

COACHELLA VALLEY PUBLIC CEMETERY DISTRICT Quarterly Newsletter

Q2 • April – June 2023

What's New

Memorial Day Ceremony
Digital Memorial Site
Summer Interment Hours
New Section of Cemetery
Landscape Enhancements
Advocacy Conference
and more...

Memorial Day Ceremony Honors Veterans

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED THE
MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY THIS YEAR!**

The event was well attended and continues to be an outstanding display of patriotism and appreciation by our community toward all those who fought on behalf of our country defending freedom. It is of extra significance to the friends and family of the more than 1,000 Veterans interred at the Coachella Valley Public Cemetery.



A special thank you to the American Legion Auxiliary Indio Post 739 for helping arrange the event, the Palm Springs Air Museum for a great flyover, and to all the organizations that participated, including the Scouts BSA 1701 and 451 and the Coachella Valley High School Choir.



More Tributes to Our Veterans

The District has added special recognition to the digital memorial site of all Veterans interred at our cemetery. Each decedent in the cemetery has a digital memorial page, which can be found by visiting the "Find A Loved One" section of our website. Once there, it will offer you details of those interred, including name, birth date, date of death, and location of their resting place within the cemetery. For Veterans, we have now added designation as a "Veteran," their period/theater of service, as well as branch of the military in which they served. We can also add a service photo if one is supplied by the family. To contact the cemetery regarding adding information or a photo for an interred Veteran at our cemetery, please contact staff at (760) 398-3221 or email their photo and full name to info@CVPCD.org. Please be sure to include "Veteran Information" in the email subject line or text body.



CVPCD.org

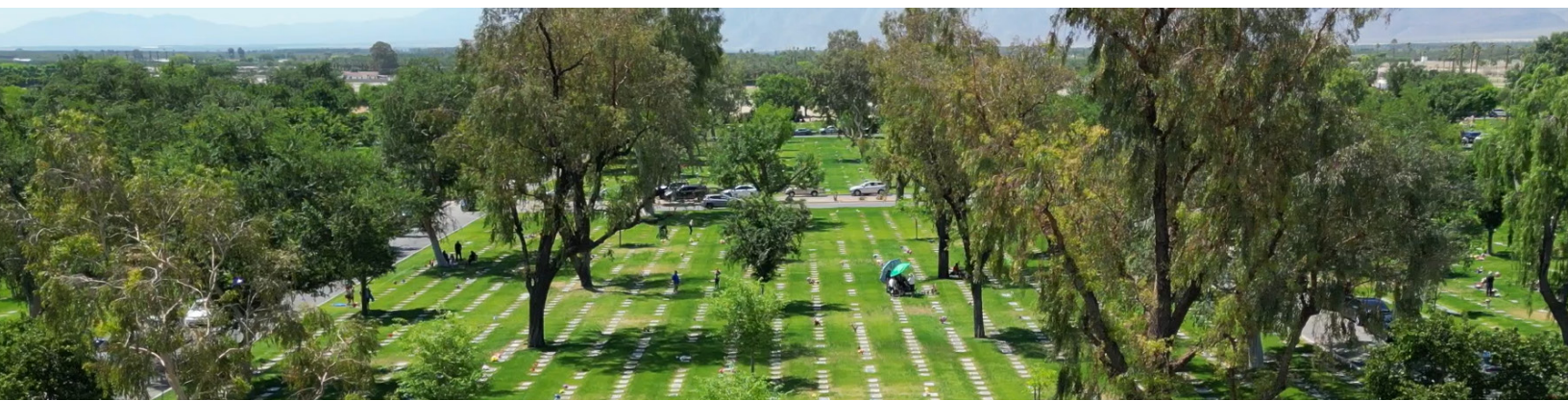
Cemetery Introduces Summer Interment Hours

As temperatures rise and we enter summer months, changes are being made to the Coachella Valley Public Cemetery's service times to ensure the best possible climate. Beginning the week of May 14, 2023, a new summer graveside schedule was implemented.

This adjustment provides families with the opportunity to benefit from cooler morning temperatures, ensuring a more comfortable environment during services. Additionally, the maintenance crew will be able to navigate the grounds more effectively while complying with Cal/OSHA's Heat Illness Prevention Guidelines.



The revised schedule offers the following service times:
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays: 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., and 11:30 a.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays: 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.



New Section of Cemetery Now Available

On May 8, 2023, the District officially broke ground in Section 26 with our first scheduled interment. This section became available to the public on May 1 for pre-need and at-need purchases. The new section added approximately 700 lots to cemetery inventory.



To discuss arrangements or property transactions with staff, the public is asked to use the District's online system at **coachellacemetery.org/schedule-an-appointment**. We kindly ask the community to utilize the appointment system as we are generally unable to accommodate walk-in customers.

Landscape Enhancements Improve Cemetery Grounds

The District successfully accomplished another milestone in its ongoing 2022/2023 Capital Improvement Project, "Landscape Improvement." The first phase involved the restoration of the islands situated in the median divides at the center of the cemetery. The District also added nearly 100 new trees as part of a concurrent project.

The most recent phase of the project concentrated on enhancing the front portion of the cemetery, specifically the north entrance. The main objective was to address deterioration caused by sand drift over time, resulting in a dirt basin. To rectify this, new rock features and shrubbery were reintroduced in the small curb section directly in front of the cemetery.



Looking ahead, the District is preparing for the final phase of the project, which will involve refreshing the area located in front of the cemetery on the south side of the wall. This upcoming phase will encompass various improvements, including the addition of more rocks to the existing beds and the replacement of wood chips with matching rocks in certain shoulder areas.

With each completed phase, the District is making remarkable progress in its comprehensive Capital Improvement Project, ensuring that the cemetery's landscape is restored and maintained to a high standard. These efforts demonstrate the District's commitment to providing a visually appealing and well-maintained environment for visitors and honoring the memories of those laid to rest.

Meet The Board | Vice-Chair Judy Vossler

CVPCD's Meet the Board series introduces each of the five Trustees who establish policy, budget, and strategic direction for the District.

Judy Vossler is retired after a 40-year career in the Coachella Valley in hospitality, tourism and special events, including general manager of La Quinta Hotel, tournament director of The Skins Game, the Betty Ford Invitational Pro-Am, the Frank Sinatra Celebrity Invitational and the Giddings Cup. Vossler retired from the Greater Palm Springs Convention & Visitors Bureau after seven years in management.

In retirement, Vossler continues years of community volunteerism including the Boys & Girls Clubs of Coachella Valley, Desert Town Hall Lecture Series, La Quinta Historical Society, Modernism Week and Landmark Golf Company. We are proud to have her service as the Vice-Chair of the Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District.



District Represents the Community at Advocacy Conference

The Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District (CVPCD) was proud to send a delegation to the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Legislative Conference on May 16 and 17, 2023, in Sacramento. District attendees included Board Trustee Bruce Underwood and General Manager Joshua Bonner.

The conference served as a valuable platform for the District to receive informative updates from CSDA staff and engage with prominent legislative leaders. Notably, the District had the privilege of meeting with local elected officials, including Assemblymembers Eduardo Garcia and Greg Wallis, and Senator Kelly Seyarto. These meetings presented an important opportunity for the District to share insights on how current and proposed legislation affects local Special Districts and the constituents they serve.

Joining the local CSDA delegation were representatives from Coachella Valley Water District, Desert Recreation District, Valley Sanitary, Palm Springs Cemetery, and the CV Conservation District. The collaboration and presence of various Special Districts strengthened the collective voice of the region. Expressing gratitude, the District extended its appreciation to all local elected leaders for their dedicated service to the community. Their commitment to addressing the needs and concerns of local Special Districts is crucial in ensuring effective governance and representation.

By actively engaging in events like the CSDA Legislative Conference, the District demonstrates its dedication to advocacy, fostering meaningful connections with legislative leaders, and safeguarding the interests of local Special Districts and their constituents.



The Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District Board of Trustees meets on the second Friday of each month, at 8 a.m, unless otherwise changed to accommodate an observed holiday. The public is welcome to attend and encouraged to submit ideas and suggestions at the meetings, which are held at 82-847 Avenue 52 in Coachella. For information, visit coachellacemetery.org/governance/board.