

A NEWS PUBLICATION FOR THE CITY OF

INDIAN WELLS



SAVE THE DATE:

Indian Well's 45th birthday celebration patio party on November 8 at the IW Club – details to come!



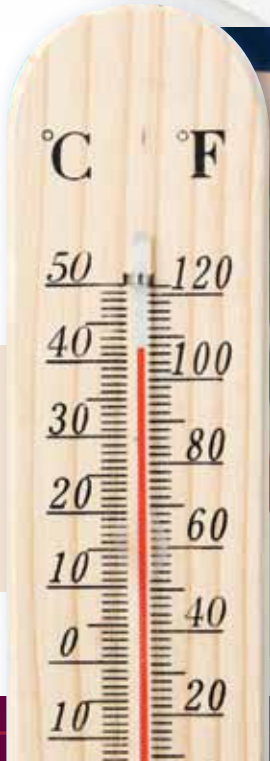
Meet the Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa (page 2)

We have a big year with lots of festivities and events coming up – be sure to frequently check the calendar of events on the resident section at www.cityofindianwells.org.



Get out and vote on November 6 (page 6)

September can be one of the hottest months of the year. You'll find great tips for staying cool on page 7



Learn more about the ballot measures for the upcoming election (pages 4 and 5)



Chamber to Sponsor* Council Candidates Forum

October 16, 2012
Miramonte Resort & Spa
6:00 p.m.
Mediterranean Ballroom

The Indian Wells Chamber of Commerce will host a Candidates Forum to give city residents an opportunity to learn more about the candidates running for City Council.

This special event is open to the public and will be held on Tuesday, October 16, 2012 beginning at 6 p.m. at Miramonte Resort & Spa. The evening will include candidate introductions, as well as time for questions from the audience.

For more information about the Candidates Forum, contact the Indian Wells Chamber of Commerce at 1 (760) 346-7095, www.indianwellschamber.com.

**Event not sponsored or funded by the city*

Introducing the Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa

Thanks to an extensive multi-million dollar renovation project, the Hyatt has a new look and now a new name to highlight its premier amenities and prestigious Indian Wells location!

The resort previously called Hyatt Grand Champions Resort, Villas and Spa will now be known as the Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa. The former name was originally based upon the celebrated tennis tournament that occurred on the resort grounds for several years. As the tournament evolved, the location changed to accommodate a larger event. This, coupled with the recent extensive transformation of the resort, provided the opportune time to position the property as Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa.

The Hyatt's recent makeover includes the redesign and new menu offerings at Lantana Restaurant, reconcepted Agave Sunset lobby bar, expansion of the Hyatt's private villas, transformation of the 26 luxury penthouse suites, and completion of Citrus Marketplace and Café.



HYATT REGENCY INDIAN WELLS RESORT & SPA

Join the Joslyn Center

From legal assistance to computer classes and fitness and dance programs, the Joslyn Center offers a range of great programs, services and special events catering to individuals aged 50 and over. Membership is only \$30 per year at this active nonprofit community organization. If you don't drive, you may qualify for SunDial services, which provide transportation to the Center (Call SunDial customer service directly at 1 (800) 347-8628).



For more information about the Joslyn Center and all it has to offer, visit www.joslyncenter.org or call (760) 340-3220. The Joslyn Center is located at 73-750 Catalina Way in Palm Desert.



Palm Tree Care and Maintenance

The City of Indian Wells is well known for its beautiful, stately palm trees, a diversity of which thrive here in the desert including the iconic date palm, fan palms, and various other ornamental species.

Palm trees have a life span and when they reach later stages – often at heights from 50-70 feet or over 70-90 years in age – the trees may become susceptible to disease and insect infestation. These ailments can often lead to a significant increase in browning and loss of palm fronds and/or loss of the crown at the top of the tree altogether, or even toppling of the trees. A high wind event, frequent here in the desert, may have a major contributing effect on the damage to a weakened palm tree. Falling fronds, crowns, and the trees themselves can result in significant property damage and even harm to people if struck by debris. Serious consideration should be given to removing trees in significant states of decline.

The City of Indian Wells is on a regular program to inspect the palm trees in the public right-of-ways and on public property. The City strongly encourages homeowners, property owners, business owners, and homeowners associations to regularly check the health and stability of the palm trees located on their private property and private common areas by seeking professional advice from a landscape maintenance specialist and/or an ISA Certified Arborist. If needed, the City can provide a list of private professional specialists and arborists.

For Optimal Palm Tree Care:

- Inspections of palm trees over 15 feet in height should take place at least once every five years; more frequently as height and age increase.
- Ensure that palm trees are getting the right amount of irrigation. A lack of adequate water can increase the onset of disease and insect infestation and accelerate a palm tree's decline. Note: Average water needed for palm trees is 30 gallons per day.
- Prune palm trees to remove dead fronds, fruit stems, and fronds hanging below the base of the frond stems of the canopy. However, avoid overpruning of the green fronds extending above the base of the frond stems. This can cause narrowing of the trunk and weaken the tree.

Please note that Section 8.08.010(y)(1) of the City of Indian Wells Municipal Code addresses palm tree pruning as part of property maintenance and nuisance conditions, it states:

“Dead or decayed palm fronds hanging parallel to the tree trunk, and noncommercial fruit, and flowers/pollen hanging from palm trees (date palms, fan palms, etc.) have a detrimental effect on adjacent properties and the community. Such debris shall be trimmed from such trees at least once a year as soon as possible after the pods on the tree open up, but not later than June 30th of each year for date trees and not later than July 30th of each year for fan palms or Washingtonian palms.”

For more information, visit the Coachella Valley Resource Conservation District (CVRCD) website at www.cvconservation.org. The site includes specific information pertaining to date palms/orchards under educational materials.

Impartial Analyses of City of



Measure “S” proposes an amendment to the Charter of the City of Indian Wells. It would provide that no City funds or other items of value may be provided to or on behalf of any City Council Member for his or her personal use or benefit, except as provided therein or required by applicable State or Federal law. Measure “S” was proposed by initiative petition signed by more than 15% of the registered voters of the City.

The proposed amendment would add Section 101 to Article I of the Charter to state that the following payments may be made to City Council Members:

1. For services rendered as a Member of the City Council - \$1,000 per month
2. For services rendered as Mayor – an additional \$500 per month
3. For services rendered as Mayor Pro Tem – an additional \$250 per month

Beginning July 1, 2014, and each year thereafter, Measure “S”

MEASURE “S”: COUNCIL COMPENSATION

would require the City Treasurer to adjust the above amounts to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index (“CPI”) for the area, as determined by the Bureau of Labor Standards of the U.S. Department of Labor.

In addition to the above payments, Measure “S” would permit reimbursement of ordinary and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of duties as a City Council Member, Mayor, or Mayor Pro Tem, provided such expenses were reasonably incurred and approved by the City Council in advance.

Council Members are currently compensated in accordance with Section 2.08.050 of the City of Indian Wells Municipal Code, which provides that Council Members shall receive a stipend of \$2,500.00 per month, subject to an annual Cost of Living adjustment up to a limit of \$100.00. By approval of the current year budget, Council Members have reduced their current stipend to \$2,300.00 per month. In addition, currently, Council Members may receive compensation in the form of tickets in the possession and control of the City for admission to entertainment, recreational, amusement and similar events.

State law requires that sitting Council Members remain in the CalPERS defined benefit plan once they have elected to opt into CalPERS membership. All of the sitting Council Members have made such an election. Therefore, sitting Council Members must not only continue to participate in CalPERS but, the City must continue to contribute to the CalPERS defined benefit plan on their behalf in the form of the required employer contribution.

If Measure “S” is adopted, the amount payable would be reduced to \$1,000.00 per month for Council Members and \$1,500.00 and \$1,250.00 per month for Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem, respectively, subject to an annual CPI adjustment, plus ordinary, necessary and reasonably incurred expenses approved by the City Council in advance.

If adopted by the voters, this Charter Amendment may be amended or repealed only by vote of the people.

Measure “S” requires approval of a majority of voters. A “yes” vote for Measure “S” will adopt the amendment to the City Charter described above. A “no” vote against Measure “S” will maintain the status quo.

MEASURE “Q”: MAYOR ROTATION

Measure “Q” proposes approval of Ordinance Bill No. 2012-04 by the qualified voters of the City of Indian Wells.

The Ordinance would provide that, at the first regular Council meeting in December annually, the Council will appoint one Council Member as Mayor and one Council Member as Mayor Pro Tempore. The Council Member having the longest current continuous membership on the Council without serving as Mayor shall be appointed as Mayor, and the Council Member having

the second longest current continuous membership on the Council without serving as Mayor shall be appointed Mayor Pro Tempore. Currently, the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore are selected annually from among all Council Members, and can be changed at any time by a majority vote of the Council.

The Ordinance would provide a specific procedure for selection of the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore if two or more Council Members equally qualify for appointment. The Mayor and Mayor Pro



Tempore shall serve until their applicable successor is appointed, or until they vacate their applicable position due to inability to fulfill the responsibilities of that position.

A Council Member shall not be appointed Mayor or Mayor Pro Tempore, or a Council Member so appointed shall



Indian Wells Ballot Measures

be deemed to have vacated the position of Mayor or Mayor Pro Tempore, if he or she is unable to fulfill the responsibilities of that position, due to one or more of the following reasons:

1. unexcused absences from more than four Council meetings within the twelve month period prior to appointment or during the term of service as Mayor or Mayor Pro Tempore;
2. resignation or voluntary decision not to assume appointment as Mayor or Mayor Pro Tempore;
3. death or physical incapacity;

4. mental incapacity;
5. if censured by a majority of the City Council for specific reasons outlined in the Ordinance; or
6. arrest for a felony or crime of violence or moral turpitude, provided that, if prosecution of such crime is terminated without a plea agreement or conviction, such Council Member shall be placed in the highest priority for reappointment to the position.

If the position of Mayor becomes vacant due to inability to fulfill the duties of that position, the Mayor Pro

Tempore shall be appointed Mayor, and shall be reappointed Mayor for the next full term of the position. Further, if the position of Mayor Pro Tempore becomes vacant due to inability to fulfill the duties of that position, the Council Member next qualified to become Mayor Pro Tempore shall be appointed Mayor Pro Tempore, and shall be reappointed Mayor Pro Tempore for the next full term of the position.

Measure “Q” requires approval of a majority of voters. A “yes” vote for Measure “Q” will approve the proposed Ordinance described above. A “no” vote against Measure “Q” will maintain the status quo.



The City of Indian Wells formed eighteen landscape and lighting maintenance assessment districts (“LLMDs”) to fund the maintenance of landscape and lighting improvements within the City’s public rights-of-way on Highway 111, Cook Street, and Eldorado Drive (“Improvements”). In 1991, the LLMDs were consolidated into one district (the “LLMD No. 91-1”), which has eighteen zones. Although the Improvements maintained within LLMD No. 91-1 are located throughout the City, not all City property owners pay assessments for their maintenance.

Measure “R” proposes the adoption of an ordinance authorizing the City to impose a parcel tax on all taxable property within the City for the specific purpose of funding the maintenance and servicing of the Improvements

MEASURE “R”: PARCEL TAX

located in LLMD No. 91-1. The parcel tax would be imposed at a rate of \$171 per taxable parcel commencing July 1, 2013. For each fiscal year beginning fiscal year 2014-15, the maximum allowable parcel tax could be increased, as needed, by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (“CPI-U”), for the Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County area for the year ending the preceding December 31, capped at 3%. If for any reason the percentage change in the CPI-U is negative, the maximum allowable tax could not be decreased and would remain at the amount as computed for the previous fiscal year. If the City Council determines that an adjustment for inflation is not necessary in any given fiscal year, the City Council would not be obligated to increase the parcel tax in that fiscal year.

If the parcel tax is approved by the voters, commencing July 1, 2013, the City will suspend the imposition, levy, and collection of the special benefit assessments on residential parcels within LLMD No. 91-1 for so long as the parcel tax is imposed, levied, and collected by the City. Because there

are additional costs for maintaining certain improvements that specially benefit non-residential parcels in Zones A8, A11A, A11C, and E of LLMD No. 91-1, the special benefit assessments for non-residential parcels within these zones would not be suspended.

In order for the City to adopt the proposed parcel tax and resulting suspension of assessments on residential lots in LLMD No. 91-1, Measure “R” must be approved by two-thirds of the voters voting in the election on Measure “R”.

A “yes” vote on Measure “R” authorizes the City to (1) impose the parcel tax, commencing July 1, 2013, at the rate of \$171 per taxable parcel per year; and (2) provide for annual inflationary adjustments of the tax capped at 3%.

A “no” vote on Measure “R” prohibits the City from (1) imposing the parcel tax commencing July 1, 2013, at the rate of \$171 per taxable parcel per year; and (2) providing for annual inflationary adjustments of the tax capped at 3%.

Voter Registration for November 6, 2012 General Election



To ensure that you are registered to vote for the upcoming General Election, visit www.voteinfo.net. Click on "Am I Registered" located on the left side of the page and fill in requested information. If you are not registered, click on "Registration Information and Application" for details. Voter registration forms are generally available at post offices, libraries, city and county offices, and the Department of Motor Vehicles. You may also

call the County of Riverside Registrar of Voters at (951) 486-7200 to request that an application be mailed to you.

Remember, you must register no later than October 22 to be eligible to vote on November 6!

Identity Theft Prevention Free SHREDDING Event

Saturday, December 8 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Join the Indian Wells Police Department for a FREE Shredding event to help residents prevent identity theft.

This is a great opportunity to clean out your files and dispose of old tax records safely and efficiently. Bring all papers containing sensitive information, especially your social security number, account numbers and birth dates. No need to remove paperclips, brads, staples or pre-sort. Shredding is for "papers" only; no cardboard, plastic bags, magazines, newspaper or products such as tapes, CD's, DVD's or hard drives.



If you are unable to make the date, please mark your calendars for our regular Burrtec SHRED days at City Hall on Saturday, January 26 or Saturday, April 27, 2013. No RSVP necessary.



Tips for Driving in Hot Weather

Whether driving close to home or travelling long distances, stay safe on the road with these important recommendations for driving in the desert during the summertime:

- Never leave a person or a pet in a hot car.
- Make sure your vehicle is in good running condition and has a full tank of gas.

- High temperatures can affect tires that are worn or not properly inflated. Take your tires to a professional to have the tread inspected and replace worn tires.
- If you are stopped in traffic, put the car in "park" and lightly step on the gas to help circulate coolant.
- When driving in hot weather, it's particularly important to keep an eye on the lights and gauges in your dashboard. If your temperature gauge moves up, turn off your air conditioner and turn on the heater to its hottest setting. Yes, it will make you uncomfortable, but it will help draw some of the heat away from the engine.
- Bring water, snacks, necessary medications, sturdy walking shoes, moist towelettes and a hat. Stop periodically to refresh yourself and always have a charged cell phone.

Sources:
www.response.com,
www.tirerack.com



Stay Cool and Healthy This September!

- Drink plenty of water. Avoid alcohol and caffeine.
- Turn on your air conditioner. Stay in an air-conditioned space at home, or someplace cool like the mall, a library, senior center or Cool Center.
- Schedule outside activities before noon or in the evening. Avoid or minimize physical exertion.
- Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose clothing.
- Wear a wide-brimmed hat, or use an umbrella for shade.



- Slow down—rest in the shade or a cool place every chance you get.
- If you do not have an air conditioner, use a fan. Make sure your windows are open.
- Do not eat heavy meals. Avoid cooking with your oven.
- Take a cool shower or bath.

Save Energy Costs by:

- Setting your thermostat at 78 degrees or higher. You save 3-5 percent on your air conditioning cost for each degree you raise the thermostat.
- Replacing filters often, even in the summer.
- Keeping your air conditioning duct vents clean and clear. Make sure furniture or drapes are not blocking air vents or keeping cool air from circulating freely.
- Replacing light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs). CFLs use about 1/4 as much electricity and last ten times longer than incandescent bulbs.
- Turning off air conditioning and opening windows for a cross breeze on cooler evenings.
- Keeping lights off or turned down.
- Getting your home weatherized.



Cooling Centers to Open in Intense Heat

Community Action Partnership of Riverside County is coordinating Cool Centers to provide drop-in sites for vulnerable individuals, seniors, the disabled, and others in need of temporary relief from the heat. Cool Centers will open to the public, in affected areas, when the Riverside County Department of Public Health issues a "Heat Warning." Watch or listen for the "Heat Warning" on your TV, radio, and local newspaper.

For Cool Center locations, hours and more tips on how to protect yourself from the heat, call the Summer Energy Crisis Hotline, 1 (888)-636-8676, TTY (951) 955-5126, Monday-Friday 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. Or call 2-1-1 24 hours/day. www.capriverside.org.



Resident Joyce Stein Honored with Ellis Island Award

A hearty congratulations goes out to Indian Wells resident Joyce Philibosian Stein who was recently honored with the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, sponsored by the National Ethnic Coalition (www.NECO.org). Stein was among several notable honorees at the May 12, 2012 ceremony including singer Frankie Valli, actress Brooke Shields, boxer Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini, and Lieutenant Colonel Edward Monroe, one of the original Tuskegee Airmen.

To pay homage to the immigrant experience and to acknowledge each honoree for his/her individual achievements, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor is awarded to United States citizens from various ethnic backgrounds who exemplify outstanding qualities in both their personal and professional lives, while continuing to preserve the richness of their particular heritage.

Held on Ellis Island, the medal ceremony was followed by a black-tie gala dinner in the great hall where both of Stein's parents first stepped foot on American soil. Stein was accompanied by family including her husband Joe, daughter Stephanie Landes, son-in-law Michael Landes, and grandchildren Matthew and Christina Landes.



City Council
 Douglas H. Hanson
Mayor
 William T. Powers
Mayor Pro Tem
 Larry Spicer
Council Member
 Mary T. Roche
Council Member
 Patrick J. Mullany
Council Member

City Staff
 Roderick J. Wood
Interim City Manager
 Stephen P. Deitsch
City Attorney
 Kevin McCarthy
Finance Director
 Nancy Samuelson
*Director of Marketing
 and Community Relations*
 Chip Leslie
Interim Planning Director
 Mel Windsor
Personnel/Public Safety Director
 Paul Goble
*Public Works Director
 and Building Official*



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www.cityofindianwells.org

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Mayor's Office Hours

Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
 IW Club

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
 City Hall

Or to schedule an appointment,
 call City Hall at (760) 346-2489.

(No office hours on Tuesday, September 4)

Stay tuned for information on upcoming resident events at the IW Club. Also, be sure to visit www.cityofindianwells.org for the latest updates, and sign up to receive the latest city news via e-mail by clicking on the "mailbox" icon.



Barry Manilow GIFT OF LOVE Concert Tickets

ON SALE NOW

Barry Manilow, the desert's own famed showman, returns to the McCallum Theatre this winter to perform a series of GIFT OF LOVE holiday concerts December 11-12 and 14-16. The concerts will benefit more than 25 Coachella Valley charities including The Living Desert Zoo & Botanical Gardens located in Indian Wells and Palm Desert.

Concert packages and tickets are now on sale with prices ranging from \$300 for a premium ticket to \$10,000 for a GIFT OF LOVE sponsor package (which includes a post-show meet and greet with Barry!).

Don't miss out on the Manilow magic – purchase these special tickets and packages today by visiting www.starz.bz/agiftoflove/ or calling (310) 957-5788.



Please note that the City Council Meeting will not be held on Thursday, September 6. Please mark your calendars accordingly. Thank you.