

Hospital budget vote tonight; wage impasse continues

By JAMES NICKLES Sun Staff Writer
BARSTOW — The City Council will be asked to vote tonight on a \$10.3 million Barstow Community Hospital budget...

The rate increase is one of a series of steps officials have proposed to make the hospital more profitable so it can afford the estimated \$14 million cost of expansion.
The proposed new bed rates will make Barstow Community Hospital's private and intensive care beds more expensive than those at either St. Mary Desert Valley Hospital in Apple Valley or Victor Valley Community Hospital in Victorville.

from \$100 to \$185. St. Mary is now \$170, and Victor Valley is \$190.
An \$866,428 profit this year would be a substantial increase over the \$400,000 the hospital earned last year.
But, Gordon said, it's still below the \$1.1 million the hospital must generate each year if it's to afford expansion.

spenser" that allows wages and other economic issues to be renegotiated in the second and third years of a three-year contract.
The third year began July 1 and expires next June. Mike Ziemer is registered nurse who is the chief union steward at the hospital, said both sides have been at an impasse since July 1, despite the involvement of a state mediator.
Members of his union, which include nursing, clerical and maintenance employees, "have taken a vote for a strike or we just can't get a better offer," he said.



Fetch it!

Uta Corris, a resident of Big Bear Lake, who recently moved here from Cologne, Germany with her dog Pepper because she "smelled freedom," throws a stick into the water for Pepper to retrieve.

Under Gordon's proposal — modified slightly from the plan he presented to the council in June — private beds would increase from \$175-a-day to \$200. St. Mary is now \$185 and Victor Valley's rate is \$190.
The rate for semi-private beds here would increase

The council, acting as the city-owned hospital's board of directors, in May tentatively approved a project that would increase the number of beds from 94 to about 92.
Hospital and city officials next week are scheduled to begin the first of a series of interviews with architectural firms that have submitted phase-two and phase-three design proposals.
The deadlocked union negotiations involve a "re-

City's budget to be studied

BARSTOW — The City Council is expected to look for ways to cut costs Thursday in a study session on the \$107.7 million city budget for 1981-82.
Four councilmen have said they believe the city budget surplus is dropping, but City Manager Wayne Lamoreaux said reserves are constant at about \$2 million annually.
Meanwhile, some councilmen say they want to look into possible reorganizing of the city's staff, including elimination of division directors.
Also, they want to study possible increases in sewer service charges to meet operational costs at the city's wastewater treatment plant.
The study session is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the City Hall council chamber.
Councilman A.J. Pontecorvo Monday repeated his earlier contentions that the city's budget surplus is falling.
"We've got to do something to keep us out from exceeding income," he said.
"I want to take a closer look at the budget before adopting it."
Lamoreaux said the city has not obtained final data on the state's 1981-82 allocations to the city, expected to range from \$112,000 to \$225,000. The city is operating on last year's budget until a new budget is adopted, probably in early September.
Discussion on staff reorganization may include engineering personnel.

Public transit costs will be posted Pioneerstown land assessments OK'd

BARSTOW — What does it cost to operate the Dial-A-Ride Service here?
The City Council wants the public to know, and has unanimously agreed the cost should be posted on each Dial-A-Ride vehicle here.
"This may encourage more public use of the service," Councilman Jim Bellomy said.
The action followed a public hearing Monday on the city's application for urban mass transit funds for two years for area transport services whose funds are administered from Keeler.
Cliff Lesley, city transportation coordinator, said grants for six desert and mountain transportation services are expected to total \$65,700 for fiscal year 1980-81.

Operating funds to cover an \$84,000 grant application during 1979-80 were advanced by San Bernardino County Associated Governments, pending receipt of the grant, Lesley said.
He said allocations for the past two years are expected to be received next month. The funds were delayed, as "this is a long process involving many channels," he said.
For the individual transport services, allocations are expected to total \$36,143 for Victor Valley's mass transit operating costs, \$22,500 for Maricopa Basin Dial-A-Ride, and \$19,000 for Barstow Dial-A-Ride.
Operating allocations for the other three services are \$4,906 for Big Bear, \$2,300 for Needles, and \$1,100 for Adelanto.

By BILL ROGERS Sun Staff Writer
SALERNAZINDO — The County Board of Supervisors has leveled fees of \$125 an acre on Pioneerstown property owners to pay off an \$80,000 loan the board granted in June for emergency work on the desert community's water system.
The supervisors Monday heard no protests against the assessments as they also authorized Pioneerstown's square-mile improvement zone to accept a \$20,500 state loan to help finance an entire new \$1.3 million water system. Additional assessments will be required for that construction.
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bulletin board

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BARSTOW THEATRE
CINEMA I
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military personnel

Claxton
Airmen 1st Class Carlos M. Claxton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Otis Richardson Jr. of 1477 Riverside Drive, Bartlett, Ill., Air Force Base, Miss.
Graduate of the six-week course learned court reporting, preparation of legal documents, and legal office administrative procedures. They also earned credits toward an associate degree in applied science from the Community College of the Air Force.
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.
Lawson
Airmen Keith W. Lawson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil A. Lawson of 78210 Bellvue Drive, Twentynine Palms, has graduated from an avionics systems systems equipment course at Navy Air Force Base, Colo.
Graduates studied advanced in the use of instruments and navigational equipment, and earned credits toward an associate degree in applied science from the Community College of the Air Force, N.Y.

sandscripts

By MAGGIE McSHAN Sun Staff Writer
NEEDLES — Letha Stout Davoport, who came to Needles with her parents when she was 10 years old, spent some recent years away, and then she came back in November of 1980.
She said at the time, "I love Needles. It is my home."
But she added, "I'm going to be moving away again. I'm tired of Needles being kicked in the face of seeing the people talking things that they don't have to."
She mentioned the power problem, the roads not being paved right, the failure to reopen a JCPenney store here, and the failure to get a university here as matters causing her disillusionment.
She said, "I wanted to go to the City Council meetings and I was given the wrong information on meeting times and places. I feel it ought to be published in the paper when the meeting time is."
Mrs. Davoport concluded, "I think that people should support the things that are right, and should speak out about the improvements they want. The council and others in office can do a lot but they can't do everything. The people need to, and can, do for themselves if they will only speak out and demand what is coming to them."
For information of Mrs. Davoport, and others, the regular meeting dates of the council are at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Mondays. Special meetings also are called from time to time. Meetings are conducted in the council chamber of the City-County Administration Center.

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WE'VE MOVED!
The Sun offices in Victorville have moved to 15367 Bonanza Rd.
The Sun

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CINEMA I
CINEMA II
NOW SHOWING (PG)
WEDNESDAY 7:00 - 11:00
THE RAINBOW
THE RAINBOW
THE RAINBOW