



# Valley's Suzanne Somers meets challenge of anti-aging rhetoric

By Bruce Fessier  
The Desert Sun

Images of Suzanne Somers in slinky, full-body poses and provocative, carefully-lit close-ups are plastered throughout the Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino, where she recently began performing a year-long show in her own cabaret room titled "Suzanne Sizzles."

But, being Suzanne Somers, hotel guests don't just glance at her photos on elevator doors and long columns and head to the gaming tables. They examine her face to see if there are any wrinkles and check out her waist to see if there are any bulges.

As the 68-year-old poster child for the anti-

Please see SOMERS, 12A



MARILYN CHUNG/THE DESERT SUN

At age 68, Suzanne Somers follows 'Dancing with the Stars' with a new book, "Tox-sick," and a year-long show in Las Vegas, "Suzanne Sizzles."

# The Desert Sun

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2015

SERVING THE COACHELLA VALLEY SINCE 1927

The Coachella Valley has long relied on its strong Colorado River water rights to thrive despite its desert location, but that source is consistently running lower

# DESERT BANKING ON FADING RIVER



JAY CALDERON/THE DESERT SUN

By Sammy Roth  
The Desert Sun

Like the rest of the state, the Coachella Valley faces major water cutbacks in response to California's epic drought. But unlike most of the state, the valley has a water source that it's trying to use more of, not less of: the Colorado River.

The desert has long relied on the Colorado for its survival, and that reliance is only growing. In an effort to protect the valley's over-pumped groundwater aquifer, local water managers are working to bring more Colorado River water to golf courses, new developments, housing tracts and other large water users.

But banking on the Colorado is a dangerous long-term plan.

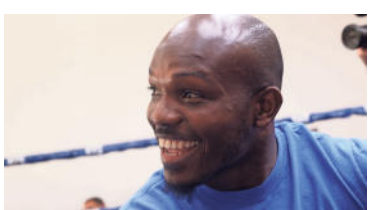
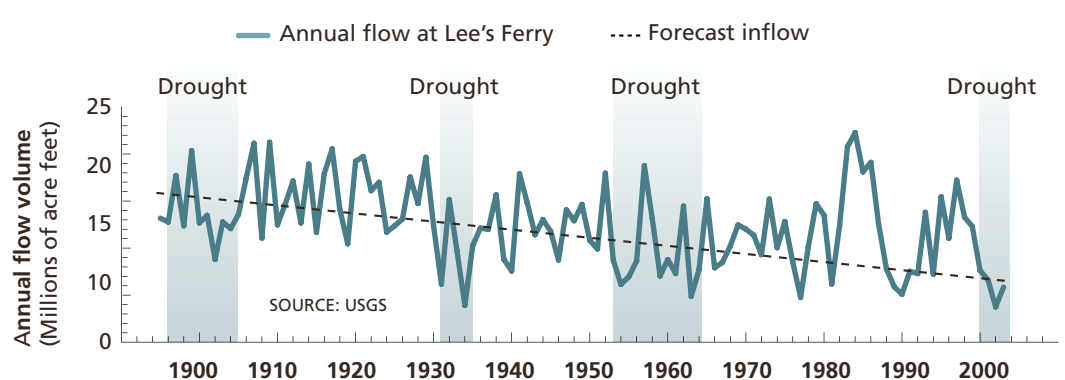
While the river is in better shape than the Coachella Valley's fragile aquifer, it faces a slow-burning crisis of its own. Demand for Colorado River water exceeds supply, and reservoir levels are falling dramatically as the Colorado River Basin suffers through a 16th year of drought. Human-caused climate change — which is expected to bring longer, more frequent and more severe droughts — will only make the problem worse.

"It's really not the best strategy to rely on Colorado River water, and to assume that Colorado River water will be there in perpetuity," said Jay Famiglietti, a hydrologist and senior scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. "The Colorado River Basin is actively running out of water."

Please see RIVER, 6A

A group of golfers plays at Terra Lago in Indio near the Coachella branch of the All-American Canal on Monday. It's one of just two golf courses in the Coachella Valley that uses Colorado River water almost exclusively.

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