both as the overall umbrella agency and through individual departments, had also been communicating with the public through Facebook and Twitter.

Among the information shared through social media has been alternative phone number lists for the Sheriff's Office, the Public Health Department, the Treasurer/Tax Collector's Office, and the Department of Social Services.

The hack also affected the county's ability to take online payments and access some information through specific departments, Castillo confirmed.

Individual departments are coming back online, Castillo said, as the network is rebuilt and the departments are separated from the inaccessible network.

Castillo said two teams were working on the breach, and likely continued to do so through April 20 and Easter Sunday, April 21.

Castillo said April 19 that he does not believe hackers, which the county referred to as "bad actors" in its press release, had control of the systems or the website; rather, they blocked the county's access to its own information.

"They've done the damage already," he said. "We don't have access to the information."

County officials have maintained as late as April 21 that no private information was accessed.

Kelley added that while information in the attack is inaccessible, the county already had a backup system in place, and that no information was lost.

That fact was reiterated in an updated press release from the county around noon April 19: "County officials were able to restore backup files; they will continue working with outside cyber professionals to rebuild a new and secure system utilizing this information. In addition, new practices and guidelines will be established to enhance its existing security measures."

Ryuk is the same malware that was believed to have caused havoc at newspapers throughout the country, including the Los Angeles Times, the weekend of Jan. 1, the Times reported.

"Once Ryuk gets into a network, it spreads from computer to computer, node to node, encrypting important files along the way with an unbreakable code," the Times report states. "Try to access the encrypted data, and the malware presents a ransom note: deposit bitcoin into an anonymous wallet and receive a key to decrypt your entire system. Refuse to pay and the files remain locked for good."

The Calexico Chronicle first reported April 18 that the culprit in the attack was believed to be ransomware. The LA Times, through what is believed to be a leak within county government, reported later in the day that the Ryuk variant was used.

Ryuk is the Japanese word for "death note."

Kelley, Castillo and Dale were all asked whether they were concerned that information from within the county had been leaked to the media; all said yes.

"Anytime info is given confidentially, and that info is leaked out, it is a concern," Dale said.

Cyber Attack Hampers County Departments To Varying Degrees

BY RICHARD MONTENEGRO BROWN

The April 13 ransomware attack that crippled the county's computer network and disabled its website had varying effects on county departments, officials said.

The Sheriff's Office, for example, suffered little while the District Attorney's Office struggled mightily.

Communications for all of the county suffered, though, as email was still offline as of April 23, with county departments using alternative gmail and other email accounts to conduct business, county Public Information Officer Linsey Dale stated.

Phone service, which uses the county's computer network system to function, had been brought back up for the most part, but on April 22 and April 23 information technology experts working with the county were still experiencing intermittent problems, Dale added.

Citing the reaction of District Attorney Gilbert Otero, arguably the harshest blow was struck was to his office.

"It created a mess. Everything we do depends on filing papers," Otero said during an April 22 interview, adding that much of the work in his office is done electronically through email and the Internet. "This thing just killed us."

Otero said public safety was never compromised, and all the paperwork that the D.A.'s office was required to file ended up getting done, but it took a Herculean effort by his clerical staff and attorneys.

He described criminal complaints being put on flash drives and clerical staff physically walking over documents to be printed and filed in court.

"They were real troopers," he said of the clerical staff and attorneys.

"We knew it was going to be tough," Otero said. "We didn't know it was going to be that tough. … It shows how vulnerable we are, and I don't think anybody wants to be in that situation."

The Sheriff's Office, on the other hand, didn't suffer all that much.

"We were pretty lucky, Sheriff Raymond Loera said April 22.

The Sheriff's Office isn't really tied into the county network, Loera explained, and the phone system is fairly independent of "downtown," he added. Emergency calls to the Sheriff's Office were unaffected by the ransomware attack.

"So we are doing almost business as usual," Loera said.

He added because his department is still reliant on other county offices for some business, there has been a bit of a slowdown.

"We have to wait on some information, but emergency services were not hampered," Loera said.

Other departments, including the Treasurer/Tax Collector's office and the Assessor's office, for instance, were somewhere in between.

Treasurer/Tax Collector Karen Vogel said April 22 her office was still processing property tax payments manually.

Vogel added the department was able to process property tax payments electronically through April 12, the day prior to the attack.

However, any property tax payments mailed to the county around April 10 and after will be delayed being posted.

"It has slowed down our process of getting checks into the bank by a week or two," Vogel added.

Imperial County Assessor Robert Menvielle said his department is "open and conducting business; we have appraisers out in the field."

He said the Assessor's office does process appraisals electronically, but its works independent of the county network.

"This is not a real difficult or challenging time for us," Menvielle said on April 22.

Menvielle did say some property owners' information is not as readily available to the public as it was before the attack. Part of the reason, he said, is information technology experts in the county are still scrutinizing the restored network.

"We hope to have all that information back and available to the public by the end of the week," he explained.

The public information Menvielle is referring to is property ownership, appraisal and building records information, which he said is available on "hard copies" at his office, just not in searchable form through the computer.

As for those on the outside who conduct business with county departments, only Amy Volmer, president of the Imperial County Association of Realtors, spoke to the Calexico Chronicle before the newspaper's deadline.

Volmer said April 22 that with the county's website and network down for five business days last week, it affected the ability to communicate with the Imperial County Recorder's office to record titles of properties sold and changing in ownership.

"A couple of people had to wait a couple of extra days to have their properties recorded," she said.

The delay apparently did not cause any financial difficulties for any real estate agents or homeowners, Volmer added.

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The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 800-280-2832 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this Internet Web site www.auction.com for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case 00000008060683. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. FOR TRUSTEE SALE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: AUCTION.COM 800-280-2832 www.auction.com BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TREDER and WEISS, LLP as Trustee 20955 Pathfinder Road, Suite 300 Diamond Bar, CA 91765 (866) 795-1852 Dated: 04/03/2019 BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TREDER and WEISS, LLP IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. A-4689940 04/19/2019, 04/26/2019, 05/03/2019
Legal 8857

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE OF AUTOMOTIVE / VESSEL / PROPERTIES

Notice is hereby given pursuant to sections 3071, 3072, & 3051 (CVC); the undersigned will sell at public auctions at the respective said addresses at 10 A.M. on 05/09/2019 the following vehicle to wit:

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	VIN	LIC	ST	LENGTH/ENG #
11	AUDI	CP	WAUCFAFR7BA028878	7PDZ885	CA	

GLAMIS DUNES STORAGE RV 5379 E HWY 78 GLAMIS CA

Said sales are for the purpose of satisfying liens for the undersigned for towing, storage, labor, material and lien charges together with advertising and expense of sales dated this 04/00/19

BY: GRANT LIEN SALES
(Agent for the above lien holders)
562-865-8394 Fax: 562-865-5593

Legal 8858 Publish: April 25, 2019

PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER: ECU000862
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner (name): **Karla P. Berazas** filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name:
Kenneth Maximus Salazar
Proposed name:
Kenneth Maximus Berazas
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING
Date: May 24, 2019
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Dept.: 7
The address of the court is:
Superior Court of California, County of Imperial
939 W. Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county (specify newspaper): Holtville Tribune, Imperial Valley Weekly/ Calexico Chronicle
Date: April 17, 2019
Jeffrey B. Jones
Judge of the Superior Court
Endorsed: April 17, 2019
Superior Court
County of Imperial
Maria Rhinehart, Clerk
By Michelle Garcia, Deputy
Legal 6191
Publish: April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 2019

PUBLIC NOTICE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: 19-263
The following person is conducting business as:
Load Boys
1754 Carr Rd., Suite 209
Calexico, CA 92231
County of Imperial
Full Name of Registrant:
Ciro David Martinez Chavez
1754 Carr Rd., Suite 209
Calexico, CA 92231
This business conducted by: An Individual
Registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) listed above.
I, Declare that all of the information in this statement is true and correct.
Signature: Ciro David Martinez Chavez, Owner
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this State or a Fictitious Business Name in Violation of the Rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law.
Filed with the Imperial County Clerk-Recorder on: April 10, 2019.
NOTICE: This statement expires on: April 9, 2024. A new statement must be filed prior to the expiration date.
Chuck Storey/County Clerk-Recorder
Victoria Camarillo, Deputy
Legal 5199
Publish: April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 2019

PUBLIC NOTICE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO.: 19-234
The following person is conducting business as:
Integro Advanced Solutions
1711 S. 19th Street
El Centro, CA 92243
County of Imperial
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 524
El Centro, CA 92244
Full Name of Registrant:
Victor Lopez
1711 S. 19th Street
El Centro, CA 92243
This business conducted by: An Individual
Registrant commenced to transact business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) listed above on: April 2, 2019.
I, Victor Lopez Declare that all of the information in this statement is true and correct.
Signature: Victor Lopez
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this State or a Fictitious Business Name in Violation of the Rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law.
Filed with the Imperial County Clerk-Recorder on: April 2, 2019.
NOTICE: This statement expires on: April 1, 2024. A new statement must be filed prior to the expiration date.
Chuck Storey/County Clerk-Recorder
Rebecca Leyva, Deputy
Legal 6190
Publish: April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 2019

Contact Us For Publication Of All Your Legal Notices
(760) 356-2995

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUMMONS
(CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:
(*AVISO AL DEMANDADO*):
JOSE J. PINEDO, an individual and DOES 1- 20, inclusive,
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:
(*LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE*):
STATE COMPENSTION INSURANCE FUND

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal service from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE**: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of $10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. ***AVISO:*** *Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de $10,000 o más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.*

CASE NUMBER: (*Numero del Caso*): **ECU000813**
The name and address of the court is: (*El nombre y dirección de la corte es*):
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF IMPERIAL - EL CENTRO DIVISION
939 West Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:
(*El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es*):
Pamela A. Wilson 158807
STATE COMPENSATION INSURANCE FUND
P. O. Box 28917
Fresno, CA 93729- 8917
(925) 523-5553
Date: March 14, 2019
Maria Rhinehart, Clerk, by (*Secretario*) R. Marquez, Deputy (*Adjunto*)
Endorsed: March 14, 2019
Superior Court
County of Imperial
Maria Rhinehart, Clerk
By: Ricki Marquez, Deputy
Legal 8852
Publish: April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2019

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF IMPERIAL - EL CENTRO DIVISION
UNLIMITED JURISDICTION

Case No. ECU000813
COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES
[Labor Code Sections 3850, et seq.]

STATE COMPENSATION INSURANCE FUND,
Plaintiff,
v.
JOSE J. PINEDO, an individual and DOES 1-20, inclusive,
Defendants.

PLAINTIFF STATE COMPENSATION INSURANCE FUND (hereinafter SCIF or Plaintiff) seeks reimbursement for benefits paid to and on behalf of Ernesto Garcia Ibarra, Ricardo Navarro Duerta, David Mejia Landa, Diana Anett Sandoval, Sonia Michelle Macedo Lopez, Ricardo Macias/deceased, (hereinafter Employees,) pursuant to Labor Code Section 3850 et seq., as follows:

1. At all times herein mentioned, SCIF, a State of California state-owned corporation, was, and now is, a non-profit public entity organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of California, authorized to write workers' compensation insurance in California, and at all times herein mentioned insured HEALTH HARVESTING, (hereinafter "Employer") against liability to its Employees for compensation benefits under the Workers' Compensation Act of the State of California.

2. At all times herein mentioned, based on information and belief, Plaintiff alleges that Jose J. Pinedo, an individual, (hereinafter "Pinedo") was a resident of Holtville, California, in the County of Imperial, State of California and was doing business in California, County of Imperial, California and was the owner of the vehicle involved in this single-vehicle accident.

3. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate, or otherwise of Defendants DOES 1 through 20 are unknown to Plaintiff, who therefore sues these Defendants by such fictitious names, and will amend this complaint to show their true names and capacities when ascertained.

4. At all times herein mentioned, each of the Defendants was an agent, employee or representative of each of the remaining Defendants, and at all times herein mentioned, acted within the course and scope of said agency, employment or representation.

5. The relief sought in this complaint is within the proper jurisdiction of this court.

6. On or about March 15, 2017, while Employees were working for Employer in the course and scope of their employment, the vehicle loaned or leased to driver Ernesto Garcia Ibarra incurred a blown tire and left the roadway, rolling over and injuring all of the above-named Employees and causing the death of one of the Employees named above. The accident occurred on SR-78 eastbound, 118 ft. west of 78 Imperial County in the Brawley Judicial District.

7. Plaintiff alleges, based on information and belief, that the vehicle, tires, wheels, and other components of the vehicle owned by defendant Pinedo was not properly maintained and that such negligence was the proximate, legal cause of the accident and related injuries. Plaintiff further alleges defendant Pinedo was negligent in permitting Ernesto Garcia Ibarra to drive said vehicle as the driver's license was suspended at the time of the accident. As a proximate result of the negligence of Defendants, and each of them, the Employees sustained the bodily injuries herein described and any additional injuries according to proof.

8. Employee Ernesto Garcia Ibarra was the driver of the vehicle whose injuries include lacerations, chest, upper extremities, shoulders, head, neck, back, psyche, inter alia, and according to proof.

9. Employee Ricardo Navarro Duerta claimed injuries to head, chest, upper back, neck, inter alia, and according to proof.

10. Employee David Mejia Landa claimed injuries to low back, head, neck, inter alia, and according to proof.

11. Employee Diana Sandoval claimed injuries to low back, head, shoulders, ears, upper legs, neck, inter alia, and according to proof.

12. Employee Sonia Macedo claimed injuries to shoulders, upper arms, left knee, right elbow, mental/physical, inter alia, and according to proof.

13. Employee Ricardo Macias suffered fatal injuries and claims for death benefits have been filed by his dependents.

14. As a proximate result of the negligence of the Defendant(s) and each of them, and of the resulting injuries sustained by the Employees, Plaintiff has been obligated to pay and has paid workers' compensation benefits to and on behalf of the Employees and/or their dependents.

15. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that it will be required to pay further disability benefits and sums for death benefits for such time as the youngest minor dependent reaches the age of majority or such time as the death beneficiaries claims are resolved, and Plaintiff prays that when the total amount of such expenditures are ascertained this complaint may be amended accordingly.

16. Plaintiff will seek a credit in the workers' compensation cases of Employees/employee's death beneficiaries for any recoveries Employees/employee's heirs who are also death beneficiaries for workers' compensation purposes, make in any action filed by Employees and decedent employee's estate/heirs/dependents against third party Defendants.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendant(s) and each of them, for:

1. Reimbursement of all workers' compensation benefits paid to and on behalf of the Employees and/or dependents/heirs in the amount of benefits paid up to and including time of trial.
2. Future disability and costs of medical care and treatment according to proof including liens, burial and funeral expenses, and any and all other benefits paid to or on behalf of the Employees, if we are required to resolve same;
3. Costs of suit incurred herein;
4. Interest at the maximum legal rate permitted by law from the date of each installment or other payment thereof;
5. Such other and further relief as this court deems just.

Dated: March 14, 2019
By: Pamela A. Wilson
Attorney for Plaintiff
STATE COMPENSATION INSURANCE FUND
Legal 8852A
Publish: April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2019

PUBLIC NOTICE

T.S. No.: **2018-03050-CA**
A.P.N.:**058-621-004-000**
Property Address: **1004 Adler Avenue, Calexico, CA 92231**

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

PURSUANT TO CIVIL CODE § 2923.3(a) and (d), THE SUMMARY OF INFORMATION REFERRED TO BELOW IS NOT ATTACHED TO THE RECORDED COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT BUT ONLY TO THE COPIES PROVIDED TO THE TRUSTOR.

NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED

注：本文件包含一个信息摘要
참고사항: 본 첨부 문서에 정보 요약서가 있습니다
NOTA: SE ADJUNTA UN RESUMEN DE LA INFORMACIÓN DE ESTE DOCUMENTO
TALA: MAYROONG BUOD NG IMPORMASYON SA DOKUMENTONG ITO NA NAKALAKIP
LƯU Ý: KÈM THEO ĐÂY LÀ BẢN TRÌNH BÀY TÓM LƯỢC VỀ THÔNG TIN TRONG TÀI LIỆU NÀY

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:

YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 01/10/2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.

Trustor: **Ruth Gallardo, a married woman as her sole and separate property and Maria De Los Angeles Gallardo, an unmarried woman**
Duly Appointed Trustee: **Western Progressive, LLC**
Deed of Trust Recorded **01/17/2007** as Instrument No. **2007-001727** in book ---, page--- **and** of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of **Imperial** County, California,
Date of Sale: **05/20/2019** at **02:00 PM**
Place of Sale: **AT THE NORTH ENTRANCE TO THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE 939 MAIN STREET, EL CENTRO, CA 92243**
Estimated amount of unpaid balance, reasonably estimated costs and other charges: **$ 151,025.09**

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

THE TRUSTEE WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, A SAVINGS ASSOCIATION OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE:

All right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described as:
More fully described in said Deed of Trust.
Street Address or other common designation of real property: **1004 Adler Avenue, Calexico, CA 92231**
A.P.N.: **058-621-004-000**
The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above.
The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: **$ 151,025.09.**
Note: Because the Beneficiary reserves the right to bid less than the total debt owed, it is possible that at the time of the sale the opening bid may be less than the total debt.
If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse.
The beneficiary of the Deed of Trust has executed and delivered to the undersigned a written request to commence foreclosure, and the undersigned caused a Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on this property.

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (866)-960-8299 or visit this Internet Web site http://www.altisource.com/MortgageServices/DefaultManagement/TrusteeServices.aspx using the file number assigned to this case 2018-03050-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale.
Date: April 1, 2019
Western Progressive, LLC, as Trustee for beneficiary
C/o 1500 Palma Drive, Suite 237
Ventura, CA 93003
Sale Information Line: (866) 960-8299
http://www.altisource.com/MortgageServices/DefaultManagement/TrusteeServices.aspx

_____
Trustee Sale Assistant
WESTERN PROGRESSIVE, LLC MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
April 11, 18, 25, 2019
Legal 8851

PUBLIC NOTICE

File No: 201910000267
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
The following person(s) is (are) conducting business as: Fictitious Business Name(s):
USA #6414
Street Address, City, State, Zip Code, County of Principal Place of Business: 1791 Maggio Road, Calexico, CA 92231, County: Imperial
Mailing Address: 19100 Ridgewood Park-way, Mail Stop TX1-075, San Antonio, TX 78259
Full Name of Registrant: WESTERN REFINING RETAIL, LLC
Residence Address: 539 South Main Street, Findlay, OH 45840
This business conducted by: a limited liability company
Registrant commenced to transact business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) listed above on: 12-11-2018
Publish Before: 05-11-2019
Articles of Incorporation: 201717310208
I declare that all of the information in this state-ment is true and correct.
Pursuant to Government Code Section 17913(5)(c) A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to this section that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars ($1,000).
Name and title:
KIMBERLY K. DUNCAN
Secretary
THE FILING OF THIS STATEMENT DOES NOT OF ITSELF AUTHORIZE THE USE IN THIS STATE OF A FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME IN VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF ANOTHER UNDER FEDERAL, STATE OR COMMON LAW (SEE SECTION 14411 ET SEQ, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE)
Filed with the
IMPERIAL COUNTY
CLERK-RECORDER on:
04-11-2019
NOTICE: THIS STATEMENT EXPIRES ON: 04-10-2024
A NEW STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION DATE.
CHUCK STOREY COUNTY CLERK-
RECORDER
By: VICTORIA CAMARILLO, DEPUTY
NEW FILING
CN959058 11586570 SO
Apr 18,25, May 2,9, 2019
Legal 8856

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
Nicholas K. Mah
CASE NUMBER: EPR000449
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **Nicholas K. Mah**
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: **Victoria Nguyen** in the Superior Court of California, County of: **IMPERIAL**
The Petition for Probate requests that **Victoria Nguyen** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:
Date: April 26, 2019
Time: 8:30 AM
Dept. 9
Address of court:
Superior Court of California,
County of Imperial
939 West Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) **four months** from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) **60 days** from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a *Request for Special Notice* (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A *Request for Special Notice* form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for petitioner:
Victoria Nguyen
1430 Broadway Street
El Centro, CA 92243
(760) 353-3484
Endorsed: March 27, 2018
Superior Court
County of Imperial
Maria Rhinehart, Clerk
By Fernanda Aguilar, Deputy
Legal 6188
Publish: April 11, 18, 25, 2019

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
ANTONIO LUCIO MARES
CASE NUMBER: EPR000467
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: ANTONIO LUCIO MARES, aka ANTONIO L. MARES aka ANTONIO MARES
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: **Armando Mares** in the Superior Court of California, County of: **IMPERIAL**
The Petition for Probate requests that **Armando Mares** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate.The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:
Date: May 3, 2019
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Dept. 9
Address of court:
Superior Court of California,
County of Imperial
939 West Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for petitioner:
Patrick M. Pace
PINNEY, CALDWELL & PACE
444 S. 8th Street, Suite A
El Centro, CA 92243
(76) 352-7800
Endorsed: April 17, 2019
Superior Court
County of Imperial
Maria Rhinehart, Clerk
By:` Fernanda Aguilar, Deputy
Legal 6189
Publish: April 18, 25, May 2, 2019

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Easter.....from page one

Tagg also explained these desert tortoises hibernate from mid-October through March so now they are just getting accustomed to the warmer weather and enjoying sunning themselves in her backyard.

"The males when they come out of hibernation are hungry and are aroused by the females now so they fight each other for their attention," she explained. "Speedy loves to eat, mostly strawberries, bananas, cantaloupe and Romaine lettuce."

The second heat largely consisted of younger desert tortoises and the smaller red ear slider turtles. Nebia Flores got hers, "Sparkle." More than a decade ago.

"My mom gave me Sparkle when she was a baby; she fit inside the palm of my hand. She likes to eat lettuce and flies. She's very active in the day and I let her roam outside. But if other animals get too curious she hides inside her shell."

Winning the second heat was "Ivan," owned by Laine McFadden, who only discovered on race day he was actually a she and forever after will be known as "Ivanka."

"I thought this was awesome," said McFadden. "The race was very organized, family oriented and everybody was enthusiastic. I'll absolutely be here next year."

Runner-up in the second heat was "Leonardo," owned by Jessica Mange.

"My son, Mateo, named him for a Ninja Turtle," she said. "We've had him for a year. We dropped a bit of lettuce to help him across the finish line."

Children especially loved the races.

"They're really cute," said Maya Imperial, a third grader at the Finley Elementary School in Holtville. "I've always had a soft place in my heart for animals."

Maya also participated in the Easter Egg hunt, which she noted, "was pretty fun," and collected a treasure of Schrafft's jelly beans, caramel centers, marshmallow eggs, fruity snacks and Hot Tamales candies. Her brother and sister also, also Finley students, joined in.

"You mostly have to be fast," said Julian Imperial. "Plus, when people were in the way, I just started jumping."

His older sister, Analisa, explained, "I got the ones that were already bundled up--mostly jelly beans.

Added her mother, "I think this is wonderful, the kids have been coming for years now."

The egg hunt was divided up into separate fields for age groups of toddlers, pre-school children, first to third and fourth to sixth graders. In addition there was a coloring station, bunny hop (sack race) and an egg relay race. Children also had the chance to visit with the Easter Bunny.

Carlota Guevara and husband, Omar, brought their daughter, Monique Perroni, age one year and eight months.

"Yea, it was cute, and a lot of fun," said Carlota. "My daughter got to meet other kids and enjoyed playing with the turtles."

DORIS BARAZA (left) places a decal on "Richard Parker," a competitor in the tortoise/turtle races during Holtville's Easter festivities on April 20 in Holt Park.
WILLIAM ROLLER PHOTOS

CHILDREN PET "Squirt," a 90-pound desert tortoise, at the tortoise/turtle races during Holtville's Easter festivities last Saturday morning.

"TRUSTEE," A DESERT tortoise, crosses the finish line for a second place in the tortoise/turtle races during Holtville's Easter festivities.