

Neighborhood news

Homestead pleased at workshop reception



Johnson Valley
Betty Munson

◆ Our own Fran Chapman, director of the Senior Support Center in Yucca Valley, will speak at the meeting of the Morongo Basin Regional Council of Aging at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday at the Landers

Association's Belfield Hall, 58380 Reche Road. All are invited.

◆ **Bunco, bunco, bunco!** You are invited to join the bunco game beginning at 6 p.m. Thursday at the Johnson Valley Community Center. It's easy and a lot of fun to play. Bring finger food to share at the break.

◆ The popular potato bar is on for Feb. 6 at the center. Big hot potatoes, your choice of many toppings, plus salad and dessert!

Stay after dinner for a talk with a representative from the sheriff's department. Some of our Citizens on Patrol

friends will be there, too. We must thank them for their time and dedication, checking out Johnson Valley after the recent deluge and asking if anyone needed any help.

◆ **Ladies, dig out your favorite salad recipes.** It's time to plan for the Ladies Salad Luncheon, at noon Feb. 10 at the center. Tell your friends.

◆ "No mysteries, no surprises." These were the words of Terry Francke. He was answering a question posed by Dave Larsen, newly-elected director of Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency, on how to avoid the most common errors when dealing with the public,

under the rules of the Brown Act.

This question and answer was a brilliant summing up of all the facts, rules and law presented at the all-day Open Government Workshops Wednesday at the Yucca Valley Community Center.

Approximately 70 people from a multitude of agencies and districts, as well as the general public, braved the threatening weather forecast to attend this event, sponsored by the Homestead Valley Community Council.

County Supervisor Neil Derry led off with comments about his two projects that

would work toward making San Bernardino County government more transparent: his sunshine ordinance and his proposed ethics commission.

Derry then introduced Terry Francke, founder and lead counsel for Californians Aware, known as CalAware, who made the presentations.

Elected officials and their staff members were educated about their responsibilities to the public, and the public was informed about the rights they have in speaking at a public forum and making requests for public information.

Members of the Homestead Valley Community Council found it gratifying how much support and sponsorship materialized to make this day possible. From the donations to cover the cost of the hall, the complementary room for Mr. Francke at the Best Western in Yucca Valley, the radio and newspaper publicity and the participation of Neil Derry and Alan Rasmussen, it all worked out so well.

For more information on the HVCC, see www.hvccsite.org.

Got news or more milestones? Call Betty Munson at (760) 364-2646.