

Smoke Signal



December, 2011

Published by the Morongo Valley Chamber of Commerce

Editors: Tish Miller & Karen Lowe

The Morongo Valley Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce:

The 6th annual CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR CHILDREN FUNDRAISER

*To be held at the Morongo Valley
Social Club at 49840 29 Palms
Highway on Saturday December 3, 2011
from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

*We will have a bake sale and free
children's crafts. Santa will also be
stopping by for cookies around noon! We appreciate
your cash and unwrapped toy donations.
100% of proceeds benefit the children of Morongo Valley.*

If you are unable to attend the fundraiser:

*Please bring your unwrapped toy and monetary
donations to the following locations:
Morongo Valley Fire Department
Community Services District
Tish & Karen, HK Lane Real Estate*



Our program this year is off to a great start with a generous matching funds donation of up to \$1,000 by Diana Wickler of Desert Cities Realty. John Brudvik of the Morongo Café is also offering to donate fifty cents per meal purchased with a coupon. Please see Tish & Karen for your coupons! Thank you so much Diana and John for your help. Please call 760-363-9269 for more information.

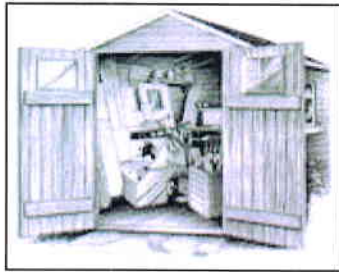


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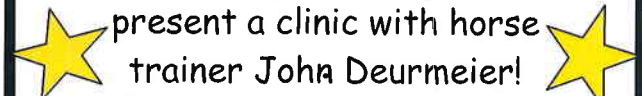
\$15.99

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Wild Mustang Feed is pleased to



It will be held at the feed store on
January 14, 2011 at 1:00 p.m.

This coupon is worth \$1.00
off your next purchase at Wild
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coupon to redeem.



Morongo Valley Chamber of Commerce

Officers and Directors

President Karen Lowe, Vice President Daniel Flores, Secretary Mike Pollack, Treasurer Bonnie Miller, Social Media Tish Miller

Members at Large Carrie Sessum and Leslie Rotstein

Editors of the Smoke Signal

Tish Miller and Karen Lowe

AD RATES FOR THE SMOKE SIGNAL:

\$160 Full Page \$100 Half Page \$65 Quarter Page \$35 Business Card

All submissions should be sent to morongovalleychamber@gmail.com, or contact us at 760-363-9269. The mailing address for the Morongo Valley Chamber of Commerce is Post Office Box 396, Morongo Valley, CA 92256.

MORONGO VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MISSION STATEMENT

It is the goal of the Chamber to act as a strong voice for business in the community. Through the commitment of our members we strive to enhance

"The Smoke Signal" is Published Monthly as a service to the community. Articles submitted for publication should be received by the 20th of each month. All articles need to be emailed in WORD to morongovalleychamber@gmail.com. All reasonable efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy of the information published. We are happy to email the Smoke Signal to you; request at morongovalleychamber@gmail.com. Mailed subscriptions are available at \$10.00 per year.

*The Morongo Valley Chamber of Commerce accepts no responsibility for errors or omissions.

*Editorial content is intended as general information and is not seen as specific legal or financial advice.

*Advertisements in this publication are not meant as endorsements



Seeking Nominees for the Chuck Osborne Volunteer of the Year Award



We are seeking nominations for annual "Osborne Award." This award was named in honor of Chuck Osborne in tribute to his long-term voluntary contributions to our community.

If you know a person who spent the year 2011 as a "dedicated volunteer and selfless contributor to the betterment of Morongo Valley CSD Park and Community Programs", please submit their name for consideration.

Past recipients include Chuck Osborne for service on the CSD board and contributions to park & recreation programs; Cheryl Jordan, Children's Library Founder & Librarian; Dee & Betty Zeller - Big Morongo Canyon Preserve Managers; Johnny & Bobbi Tolbert - volunteers for Fiesta Days; MV Youth Sports League, FF Auxiliary and Chamber of Commerce.

Please submit your nominee's name, along with a paragraph describing why you think the nominee deserves to be acknowledged as "Volunteer of the Year" to Meg @ the CSD office. Fax: 363-6774; email mvcsd@roadrunner.com or pick up a nomination form at the office. Nominations must be received by December 14. The winner will be selected by the CSD Board members at the December 21 Board meeting.

Social Club News

Merry Christmas to you and yours. If you haven't finished shopping, stop by The Shoppe and see our great buys. Lots of Christmas decorations, fun games, toys, and holiday clothing. Mark your calendar for December 10th, the Silent Auction will start at 5 P.M. and closing at 8 P.M. Everyone is welcome to stop in and see the gifts and make a bid. Plus, we will be serving a soup supper, cornbread and deserts, and Christmas cheer.

Proceeds from the sale is our donation to the family Christmas baskets and Tender Loving Christmas. We need the support of the community. The Shoppe is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 AM to 2 PM. Stop by and be greeted by Janet and Carol or call 363-6090 for info on The Shoppe and the Morongo Social Club, a club for all ages. We say "Thanks" to all of you who have supported us all year.

Leona Eriksen President



Morongo Valley Fire Department Calls for the year of calendar year, 2011.

Investigation-27, Other-8, Wildland Fire-14, Medical Aid-263, Public Service-20, Public Service Other-5, Smoke Check-9, Water Salvage-1, Traffic Collision-40, Vehicle Fire-2, Fire Other-4, Hasmat-1, Traffic Collision With Fire-0, Hazard Electrical-2, Residential Structure-7, Fire Menace Standby 2, Refuse Fire-3, Commercial Structure-3, Residential Ringing Alarm-1, Commercial Ringing Alarm- 7, Medical Aid-Violence Involved-8, Hazard Gas-1, Traffic Collision w/Extrication-4, Other 1. The total calls for the year of 2011 as of October amounted to 433.



Morongo Valley Children's Library

11165 Vale Drive, Morongo Valley, CA 92256
At Covington Park



December 2011

Calendar

Tuesdays:	3:00pm - 5:00pm	Tutoring Available
Thursdays:	3:00pm - 5:00pm	Holiday Craft Projects
Saturday:		<u>Special Readings/Activities</u>
December 3 rd	9:30am - 12:00pm	Ornamental Craft
December 10 th	10:00am - 12:00pm	Christmas Party
December 17 th	9:30am - 12:00pm	Christmas Caroling
December 24 th	CLOSED	Christmas Eve Closed
December 31 st	9:30am - 12:00pm	2011 Countdown Special

Special Events

Friday:		
December 2 nd	5:00pm - 7:00pm	Community Potluck & Game Night
Saturday:		
December 10 th	10:00am - 12:00pm	CHRISTMAS PARTY
December 31 st	TBA TBA TBA	2011 Countdown Special

You're Invited ! Community Potluck & Game night



The Morongo Valley Trail Riders would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season. We are dusting off sleigh bells to hang on our saddles and trying to keep the horses from eating the mistletoe!

We have moved our monthly meeting from the Social Club to the offices of Tish & Karen, HK Lane Real Estate. The meeting is the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. The Trail Riders can be reached at 760-363-7888.

Merry Christmas Everyone!!!



The Friends of
**Big Morongo
Canyon Preserve**

Invite you to join us at **11055 East Drive, Morongo Valley** for
Guided Bird Walks
Every Wednesday & Saturday at 8 am. *(except the first Sat. of the month)*
Call Betty at (760) 363-7190 for more information

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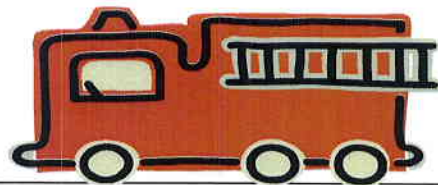
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Morongo Valley Fire Department Calls for the month of October 2011

Investigation-4, Other Misc.-2, Wildland Fire-0, Medical Aid-31, Public Service-0, Public Service oOther-2, Smoke Check-3, Traffic Collision-3, Vehicle Fire-1, Fire Other-1, Hazard Electrical-1, Residential Structure Fire-0, Fire Menace Stand By-1, Commercial Structure Fire -1, Medical Aid-Violence Involved-2, Hazard Gas-1, for a total of 49 calls for the month.



HK Lane SOLD
Real Estate by Tish & Karen

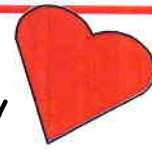
Tish Miller #00785605
Karen Lowe #01487265
(760) 363-9269
(760)363-9236 fax
morongovalleyrealtor@msn.com





AMERICAN FOOD PANTRY

Weekly Food Distribution In Morongo Valley



It has become increasingly hard for everyone needing food to get to a Church or Pantry, so we will now be distributing free donated food to local communities, through our On-Site Pantry Network, each week, to better assist everyone in meeting our goal of halting hunger and malnutrition.

Current on-site weekly food distribution here in Morongo Valley is on Wednesday 9am - 11am at Covington Park, 11165 Vale, Morongo Valley.

Monetary Donations may be made by mail to: American Food Pantry, P.O. Box 143 Pioneertown, CA 92268, at any distribution site or online at www.americanfoodpantry.com Non perishable food items may be dropped at the Library next to the CSD office (11207 Ocotillo St.)

American Food Pantry has distributes, weekly, in Landers, Yucca Valley, Pioneertown, Wonder Valley and 29 Palms. A complete listing with days and times is available at www.americanfoodpantry.com Call 760-228-2222 for the nearest food drop box location.

Jim Wilson, founder of the Food Bank, began distributing at Covington Park last month in response to Morongo Valley recipients, who had a hard time gathering gas money to venture to Yucca Valley for food. The first week, with day's notice, he served - 12 families; 2nd week - 26; 3rd week - 46 families and 4th - 54. Jim says he expects to serve over 120 Morongo Valley families as word spreads. He needs financial help since his gas expenses increased with the recent addition of 8 community specific distribution sites. Jim stated any gift of funds or even a single can of food will be gratefully accepted.



CLEAN TEAM NEWS

By Linda Bailey

THANK YOU to Keith, David and Karen for showing up for the November 5 cleanup. Karen and I collected six bags of trash along the highway while Keith and David hauled away about 40 tires from an illegal dump site here in Morongo Valley. THANK YOU to Richard Bond, Manager, at DTC Tire Center in Yucca Valley for accepting these tires without charge. He has supported the Clean Team in this way for a long time.

THANKS go to Karen, Dudley, David, Keith, Debby and Pat and from Yucca Valley LeRoy and Mike for showing up on Saturday, November 19. About 20 bags of trash were collected along the highway and another 52 tires were hauled to DTC Tire Center. THANK YOU to Keith and Debby for the two trips they made to Yucca Valley to transport the tires.

Cleanup Dates for November:

Saturday, December 3, 7:30 a.m. Meet at The Happy Cooker currently for sale.

Saturday, December 17, 7:30 a.m. Meet at The Country Market

County Code Enforcement will only cite properties for cleanup if they receive a call of complaint. Code Enforcement is reactive, not proactive. If you see a property with piles of debris and/or too many vehicles call this number: (909) 387-4044. You can call anonymously, just make sure to have a street address. Even if you are not sure if a property qualifies for code enforcement, call them and they will come to the property and assess the situation. Let's do our part to keep our neighborhoods clean and safe.

For more information call Linda at (760) 363-6004.



HAP TROWBRIDGE COMPLETES CSD TERM

Hap Trowbridge finishes his term as a Morongo Valley Community Services District Director in early December. Hap served most of his term as Park's Commissioner. During his tenure many grant funded park improvements were made to Parks: new restrooms at the Baseball field and Covington Park; resurfaced tennis court; expanded skate park; resurfaced pavilion; new water tank; installation of electric system for events and refurbished storage building. Hap also started the MV Youth Commission, served as a fundraiser for the Morongo Valley Youth Softball League and was on the Fiesta Committee. He multi-tasked at monthly meetings and taped all CSD meetings during his term. Thank you for four years of selfless service to the Morongo Valley Hap - best wishes!

Unlike most elected officials, MVCSD Directors volunteer their service to our community. Most CSD Directors and councilman receive, at a minimum, a monthly stipend for meeting attendance, our Directors elected to leave those funds in the budget to benefit the community. At the December meeting, newly elected Johnny Tolbert will be installed. Johnny will be joined by Chuck Osborne, who begins his 5th term and Michael J. Francis, 2 year term, in taking their oaths.

TAKE A HIKE AT BIG MORONGO CANYON PRESERVE SATURDAY Dec. 3, at 9:00 AM, 2011



Hikers meet at the Kiosk at Big Morongo Canyon Preserve, 11055 East Drive, Morongo Valley at 9:00 AM. The hike will be led by Docents of the Preserve.

The hike will be 2 & 1/2 miles round trip covering the Mesquite Trail, the West Canyon Trail and the Yucca Ridge Trail which has some steep and rocky areas, and is considered a moderate hike. We will end the hike at the Kiosk.

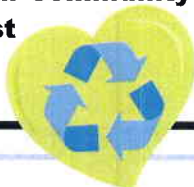
Wear sturdy shoes, a hat, and bring water and a snack. Please make reservations by calling Betty Zeller at 760-363-7190.

RECYCLE AND HELP OUR BIG MORONGO CANYON PRESERVE

Bring your: **PLASTIC AND GLASS BOTTLES,
ALUMINIUM CANS**

To the recycling bins at : **MORONGO
HARDWARE AND CACTUS MART**

All money from the recycled materials goes to the Big Morongo Canyon Preserve's Education Program. You can help keep our community clean while helping our greatest natural resource



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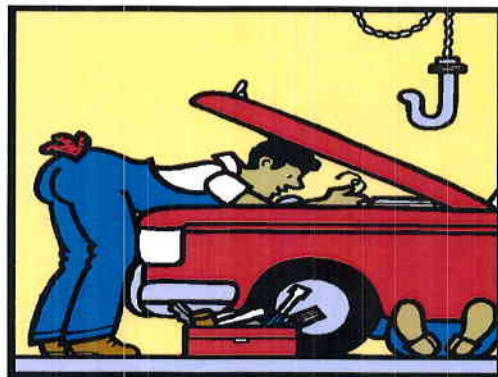
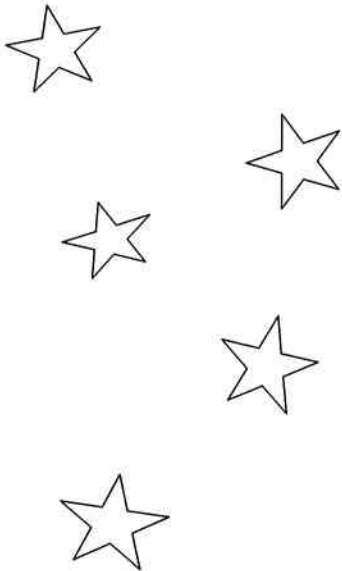
Real Estate Offices

Wilson Real Estate
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Editor)



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