

# News

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Editor in Chief Tom Bodus at [tbodus@ivpressonline.com](mailto:tbodus@ivpressonline.com) or (760) 337-3427.

## VALLEY BRIEFS

EL CENTRO

## Man hospitalized after shooting

An 18-year-old man was hospitalized after sustaining a gunshot wound Monday afternoon, county scanner traffic stated.

El Centro Police Department received the report of shots fired in the 200 block of West Brighton about 5:38 p.m.

The suspect vehicle fled, leaving behind the 18-year-old victim.

The victim was placed in a vehicle and was transported by a family member to El Centro Regional Medical Center. Another family member notified ECPD of the shooting.

About 5:39 p.m., an ECPD unit located the vehicle the victim was in on its way to the hospital and escorted it the remainder of the way, ECPD call logs stated.

When questioned, the victim told police he had no information regarding the suspects, the vehicle or the motive.

Other ECPD officers responded to the scene to interview potential witnesses.

Video footage was discovered, which revealed that the suspect vehicle was a white, four-door Mercedes Benz with tinted windows.

ECPD sent a be-on-the-lookout notification to all Imperial Valley agencies. The BOLO stated that the suspect vehicle was occupied by two males who were wearing masks.

—Vincent Osuna, [vosuna@ivpressonline.com](mailto:vosuna@ivpressonline.com)

SAN DIEGO

## Man pleads out on bomb threats

A former detainee of the Imperial Regional Detention Facility in Calexico pleaded guilty in federal court here Tuesday to reporting fake bomb threats against the center, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of California said in a release.

Manuel de Jesus Rodriguez-Hernandez, 33, faces a statutory maximum sentence of five years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine.

According the release, Rodriguez-Hernandez was a civil detainee at the Imperial Regional Detention Facility awaiting federal immigration proceedings on the afternoon of Jan. 13, when he called the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's hotline and said that earlier in the day he had been speaking with his wife on the telephone when the line was interrupted by an unknown person who said there was a bomb at the detention facility that was going to explode.

Shortly after the facility's management was notified of the threat, security personnel activated emergency protocols, which included the deployment of the bomb squad from the Imperial County Sheriff's Office.

After hanging up with the hotline, Rodriguez-Hernandez separately approached a detention officer and reportedly told the same story — that a bomb was at the detention facility and it was going to explode. For the next several hours, authorities from the detention facility and the Sheriff's Office's bomb squad thoroughly searched the facility, but no explosive devices were found.

Later authorities interviewed Rodriguez-Hernandez, who ultimately admitted he fabricated the bomb threats so that federal authorities would initiate an investigation at the detention facility.

Rodriguez-Hernandez charged under Title 1, U.S Code, Section 1038(a) (1), conveying false information and hoaxes.

COUNTY

## Summer school program to hold orientation event

University of California, San Diego will conduct a virtual walk-through today for its annual summer college preparatory program.

The Academic Connections Imperial Valley kick-off will be held virtually on Zoom from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m.

Visitors will be able to take a virtual tour of this year's online program and sample the course offerings available to students. They will also hear from participants and scholarship recipients, receive an update on this year's program and be able to ask questions.

Academic Connections provides an opportunity for high school students with a 3.3 or better weighted cumulative grade point average to get a jumpstart on the college experience. Students choose one of more than 20 four-week courses available. Sessions will be taught live online via Zoom.

Students are expected to be active and engaged for three hours per day, 15 hours per week. Instructors are typically UCSD doctoral students who design and teach the course. Instruction can consist of some combination of lectures, activities and assignments.

Completion of the four-week program, which runs July 5-30, earns students six college-prep units.

This will be the second year the program will be conducted online.

"Although there is nothing like the residential experience of Academic Connections, the online opportunity gives students valuable new tools and introduces them to new communities of learning that can truly expand their horizons and connections beyond our valley borders," the release said.

Over the last seven years, 200 students from Imperial Valley high schools have participated in the Academic Connections program, according to a UCSD release. Some \$500,000 in scholarships have been awarded to those students.

UCSD said will continue to offer a full scholarship to the program to one student in each public high school in the Valley. In addition, Migrant, MLK and ICOE scholarships are available which include alternative, special education and foster youth. The university will also make Meet You Halfway scholarships available to all Valley students who meet the program eligibility requirements.

The scholarship application period will remain open through April 16.

Today's kick-off event will be held at <https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/91605949424?pwd=S2R3V-0VWQlpKR1Z5TDJyWjZyT3FBdz09>.

For more information, contact Gretchen Laue, [glaue@ucsd.edu](mailto:glaue@ucsd.edu) or (619) 987-7098, or visit [academicconnections.ucsd.edu](http://academicconnections.ucsd.edu).

## IVWF announces 3rd round of COVID-19 Response funding.

The application period will open Monday for the third round of COVID-19 Response funding from the Imperial Valley Wellness Foundation.

The foundation said in a release that the new funding will target non-profit organizations that primarily serve the farmworker community of Imperial County.

The application period will close April 2.

Last year, IVWF was able to raise more than \$850,000 for Imperial County COVID-19 relief.

"We are deeply appreciative of the support for our Valley residents," said Jose Landeros, IVWF board of trustees chairman. "Even with vaccination efforts underway, we know there is still great need in our community as we slowly build our way back from

the pandemic."

IVWF said it has disbursed more than \$566,000 to Imperial County non-profits to date. It said they have used these funds deployed for food, basic supplies, personal protection equipment, rent or mortgages, and utility assistance.

"The majority of the funding came from organizations outside Imperial County; organizations that saw the reports about the disproportionate impact the pandemic was having in the Valley and wanted to help," IVWF said.

For more information, visit <http://www.ivwf.org/>.

OCOTILLO

## Border Patrol rescues two

U.S. Border Patrol agents from the El Centro Sector rescued two undocumented migrants who were lost in the mountainous desert near Ocotillo Tuesday morning, a U.S. Customs and Border Protection release reported.


According to that release, about 5:15 a.m., El Centro Sector Radio Communications Dispatch was contacted by California Highway Patrol regarding a distress call from a man who had made an illegal entry into the United States. He said he and his aunt were lost and his aunt had fallen.

Border Patrol agents began a rescue operation provided only with GPS coordinates from the phone call.

Agents found the pair about 6:45 a.m. and escorted them to the interstate to be transported. CBP said the pair appeared to be in good health and required no medical attention. Agents provided water and took them into custody.

The two were determined to be undocumented migrants from Mexico and were transported to the El Centro station for processing.

—Tom Bodus,  
[tbodus@ivpressonline.com](mailto:tbodus@ivpressonline.com)



**Did You Know....**

Utilizing the world's largest charity hospital ship, Mercy Ships delivers state-of-the-art surgical healthcare to regions where clean water, electricity, medical facilities and skilled personnel are limited or nonexistent. For nearly 40 years, Mercy Ships has served the world's forgotten poor performing over 84,400 free surgeries for those in need.

**TOGETHER**

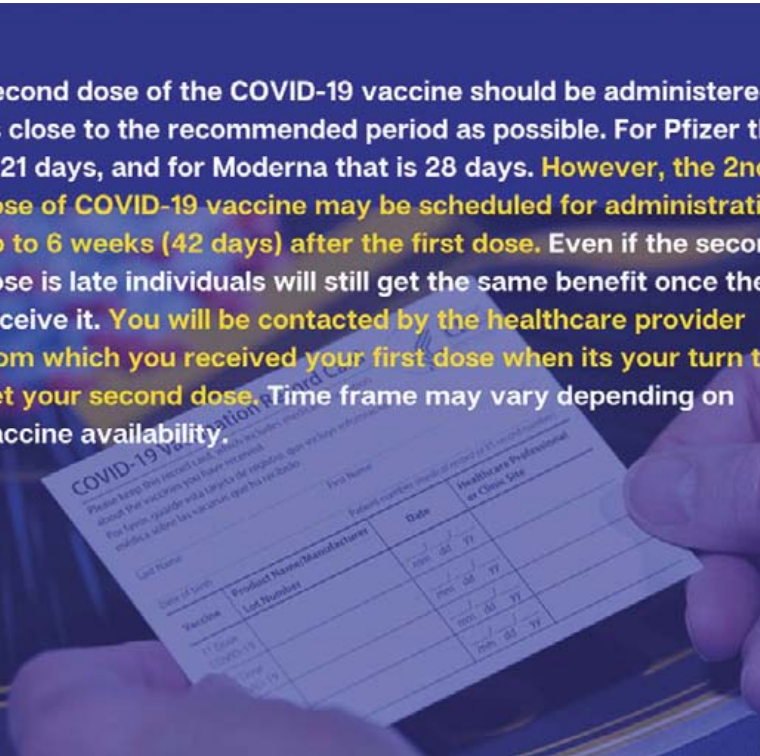
Pick me up Lord,  
and hold me in Your  
loving arms.


Protect me from the pressures  
of the day;  
And remove  
the heaviness from my heart.

Inspire me with the knowledge  
that You and I,  
together can handle anything.

**Amen**




**Second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine should be administered as close to the recommended period as possible. For Pfizer that is 21 days, and for Moderna that is 28 days. However, the 2nd dose of COVID-19 vaccine may be scheduled for administration up to 6 weeks (42 days) after the first dose. Even if the second dose is late individuals will still get the same benefit once they receive it. You will be contacted by the healthcare provider from which you received your first dose when its your turn to get your second dose. Time frame may vary depending on vaccine availability.**





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Vincent V. Sarin, MD MPH MAJOR  
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**Vaccination for Covid-19 and Flu Are Now Available Here**

**CORE SERVICES**

- Comprehensive Medical Examination
- Comprehensive Diabetes Management
- Covid-19 Testing Site
- Covid-19 Vaccination Site
- Yearly Flu Vaccination (September- April)
- Immigration Medical Examination
- Laboratory Services/Blood Draws
- DOT/DMV Medical Examination
- Botox Cosmetic Injection
- Sports Physical
- Medicare Home Visit
- Comprehensive Vaccination Program for Children & Adults (VFC)
- FamilyPACT

**PROCEDURES**

- PAP Smear
- Trigger Point Injections
- IV Hydration
- Basic Wound Care & Sutures
- Ear Lavages
- Testosterone Replacement Therapy
- Basic Pain Medication Injection
- Antibiotic Injection
- Vitamin B12 Injection

**Vacunación Covid-19 y Influenza Están Disponibles Aquí**

**SERVICIOS PRINCIPALES**

- Examen médico integral
- Manejo integral de la diabetes
- Sitio de prueba de Covid-19
- Sitio de vacunación Covid-19
- Vacunación anual contra la influenza (septiembre a abril)
- Examen médico de inmigración
- Servicios de laboratorio / Extracciones de sangre
- Examen médico del DOT / DMV
- Inyección cosmética de Botox
- Físico deportivo
- Visita domiciliaria de Medicare
- Programa de vacunación integral para niños y adultos (VFC)
- FamilyPACT

**PROCEDIMIENTOS**

- Prueba de Papanicolaou
- Inyecciones en puntos gatillo
- Hidratación IV
- Suturas y cuidado básico de heridas
- Lavados de oído
- Terapia de reemplazo de testosterona
- Inyección de analgésicos básicos
- Inyección de antibióticos
- Inyección de vitamina B12



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**Accepting New Patients**

**Walk-ins Welcome**

**Aceptando Pacientes Nuevos**

**Bienvenidos sin cita previa**