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A BOY BECOMES A MAN IN
"THE LAST ESTATE"
CHECK OUT CLARK'S REVIEW ON 3B

Heat wave hunkers down on county

100-plus temperatures – high humidity – forecast this weekend in Kingman

By James Chilton
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KINGMAN – If it's seemed unseasonably hot to you lately, well, you're right. The National Weather Service in Las Vegas has issued an excessive heat warning for the Kingman area through Sunday afternoon, citing temperatures in excess of 100 degrees for each of the next three days here.

According to Clay Morgan, a meteorologist with the NWS in Las Vegas, the entire Mojave Desert has been experiencing above-average temperatures this month, due mainly to a large high pressure system that has settled over the region. While Kingman typically averages highs of about 96 degrees in July, Morgan said Kingman has been subject to multiple days of 100-degree-plus temperatures already, and the worst is yet to come.

"We're looking for 106 degrees on Friday and it's going to be abnormally humid," he said. "It'll be a little stickier than we're used to around here. We're looking for dew points up in the 40s, maybe even touching 50 by the weekend."

Dew point is the temperature at which water vapor in the air begins to condense into dew. In practice, Morgan said, dew point is one way of establishing the specific humidity of air based on the current barometric pressure. Normally, he said, Kingman's dew point averages in the 20s and 30s at this time of year.

See HEAT, 12A

County jobless rate still over 10%

By James Chilton
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KINGMAN – After a sharp increase in May, Mohave County's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate reversed itself in June, falling nearly a full point to 10.9 percent, though overall unemployment actually rose due to increases in the total workforce and the loss of hundreds of government positions.

According to a new report released Thursday by the Arizona Department of Labor, total non-farm employment in Mohave County fell to 46,000 in June, down from 46,900 the month before, with the bulk of job losses coming from the local and federal government sectors. Those sectors, which account for both U.S. Census workers and public education, shed a combined 800 jobs due to summer vacation and expiring temporary Census jobs.

But government was by no means the only sector to drop employees in June. Several other private service sectors also experienced smaller decreases, including educational and health services, information, leisure and hospitality, and miscellaneous services. Those four sectors each lost about 100 jobs each, though the professional and business services sector made up for it slightly, posting an increase of about 100 jobs over the same period.

See JOBS, 11A

Rolling meth lab stopped in Kingman

By Erin Taylor
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KINGMAN –A traffic stop Tuesday night led to the discovery of a mobile methamphetamine lab.

A Mohave County Sheriff's deputy stopped a black Ford Ranger pickup truck for speeding in the area of Sunshine Drive and Castlerock Road around 10 p.m. Tuesday. After running the license plate, deputies discovered that the truck had been reported stolen out of New Mexico.

Deputies arrested the driver, 38-year-old Floyd Anthony Calzada of Farmington, N.M., as well as a female passenger.

While searching the vehicle, deputies found bottles of brown liquid consistent with the type used in the manufacturing of methamphetamine.

Officers with the Mohave Area General Narcotics Enforcement Taskforce (MAGNET) and Department of Public Safety lab technicians responded to the scene, where more items consistent with a meth lab were found.

Sandy Edwards, spokeswoman for the Sheriff's Office, said it appeared that meth was being made out of the cab of the truck.

Edwards said there was no indication in the deputies' report as to what Calzada was doing in the area.

Calzada reportedly admitted that the items found were used for manufacturing drugs. He was booked into the Mohave County Jail on felony charges of unlawful means of transportation and possession of dangerous drug equipment for manufacturing, as well as two outstanding warrants.

Law enforcement was on the scene until 9:40 the next morning containing the volatile chemicals found.

Horn of Trouble

ERIN TAYLOR/Miner

Jimson weed, also called Devil's Trumpet, is a poisonous plant found all over Mohave County.

Kids sickened by weed

Contact with Devil's Trumpet led to trip to the hospital for Kingman youngsters

By Erin Taylor
etaylor@kdminer.com

KINGMAN – A local family believes a pair of young cousins were sickened by a poisonous weed that can be found growing all over Kingman.

Cody Rogers, 8, and his 6-year-old cousin were playing in a relative's backyard July 2. When the kids' grandmother went to pick up Cody and take him back to his house that afternoon, Cody fell asleep in the car.

His mom, Stephenie Polk, said when he got home, she found that her son's heart was racing and said he was completely non-responsive.

"He wouldn't wake up for anything," she said. "We were very scared."

The girl was also

See WEED, 11A

A Meal on Beale

JC AMBERLYN/Miner

Dora's Beale Street Deli held a grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony Tuesday evening at 509 E. Beale St. During the ribbon-cutting, owners Dora Manley (who previously owned Kingman Deli) and Dr. Donovan Schmidt cut the ribbon as city officials and friends and family looked on. The deli is open Monday-Saturday from 9 to 3 p.m. and plans are to expand its service to a dinner menu with later hours some time this fall. Food specialties include sandwiches, salads, soups, panini and gourmet cupcakes. The back room can be reserved for meetings and special occasions. Dora's Beale Street Deli has a full service catering license and provides catering to events such as holiday parties, weddings and birthdays. For more information, call 928-753-DINE (3463) or go to www.bealestreetdeli.com.

Dropouts shrink voter choices in some races

By Suzanne Adams
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KINGMAN – A recent spate of candidates suspending their campaigns for elected office has left some voters wondering who's left in the races.

All of the Republican contenders have dropped out of the race Arizona governor except Gov. Jan Brewer and Matthew Jette from Apache Junction.

Buz Mills announced he was suspending his run for governor on Tuesday. He said in a news release that the change in campaign topics from the state economy to illegal immigration was his reason for dropping out of the race.

Current Arizona Treasurer Dean Martin dropped out of the race on July 9, stating that a contested Republican primary would be a distraction from the state's economic and illegal immigration problems.

See RACES, 12A

KINGMAN

Hualapai Mountain Medical Center will be hosting a summer block party from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 17, on the hospital's campus at 3801 Santa Rosa Ave.

The event, which features free food and drinks, is open to the public and will also include hospital tours, carnival games, a dunk tank, rock climbing and cholesterol screening. Families are also invited to come out and meet Kingman's local police, firefighters and paramedics, as well as the hospital staff.

All proceeds from the block party will go to a local charity, and anyone who brings canned goods to donate will receive free tickets for the carnival games.

For more information, call (928) 263-5000.

KINGMAN

It's a cool time this Saturday in Downtown Kingman with the July edition of Chillin' On Beale Street!

As always, the Cruise-In is free and open to all classics, hot rods, sports cars, trucks and projects! This month, the first 200 automotive orphans will get a free dash plaque! A car is an orphan if the manufacturer no longer exists – Studebaker, DeSoto, Plymouth, Pontiac, Pierce . . . any orphan regardless of year!

Bring a chair and chill out with classic tunes and dance favorites, free games and prizes for the kids, a fun downtown poker walk, food, fun, and more! Enjoy it all at 5th and Beale from 5 to 10 p.m.

PHOENIX

State Treasurer Dean Martin announced that the state's cash flow will be sufficient to pay bills for the rest of the year.

Gov. Jan Brewer has adopted several recommendations from Martin's office which will allow the state to diminish the need to borrow funds to keep things running, Martin said. Despite these efforts the state still has a long way to go before it can correct its budget problems, he said.

"If voters approve the two ballot measures in November, there should be no need to borrow funds for operating purposes this year. If they vote no, then spending will have to be reduced immediately to ensure the state's cash flow projections remain on target," Martin said.

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