

# East Kern

*January 2016*

## Visions



*Veterans Memorial Building,  
page 3*



*A look at the Whiskey Flat  
Encampment, page 8*





# East Kern

## Visions

January 2016

### **Publisher**

John Watkins

### **Editor**

John D. Bennett  
Christopher Livingston

### **Advertising Director**

Paula McKay

### **Advertising Sales**

Rodney Preul  
Barbara Schultheiss

### **Writers**

Jessica Weston  
Christopher Livingston  
Deborah Mills  
Katie Archibald

**For this issue, we take a look at the major festival that is Whiskey Flat Days in Kernville. We also feature nearby museums.**

### **Inside this issue**

|                                   |   |                               |    |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|----|
| Veterans Memorial Building .....  | 3 | U.S. Naval Museum of          |    |
| Maturango Museum .....            | 5 | Armament and Technology ..... | 12 |
| Whiskey Flat Encampment 2016..... | 8 |                               |    |







PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER LIVINGSTON/DAILY INDEPENDENT

The interior of the Veterans Memorial Building shows the flags of the different branches of the United States Armed Forces, collages of Upper Mojave Desert veterans and memorabilia donated to the historical society.

# Veterans Memorial Building adds historical flavor to Mojave Desert

BY CHRISTOPHER LIVINGSTON

The Historical Society of the Upper Mojave Desert (HSUMD) has been home to everything related to the history of Ridgecrest and the Indian Wells Valley.

And on Nov. 7, the society added another facility, located slightly northeast of the HSUMD headquarters, that will serve as a place of remembrance: the Veterans Memorial Building.

The memorial is the only one east of Bakersfield, said HSUMD president Tex Hoppus.

"We received proclamation from the state senate and assembly for making this possible," he said. "We want the Veterans Memorial Building to be more well-known and used. We want more pictures and archives of veterans from the Upper Mojave Desert."

The structure was originally a one-room schoolhouse located in Isabella that was built in 1905 and used for 40 years. When Lake Isabella was being created, the entire town had to move a mile and a half south, including the

SEE MEMORIAL, 4

**LAPHAM CONSTRUCTION**  
BBB  
Locally Owned and Operated for Over 20 Years.  
Lic#885719

**RIDGECREST**  
**760-812-0021**

**50% OFF**  
**INSTALLATION**  
**FREE ESTIMATES**

**SOLID COVER**

**Limited Time Offer**  
Fast  
Reliable, Professional

**Licensed, Bonded and Insured for Your Protection**

**For All of Your Automotive Needs**

**Rusty WARREN'S AUTOMOTIVE**  
KEEPING YOU ON THE ROAD SINCE 1983!

**(760) 375-4123**  
**501 W. Ridgecrest Blvd.**





Above: The current Veterans Memorial Building was dedicated on Nov. 7.

Below: Isabella Elementary School was a one-room schoolhouse built in 1905 and was moved up to higher ground when Lake Isabella was built.



The structure was moved to Ridgecrest in 1955 and placed at Hellmers Park to be used as a Parks and Recreation building.

## MEMORIAL

Continued from 3

school.

Ten years after its closing, in March 1955, the Girl Scouts bought the building and moved it to Hellmer's Park in Ridgecrest. Two months later, the Girl Scout Committee donated the schoolhouse to the Kern County Parks, and the building was used for many different activities.

When the City of Ridgecrest wanted to use the land on which the schoolhouse sat for a solar field facility, the schoolhouse was going to be burned down. HSUMD sprang up and obtained the building and worked with a moving company to relocate the structure for a fourth time to its present location adjacent to the HSUMD office.

The building, with the exception of modern technology, has been restored to its original look and design. The wood on the inside was specially milled to match the original feel, and new shiplap was used to restore decaying panels. It

was all done through the help of volunteers, and the materials were donated.

It's a part of the historical society's vision: ultimately, there will be a historical block, where there is the HSUMD building, the Veterans Memorial Building, and restoration of the old jail (located behind the HSUMD building) and quonset huts that housed the old volunteer firefighters and their trucks.

"Those will take work," Hoppus said. "Everything is done by donation. We have to keep this (the HSUMD building) safe and operating, first and foremost. The other restorations will happen as we get to it, but it will be in that order."

For now, the Veterans Memorial Building is in its infancy. Hoppus said that any veteran who has a tie to the Upper Mojave Desert is welcome to share with the society a memory of his or her service.

The material can be sent to HSUMD, 230 W. Ridgecrest Blvd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555-4011 or by e-mail to: [tex.hoppus@verizon.net](mailto:tex.hoppus@verizon.net). ♦

**SOUTH STREET  
DIGITAL, INC.**  
20825 South Street, #B Tehachapi, CA 93561

**DIGITAL PRINTING  
WIDE FORMAT PRINTING**

*We specialize in printing...*

We care about our customers! We combine old-fashioned customer service with cutting-edge printing technology. We are staffed with industry professionals who have decades of printing experience.

We offer a multitude of services with just a few listed below.

We believe printing is an art and craft that deserves the highest quality and customer service. Call now to see what we can do for you!

Business Cards  
Stationery  
Flyers  
NCR Forms  
Invoices  
Receipts  
Rack Cards  
Greeting Cards

Invitations  
Note Pads  
Brochures  
Booklets  
Manuals  
Menus  
Posters  
Large Banners

Retractable Banners  
Large Signs  
Tickets  
Laminating  
Anti-Graffiti  
UV Coating  
Die Cut Stickers  
and more...

**661.823.4908**

[www.SouthStreetDigital.com](http://www.SouthStreetDigital.com)







Milt Burford created these petroglyphic sculptures of big horned sheep, which are on display outside the Maturango Museum.



A female mountain lion in a desert background in the El Paso Exhibit room at the Maturango Museum.

# Maturango Museum springing into action

STORY AND PHOTOS  
BY JESSICA WESTON

The Maturango Museum is gearing up for a lively spring.

According to their mission statement the Maturango Museum intends “to preserve, interpret, and develop an appreciation for the natural and cultural history of the Northern Mojave Desert through research and education in the natural and physical sciences and to promote the arts.”

“It’s the idea of providing knowledge about natural history, the history of the archeology of the area and promoting the arts,” said Education Coordinator Nora Nuckles. She noted that the museum aspires to be a local cultural hub. “Our goal is to make it for everyone.”

In keeping with these goals, the museum offers a variety of educational and culturally enriching experiences in the upcoming months—aimed at locals, tourists and everyone in between.

## ART GALLERIES

### Sylvia Winslow Gallery

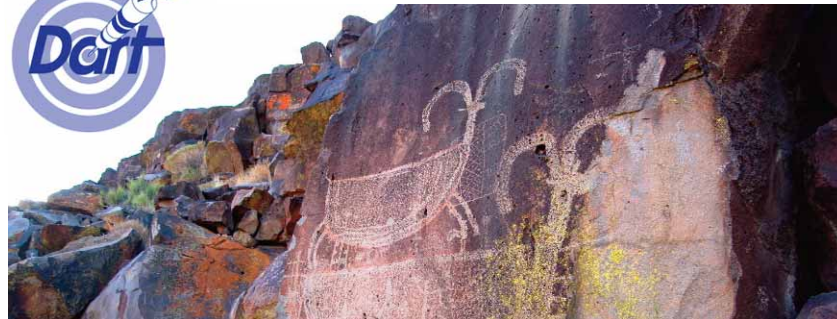
The Mary Adler retrospective will take place Sunday Jan. 17 at 3:00 p.m. with the artist speaking. The reception is free and open to the public. Adler is a long-time Ridgecrest resident who is leaving the area after many years. The exhibit will include oil, watercolor and cold metal compound paintings. Items for sale will benefit the museum. Alder studied pottery and art with Paul Meyers, Jim Doolin, Lauren Richardson and Don McCauley and her work has been

SEE MATUARNGO, 6

## Desert Area Resources and Training

201 E. Ridgecrest Blvd. • Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Our Mission, Their Dreams Since 1961...



The premier provider of programs and services of the intellectually and developmentally disabled, in the Indian Wells Valley and surrounding communities of the Central Mojave Desert.

DART is a private, not-for-profit 501 (C) (3).

Fully CARF accredited, State of California Licensed.



- Information and Referral
- Full day Early Childhood Services, infant, toddler and preschool
- Full time adult employment training program
- Supported Living Services
- Transportation services for those enrolled
- Summer Autism Day Camp, “Artists On The Edge” program
- Over Fifty years of operations
- Thrift Store, Commercial Contracts
- Accepting referrals from the Kern Regional Center
- Certified E-Waste Collector
- Document Destruction

dartontarget.org or call 760-375-9787

Se Habla Español







The Maturango Museum's gift shop.

## MATURANGO

Continued from 5

shown in several places.

The Adler Retrospective Exhibit will be on display in the Sylvia Winslow Gallery at the museum for approximately two months.

### Coso Room

Tamar Assaf Art Exhibit: "Fragile"  
Reception: Jan. 31 at 3 p.m.

Exhibit: Jan. 31 through April 1, 2016  
The Israel-born Assaf depicts the influence of humans on animals in our world, in a multi-media exhibit including paintings, video and sculpture. She intends to document the loss of animals from the wild and changing ecosystems and short movies documenting her projects and processes will be available for viewing in the gallery.

### OUTDOOR EXHIBITS

Available for perusal at all hours are a variety of outdoor exhibits, some of which are interactive and well-suited for children.

### Tortoise Habitat

A new tortoise habitat will have a grand opening Feb. 6, 2016. The habitat is an eagle scout project completed by Zach Burns. "We are waiting for the tortoises to come out of hibernation," Nuckles said. She explained that many tortoises from the area need adopting if

they are kept as pets and the families move. "Sometimes people move to areas that are not appropriate climates for the tortoise."

Kids learning about natural history and local flora and fauna can continue the education outside the museum, Nuckles said, walking around the grounds.

"We have lizards and rabbits. Ground squirrels are the most typical animals,

SEE MUSEUM, 7

R

## Ridgecrest Moving & Storage

880 S. Gateway  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

**Ken Armstrong**  
(760) 375-4133  
(760) 375-7918 Fax  
kenerma@hotmail.com  
CAL PUC T-154377

## No More Electricity Bills

**We offer made-in-America Solar World® Panels and SMA® and Enphase® Inverters.**

**Cordell Construction Company**

Phone: 760-375-3118 • Fax: 760-375-3166  
643 N. China Lake Blvd. Suite A  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555  
cordell.construction@yahoo.com

**hero**

HERO SOLAR TECHNOLOGIES

Carpet • Laminate • Vinyl • Wood Tile  
"Purchase Green" Artificial Grass Distributor

## Dick Schoengarth FLOORING

PROUDLY SERVED, U.S. VETERAN

Serving You Since 1974

**LOW AFFORDABLE DISCOUNT PRICES**

**Free Estimates**  
**661-803-4001**

**4401 W Rosamond Blvd.**  
(IN SKYPARK PLAZA)

## Your Local Full Service Facility

- Mortuary
- Cemetery
- Crematory

## HOLLAND & LYONS MORTUARY

**(760) 371-1376**  
216 S. Norma St.,  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

FD 1184





The El Paso Exhibit room at the Maturango Museum.

## MUSEUM

Continued from 6

some times of the year we get roadrunners."

"We get a lot of birds flying over." She pointed to the top of a tree. "There is a hummingbird that's always on top of that tree. It guards the place."

The grounds also feature a recycling pond and a garden with three sections: "one for high desert plants, one for low desert plants and one for things that are adaptable to dry climates," Nuckles said.

Other outdoor exhibits include a labyrinth made of tufa stones and a human sundial. Nuckles demonstrated the use of this item at high noon, and it worked. "A person stands in on the marker for the correct month and their shadow works as part of the sundial," she said. "Kids love it."

Several of the outdoor exhibits originated as eagle scout projects. A recent one is a large in-ground compass made

SEE MATURANGO, 11



**Friday Nights**  
All You Can Eat  
**CATFISH**

**All You Can  
Eat Salad  
Bar 10 AM To  
2:30 PM**



**Saturday Nights**

**All You Can Eat**  
**BBQ Baby  
Back Ribs**  
**5pm-8pm**

**FOX4'S LANDING**



**RESTAURANT**

**22636 Airport Way  
California City, CA 93505  
760-373-1555**

**Monday to Thursday 7am to 3pm  
Friday - Saturday 7am to 8pm  
Now Open Sundays 7am to 8pm**



# Whiskey Flat Encampment 2016

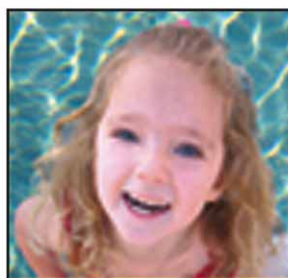
SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Left: A group of reenactors pose for a classic black and white photo at 2015's Whiskey Flat encampment.

Below: As part of Whiskey Flat Days event they have a costume contest in town near the drugstore. Pictured from a past event are Erin, Zach, Mason and Cammie Woodward as they showoff their period costumes.



## Lake Isabella Kern River Campground & RV Resort



1-800-562-2085  
www.lakeisabellakoa.com

Your campground for tenting,  
RVing and Lodging in the  
Kern River Valley

Remember. It's not camping. It's Kamping.



**1/2 off**  
second night  
with *this ad*\*

\*excludes holidays

## One step takes you back 150 years

BY DEBORAH MILLS

We are on the heels of the historically authentic event, Whiskey Flat Days and one facet of the event is the encampment taking visitors back through time starting on Feb. 12 and continuing on until Feb. 15 in the sleepy little town

of Kernville.

"The encampment started 14 years ago," said Whiskey Flat Encampment Director Mike Woodward. "We wanted to bring the history back Kern River Valley. We create the environment when people arrive they stepped back 150

SEE WHISKEY FLAT, 9

### DAM KORNER RESTAURANT

Serving the Valley  
for over 42 years!

Open Daily  
6am - 3pm

6303 Lake Isabella  
(at the 4-way Stop)  
760-379-8770

### BIG BLUE BEAR

• Espresso • Deli  
• Ice Cream • More

101 Piute Dr., Kernville  
760-376-2442

**Whiskey Flat  
Days Special**

Bud & Bud light  
16oz Aluminum  
2 for \$8.00



# WHISKEY FLAT

Continued from 8

years experiencing living history in first person.”

This year marks 59 years of celebrating the rich history of the area, from the native americans, civil war reenactments, cattle ranchers, and trappers to the miners who had high hopes of striking it rich in the Big Blue Gold Mine in the Southern Sierra Nevada on the Kern River.

Imagine being apart or just observing how Kernville was once a booming mining town set in a 40-acre parcel of land on the Scodie across from the Rodeo Grounds down by the river. The participants will experience 4 days of sleeping in a tent, eating out of a chuck wagon, and gathering around the camp fire at night which enhances the living history experience.

Over President's Day weekend, Kernville reverts to its old namesake "Whiskey Flat" which originated back to 1860 when alcohol was not allowed at the mine site. According to the Kernville Chamber of Commerce Facebook page who is hosting the event, an industrious fellow threw a plank across a couple of whiskey barrels down on the flat south of the mine, hence the name, Whiskey Flat.

There will be all sorts of things to see and do aside from the encampment, including a parade, Wild West Daze Rodeo, carnival rides, frog jumping contests, Valentines Dance, Whiskey Flat Mayor Contest, gunfighting skits, melodrams, and all sorts of activities for children.

Numerous food and craft booths to meet the publics appetites along with a



**Even though Whiskey Flat Days have been happening for 59 years, the Whiskey Flat Encampment was started by Director Mike Woodward, above, 14 years ago so people could experience living history in first person.**

SUBMITTED PHOTO

art show too. There is something for everyone.

Blue Grass and Country Western music sets the tone to days gone by.

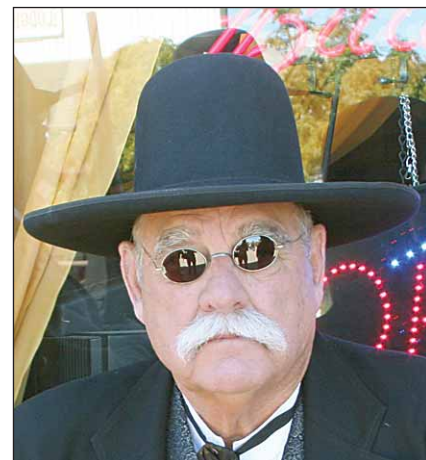
As part of the encampment they have an Indian village, Civil War Confederate camp, Mountain Man village, and Cowboy encampment. In the Miners camp it includes an old saw mill and a mine complete with tracks coming out of it. In addition, this year they will have a

Kansas camp.

"This event is all interactive with the public so they really get a feel of the history," said Woodward.

Reenactors come from all parts of California, and one group that participates every year is the Old West Mounted Lawmen's Association (OWMLA) members from Ridgecrest. Through out the event, these US Marshals will be keeping

**SEE ENCAMPMENT, 10**



## CROSSROADS MINI MART

- Self-Service Gas
- Diesel Fuel
- Hot & Cold Drinks / Beer
- Deli Sandwiches
- Hunting, Fishing Licenses
- Boat Permits

**155 & Lake Isabella Blvd  
Lake Isabella**

## CHERYL'S DINER

**Just for you, Super Food &  
Friendly, too!**



*Kern County Small Businesswoman  
of the Year 2010*

11030 Kernville Rd., Kernville, CA  
**1-760-376-6131**

## L&M LUMBER INC.

**HARDWARE • PLUMBING • ELECTRICAL**

**We're  
celebrating our  
52<sup>nd</sup> year in business.  
Serving you since  
1964**



**Come visit  
our drive-thru  
warehouse!**

**877-459-6237 (toll free) • 760-379-4631  
4700 Lake Isabella Blvd., Lake Isabella • www.lmlumber.com**



# ENCAMPMENT

Continued from 9

law and order in the encampment and take care of any bad guys in the area.

These gun slinging lawmen take their roles seriously and they fashion themselves in the Wyatt Earp style of dress. Double breasted vests, custom boots with classic hand stitched cathedral patterns making each pair of boots one-of-a-kind.

Doug Lueck, who wears badge number 25, shared the history of how OWMLA was founded back in 2000 by James T. Murphy, a man who dedicated his life to law enforcement combined his interest in both the old west and law enforcement to make up this unique organization. Currently there are only 66 badges issued within the group and part of the criteria is members had to been in law enforcement one time of their life. ♦

SUBMITTED PHOTO

The encampment is set up in little villages taking people through a time travel all the way back to the days when the Native Americans called Kernville their home.



## Historic... EWINGS

"A Fine Dining Experience"



**Est. 1954** By Jack Ewing  
Jack once said "The only thing better than the food is the view"  
Thank you Jack!



**Full Service Bar**  
Domestic & Craft Brews, Cocktails,  
Collection of Wines & Bubbles



Overlooking the North Fork of the Kern River

### Breakfast ♦ Lunch ♦ Dinner

Handcrafted Burgers, Fresh Salads, Sandwiches,  
Steaks, Chicken, Seafood, Pastas & More. Domestic  
& Craft Brews, Cocktails • Wines & Bubbles.

Open Daily 7am to 9pm "Your table is waiting"

**EWINGS ON THE KERN**  
125 Buena Vista Dr. Kernville

Reservations **760-376-2411**  
Large groups & events 760-376-2424



Outside Patio



River View Banquet Facilities  
Available both outdoor and indoors



# MATURANGO

Continued from 7

of colored concrete. "It's real nice for visitors and people to get their bearings."

Another popular attraction (and also an eagle scout project) is a ground-level solar system mockup, designed to give people an idea of the relative sizes and distances of the solar system. "With kids it's kind of fun, because if they need to run a little bit we can get them out here and they can run. We don't like them running in the labyrinth!"

## PETROGLYPH TOURS

The museum may be best known for facilitating tours of Renegade Canyon (Little Petroglyph Canyon). Access is limited and visitors must be cleared in advance. Spring Petroglyph tour dates will be posted on the museum's website Feb. 15, 2016.

## WILDFLOWER EXHIBIT

The museum's 38th annual Wildflower Exhibit will be held April 8, 9, and 10.

Last year the exhibit was held for the first time in the new Coso Gallery; this year's exhibit will follow suit.

## EL PASO EXHIBIT ROOM

In addition to offering special seasonal events and activities, the museum also has a central exhibit room that is available for viewing. Some displays are permanent and other exhibits may change, according to Nuckles.

The gallery features stunning examples of taxidermied wildlife, mountain lions, bob cats and a coyote. Specimens are displayed in desert habitats, to add to the educational component.

Swooping overhead are bird specimens, many of which have been with the museum since its early days in a quonset hut on the base at China Lake. "We love that turkey vulture," Nuckles said.

A native American display incorporates recent changes added by archeologist Sandy Rogers. His additions educate about the obsidian trade and how Native Americans constructed their tools.

SEE MATURANGO, 14



A bird exhibit in the El Paso room at the Maturango Museum.

## Northern Mojave Visitor Center and Death Valley Tourist Center



**Maturango Museum and Gift Shop**  
**100 East Las Flores Ave. • Ridgecrest CA 93555**  
**760-375-6900 • Fax 760-375-0479 • [www.maturango.org](http://www.maturango.org)**  
**Open 10am - 5pm Daily Except Major Holidays**







# U.S. Naval Museum of Armament and Technology

**We Will Meet  
Or Beat Any  
Advertiser's  
Price!**

**High Desert  
True Value  
Home Center**  
824 W Ridgcrest Blvd  
(760) 375-9741

**It's never too  
early to save  
for college.**

Call to schedule your appointment.  
GARY CHARLON

**State Farm**<sup>TM</sup>  
760-446-4279  
995 N NORMA ST., SUITE A  
WWW.GARYCHARLON.COM 

STORY AND PHOTOS  
BY KATIE ARCHIBALD

**W**hen driving up to the U.S. Naval Museum of Armament and Technology, you will be greeted by the site of a UGM-27 A Polaris Missile along with Naval aircrafts on both sides, a Grumman A-6 "Intruder" along with a F/A-18 A "Hornet."

Located on the historical naval base,

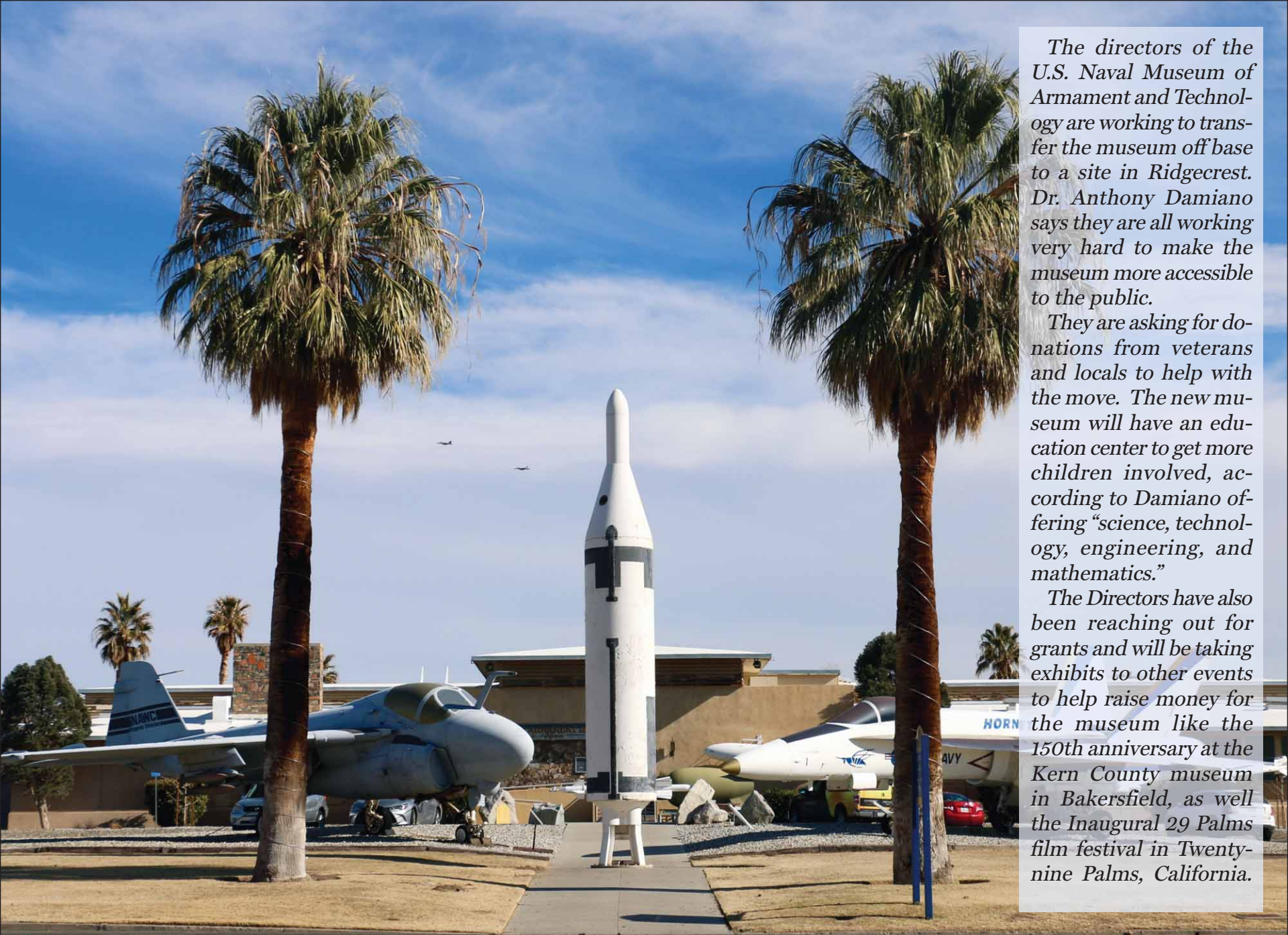
**SEE ARMAMENT, 15**

**U.S. Naval Museum of  
Armament and Technology**

1 Pearl Harbor Way  
(East end of Blandy Avenue)  
China Lake, California  
93556-0217  
(760) 939-3530

Admission into the museum is  
free, but donations are accepted.





The directors of the U.S. Naval Museum of Armament and Technology are working to transfer the museum off base to a site in Ridgecrest. Dr. Anthony Damiano says they are all working very hard to make the museum more accessible to the public.

They are asking for donations from veterans and locals to help with the move. The new museum will have an education center to get more children involved, according to Damiano offering "science, technology, engineering, and mathematics."

The Directors have also been reaching out for grants and will be taking exhibits to other events to help raise money for the museum like the 150th anniversary at the Kern County museum in Bakersfield, as well the Inaugural 29 Palms film festival in Twenty-nine Palms, California.

**THE Daily Independent**  
Your Local 24/7 News Source - Print, Web, or Mobile

224 E Ridgecrest Blvd. - Ridgecrest, CA 93555 - 1-760-375-4481  
www.ridgecrestca.com or m.ridgecrestca.com  
or facebook.com/thedailyindependent

**Toni Rae Caraker**  
Office #: 13359  
Entity #: 5761

**OPENED FOR**  
TS 2016 (TY 2015)!  
Please call for  
current hours and  
promotions!  
Appt. & Walk-ins  
welcomed!

**LIBERTY TAX SERVICE®**

979 W. Valley Blvd., Units 2 & 3  
Tehachapi, CA 93561  
Phone: (661) 822-0660 & 822-7513  
Cell: (661) 428-3601 • Fax: (661) 822-7511  
toni.caraker@yahoo.com

**TUESDAY NIGHT STEAK NIGHT**

**Diamond Jim's Casino**

118 20TH STREET WEST, ROSAMOND, CA  
14 FREEWAY - EXIT AVENUE A

**NOW OFFERING FREE LESSONS**  
TEXAS HOLD'EM, ULTIMATE TEXAS  
HOLD'EM, PAI GOW & BLACKJACK

**PHONE: 661.256.1400**  
**WWW.DIAMONDJIMSCASINO.NET**

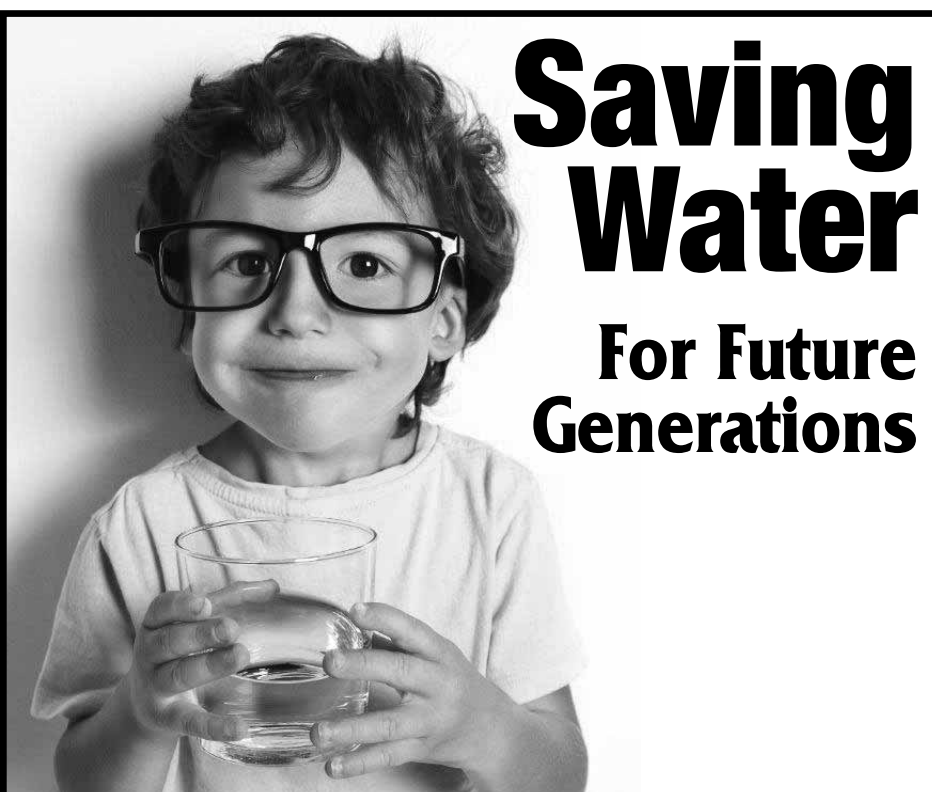
DIAMOND JIM'S CASINO RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHANGE OR CANCEL.  
THIS PROMOTION AT ANY TIME. PLEASE GAMBLE RESPONSIBLY.  
PROBLEM GAMBLING? CALL 1.800.GAMBLER.

Like us on Facebook





A taxidermied wolf and bob cat in the El Paso Exhibit room at the Maturango Museum.



# Saving Water For Future Generations

**A reminder from the Indian Wells Valley Water District**

## MATUARANGO

Continued from 11

Other exhibits highlight man-made facets of the area. A NAWC exhibit displays weapons from the Armament museum at nearby China Lake and an exhibit on Trona talks about mining.

"Little by little we'll still be updating this room, and we'll be updating the discovery area - we'll change some hands on things," Nuckles said.

### DOCENT PROGRAMS

The Maturango Museum docents provide free programs on everything from "Canines and/or Felines" to Reptiles and "Skulls & Skins." Nuckles and her team of docents deliver specimens to schools or scout meeting locations or groups can get the programs at the museum.

Also available is the Beth Armigoda Planetarium which brings the skies closer to the viewers.

### FREE EVENTS

The museum also offers a number of free events. Gallery opening and lectures are free. Children's hour is a monthly program of "learning through fun," offering free stories, songs, natural history

and crafts "for young children and their families." It is held September through May for preschool-aged kids and their families.

Each Children's Hour has a different theme. The following programs are planned for spring.

Feb. 26: Rocks all around the desert

Mar. 25: Spring - full of new life

Apr. 22 - Pollinators of the beautiful wildflowers

May 20 - Lets go on a nature walk

The second Saturday of each month is "Free Day" - Docents have activities from 11-2.

The Museum also features a popular gift shop, full of carefully chose exotic goodies. Also available is a wide variety of free information on tourist destinations both in Ridgecrest and the larger area.

The Maturango Museum is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Children under 18 are free

Adults are \$5, Seniors \$3, and members are free

100 E. Los Flores Ave. Ridgecrest (760) 375-6900

For up-to-the minute information see the museum website at [www.maturango.org](http://www.maturango.org) or the museum's Facebook page. (Search on Maturango Museum.) ♦



# ARMAMENT

Continued from 12

Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, the largest naval research area in the United States containing over 1.2 million acres.

There are other Navy aircraft to the north side of the museum that have been used throughout the years on display. You can't miss the replica of the "Fat Man" bomb that was detonated over Nagasaki, Japan in 1945 as you walk up to the entry.

The museum is open for tours with a docent some of whom may have their own personal stories of exhibits. Ranging from memories of exhibits while still in the developmental stages to testing as well as the use of some of the weapons and technology during the war making each tour unique and exciting.

As you are directed around the museum you will begin with history of why the Naval Ordnance Test Station (NOTS) was established so far from the nearest cities and how the access to the open desert would be beneficial to the test and development of weapons and technology for the wars to come. You will learn about the use of the abandoned emergency landing air field in Inyokern located eight miles west from the base entrance as supplies were brought in by train to start the construction of (NOTS).

A wide variety of rockets are mounted to a wall, showing the progress of the first 3 inch rocket, an air-launched weapon for anti-submarine warfare.

Continuing through the museum, you will see different types of missiles such as the; AIM-9 Sidewinder, AGM-88 HARM, and Tomahawk along with the ASM-2 BAT which was the first fully operational automatic guided missile.

There are many other types of air-to-air and air-to-ground weaponry on exhibit that were developed at the NAWS China Lake base that you are able to get up close to and see how missiles like the Sidewinder have evolved over time.

All throughout the museum there are historical photos and videos from the development of the base and weapons to actual tests that have occurred.

You are also able to see a flight pattern of the combat flight in 1981 against two Libyan Su-22 Fitters that were shot down by an AIM-9L Sidewinder, being the first time the Sidewinder was used



in combat.

You can also watch a few short videos about the local Navy squadrons that are located here, Air Test and Evaluation Squadron 9 (VX-9) and Air Test and Evaluation Squadron 31 (VX-31).

After you are done with your tour the gift shop also located within the museum has all types of memorabilia, from; shirts, hats, movies, models, books, mugs and squadron patches.

Included in their list of videos for sale they have "Secret City" A History of the Navy at China Lake produced by the museum in the celebration of the bases 50th anniversary.

You also have the opportunity to be part of the next stage of the U.S. Naval Museum of Armament and Technology; currently the museum is selling personalized engraved bricks raising funds and will be on display at the new museum.

Because the museum is located on a highly secured U.S. Navy base you will have to arrange access through the Visitor's Center, be prepared to bring your driver's license and proof of insurance. If you have any questions you may contact the museum at (760) 939-3530. ♦

## RIDGECREST REGIONAL HOSPITAL DERMATOLOGY

**Southern Sierra  
SPECIALTY CENTER**  
A service of Ridgecrest Regional Hospital

*welcome*  
**DR. LASHGARI, M.D.**

Dr. Lashgari is a board-certified dermatologist and a member of the American Academy of Dermatology. Dr. Lashgari has had his own private practice since 1999 and is excited to join Ridgecrest Regional Hospital and bring his expertise in dermatology, dermatologic surgery, and cosmetic surgery services to the Ridgecrest community.

### *services*

- GENERAL DERMATOLOGY
- SURGICAL REMOVAL OF SKIN CANCERS - INCLUDING MOHS SURGERY
- COSMETIC PROCEDURES SUCH AS BOTOX® AND FILLERS



**FOR AN APPOINTMENT PLEASE CALL (760) 499-7260**

  **RRH.ORG**





# Bobby Wayne's RV



45230 23<sup>RD</sup> STREET WEST | LANCASTER, CA 93536

TOLL FREE (844) 201-2121

PHONE (661) 945-9155

ATTITUDE

Flagstaff

ICONIC

PALOMINI

PALOMINO

WILDWOOD



PUMA



WORK and PLAY



South Bay

STELLAR



**Bobby Wayne's R.V.  
proudly opens its  
new location in  
Lancaster Ca.**

**Come and see our  
large selection of  
new and used travel  
trailers and fifth  
wheels.**



**New, Used Bank Repo's and  
Consignments Arriving Daily**



**\$500  
GAS CARD  
WITH TRAILER PURCHASE**

BRING COUPON FOR  
FREE POWER TONGUE JACK.

**BOBBYWAYNESRV.COM**