



at PALM SPRINGS 43	RIALTO 27	at YUCCA VALLEY 28
ARROYO VALLEY 8	at LA QUINTA 24	COACHELLA VALLEY 7
PALM DESERT 10	BEAUMONT 40	DESERT CHAPEL 36
at APPLE VALLEY 0 (SUSP)	at CATHEDRAL CITY 17	at MARYWOOD-PALM VALLEY 16
at BRAWLEY 49	PALO VERDE 28	at OAK HILLS 56
INDIO 27	at SHADOW HILLS 21	DESERT HOT SPRINGS 3

The Desert Sun

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2011

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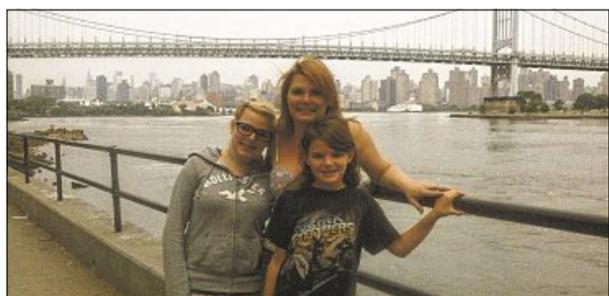
SERVING THE COACHELLA VALLEY SINCE 1927



First-grader Thomas Hayes looks over his work as students at Desert Chapel Christian School in Palm Springs commemorated the upcoming 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks by placing flags along Sunrise Way on Friday. MICHAEL SNYDER/THE DESERT SUN

'He's not coming back'

Family of Coachella Valley native killed on Sept. 11 rebuilds, but never forgets



Amanda Lee (left), Kellie Lee (middle) and Allison Lee pose for a photo in New York City in this undated family photo. Kellie's husband and the girls' father, Daniel John Lee, was killed in the crash of Flight 11 on Sept. 11, 2001. SUBMITTED PHOTO

By Marcel Honoré
 The Desert Sun

Allison Lee never met her father, longtime Coachella Valley resident Dan Lee. She lost him to the terror attacks just two days before she was born on Sept. 13, 2001.

An avid drummer, Dan Lee grew up in Palm Desert and worked as a stagehand, traveling the world with music acts such as Yanni and Neil Diamond.

On Sept. 11, 2001, Lee boarded American Airlines Flight 11 from Boston, where he was on tour with the popular Backstreet Boys band. He was flying to Los Angeles for Allison's birth.

His plane was the first to hit the World Trade Center that day. Dan Lee was 34 years old.

His mother, Palm Desert resident Elaine Susino, died several months later, family members say, of a heart-related ailment.

Delivering Allison two days after losing her husband, "I think I



Lee

was in shock. My whole world just crumbled," Lee's widow, Kellie Lee, said Thursday.

For Lee, the decade has been a journey to overcome her grief, raise two young girls without their father and rebuild the young family's lives.

"I can't believe it's been 10 years already," Lee, now 42, said in a phone interview from New York, where she was interviewed for a "Today" show segment that ran Friday.

Allison and her 12-year-old sister, Amanda, are also featured in the Sept. 12 issue of People magazine, which chronicles the lives of the children who lost their fathers on 9/11.

Dan Lee was a fun-loving kid at heart who would enthusiastically pose with a thumbs-up sign in

Please see LEE, A7

Memory of neighbor, good friend still thriving

By Marcel Honoré
 The Desert Sun

On a warm, sunny morning one decade after the 9/11 attacks, Bette and Frank King huddled with four other Canyon Sands condominium residents in the shade of a lemon tree planted in memory of the Kings' next-door neighbor, Barbara Keating.

"This tree was literally this tall 10 years ago," Bette King told the group Friday, reaching down to hold her palm about a foot off the ground. "Look...how this tree keeps growing and

Please see KEATING, A7



Julia Fidel (left) and Eva Anderson, both students at St. Theresa, remember parishioner Barbara Keating, who was killed on Sept. 11, 2001. OMAR ORNELAS/THE DESERT SUN

MASSIVE BLACKOUT

'Outdated' power grid vulnerable

Experts: Expensive upgrades needed, major decision-making too localized

By Keith Matheny and Brian Indrelunas
 The Desert Sun

Like the 2003 blackout in the northeastern U.S. that left 55 million without power, Thursday's outage across Southern California brought renewed attention to the stability of the power grid.

Upgrades to smarter technology, which have been put off for years because of the cost to utilities and customers, would likely have kept the failure of power systems from spreading across such a large region, experts said Friday.

Technicians were still baffled how an unremarkable local event — a utility worker's removal of a faulty, voltage-regulating capacitor in Yuma, Ariz. — could trigger a cascade of outages from western Arizona, across a swath of Southern California and down into Baja Mexico.

"The way the system is designed, that should have had no impact on any customer, in Yuma or anywhere else," said Damon Gross, a spokesman for Arizona Public Service Co., the utility whose worker set off the blackout.

The blackout left more than 4 million people without power

for up to 12 hours, including about 135,000 customers of the Imperial Irrigation District. In the San Diego area, it caused business losses estimated at more than \$100 million.

The blackout's cause is under investigation by APS; the California Independent Service Operator, or Cal ISO, which manages energy delivery in most of the state; the Western Electricity Coordinating Council, monitoring system reliability in the western U.S.; and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

The system is operating with less margin for error than ever before, at the edges of its stability limits, said Eilyan

Bitar, a visiting assistant professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Cornell University, who's working to develop smarter grid technology.

"Out of all the major blackouts that have happened in the past 50 or 60 years, the majority have occurred in the past 10 or 12 years," he said.

Another problem is that deci-

Please see POWER, A2

TERROR THREAT

Life in NYC, Washington goes on despite warning

By Eileen Sullivan and Lolita C. Baldor
 The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Undaunted by talk of a new terror threat, New Yorkers and Washingtonians wove among police armed with assault rifles and waited with varying degrees of patience at security checkpoints Friday while intelligence officials scrambled to nail down information on a possible al-Qaida strike timed to coincide with the 10th anniversary of 9/11.

Counterterrorism officials have been working around the clock to determine whether the threat is accurate, and extra security was put in place to protect the people in the two cities that took the brunt of the jetliner attacks that killed nearly 3,000 peo-

READY TO USE FORCE



Secretary of State Hillary Clinton reiterates that the U.S. won't shy from using force against terrorists. A3

ple at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon a decade ago. It was the worst terror assault in the nation's history, and al-Qaida has long dreamed of striking again to mark the anniversary. But it could be weeks before the intelligence community can say whether this particular threat is real.

Security worker Eric Martinez wore a pin depicting the twin towers on his lapel as he headed to

Please see THREAT, A2

SCHEDULE OF 9/11 EVENTS IN THE VALLEY/B5

GOOD MORNING

Relief at last
98° 75°

Advice **D8** Lottery **B6**
 Bridge **H6** Movies **D7**
 Classified **H1-6** Obituaries **B6**
 Comics **D6** Opinion **B7**
 Crossword **H5** Sudoku **H5**

75¢ newspaper designated market
 \$1.00 outside of market



COMING SUNDAY



9.11.11 SPECIAL SECTION

The terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 made an indelible mark on our nation and the Coachella Valley. Some have lost loved ones in the war on terror, and some children have never known a world without war.

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