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**TODAY'S FORECAST:**  
Plenty of sun

**SEE PAGE 12**

**4 TO READ INSIDE TODAY**

**NATION:** White House: Trump 'deadly serious' about Mexico tariffs.  
**SEE PAGE 13**

**NATION:** Pompeo says US ready to talk to Iran with 'no preconditions.'  
**SEE PAGE 12**

**NATION:** Virginia Beach attacker notified boss of plans to leave his job.  
**SEE PAGE 10**

**ARIZONA:** Court orders new hearing for groups trying to ban lead ammo in Kaibab.  
**SEE PAGE 3**

**OBITUARIES**

There are no obituary listings in today's paper. See recent listings at [www.legacy.com/havasunews](http://www.legacy.com/havasunews)

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WEEKDAY

MOHAVE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County may hire public info officer

**By AGATA POPEDA**  
SPECIAL TO TODAY'S NEWS-HERALD

A public information officer is back on the agenda for the Mohave County Board of Supervisors.

Based on discussions that occurred at the county's May 17 budget workshop, supervisors will consider creating a position of communications director. The position would be responsible for coordinating the county's social

media efforts, including Facebook and Twitter, as well as act as a media liason.

If today's agenda item is approved, staff willbe asked to finalize a job description and work out other job details.

Supervisors last considered hiring a public information officer in August. They voted against proceeding with the position a month later, with Supervisor Ron Gould referring to the last PIO as a "tax-

payer-funded spin-doctor." The county has been without a spokesman for about seven years.

Also on today's agenda, three supervisors will propose their candidates for the 2020 Census Complete Count Committee.

Supervisor Buster Johnson will suggest Gaynell Crews as a representative for District 3. Crews is a retired process server (a person who supports legal and court activities).

Supervisor Jean Bishop will propose Becky Fawson to represent District 4. Fawson works as an office supervisor at the Mohave County Legal Defender's Office.

Supervisor Gary Watson will suggest Nicole Bratley to represent District 1. Bratley currently serves as Appraiser II & Auditor at the Mohave County Assessor's Office.

Also at today's meeting, the Mohave County Board of

**See SUPERVISORS, Page 5**



A man of character

'Terminator' and 'Aliens' were only the beginning of an impressive Hollywood career for Havasu native Michael Biehn

**By BUCK DOPP** | SPECIAL TO TODAY'S NEWS-HERALD

TOURISM

Upgrading Lake Havasu City's welcome mat

**GO LAKE HAVASU STAFF BECOMES CERTIFIED AUTISM TRAVEL PROFESSIONALS**

**By PAM ASHLEY**  
TODAY'S NEWS-HERALD

In an effort to accommodate a \$262 billion underserved market, seven full-time employees of Go Lake Havasu have earned their certification as autism travel professionals in early May.

It means that Go Lake Havasu will soon be listed on AutismTravel.com. The site provides families easy access to destinations that are trained and cer-

tified in autism and special needs care.

Terence Concannon, president and CEO of Go Lake Havasu, discovered that several Mesa officials earned the autism certification and believed the training would be a good fit for Lake Havasu City.

"The training was profound for me," he said. "I learned that loud noises and flashing lights can be upsetting to those with autism. In Havasu, particularly around the lake, we have loud boats and loud music."

While taming the party atmosphere is an impossibility, the

**See CERTIFIED, Page 5**



Pam Ashley/Today's News-Herald

**The Visitor Information Center in the English Village has renovation plans that include creating quiet zones. The zones will be peaceful places where caregivers of autistic people can calm their overstimulated loved ones.**



SUPERVISORS: SET TO OK INCREASE IN GRANT FUND FOR STD PROGRAM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Supervisors is set to approve an increase of \$7,746 to grant fund the Sexually Transmitted Disease Control program provided by the Mohave County Department of Public Health. The reason for the change is due to the difference in fiscal periods between the program, which is Jan. 2019-Dec. 2019 and the County's fiscal year, which runs July 2018-June 2019.

The adjustment will allow the program to receive the full grant award within the first six months of the grant year, which requires an increase in the county budget due to overlap-

ping time frames. The program provides surveillance, disease prevention and prevention activities like screening and treatment, linkage to care, partner services and education/outreach in the county. The objective of the program is to reduce the number of chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis cases, increase access to STD services for those populations most at risk, and reduce the threats of emerging STDs and congenital syphilis.

To prevent STDs, the county provides consultations in conjunction with the Arizona Department of Health

Services, and outreach to medical providers to provide the most current screening and treatment guidelines.

According to the Community Health Needs Assessment released by Kingman Regional Medical Center and MCDPH, the incidence of gonorrhea in 2012 in the county was 17.3 per 100,000, which is better compared to other peer counties.

For chlamydia, in 2013 the incidence was 260.6 per 100,000 in the county, which is better compared to the state of Arizona. According to Arizona Health Matters, the state rate is 466.6 per 100,000.

Burley said rates for all STDs continue to rise in Arizona, and while Mohave County Department of Public Health is an integral partner in the effort to reduce STDs, more federal and state resources are needed to comprehensively address the problem.

If the board approves this increase, it won't impact the general fund and the program will receive the funds by June 30.

Supervisors will gather for their bimonthly meeting at 9:30 a.m. Monday in the County Administration Building, 700 W. Beale St., in Kingman.

CERTIFIED

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

heightened awareness that the autism community has very specific needs when they travel led the Go Lake Havasu staff to plan for quiet spaces where families can take a break. The spaces allow their children recover from the hubbub.

"My employees and I will be creating a quiet space in our Visitors Center adjacent to the London Bridge, and I'll work with the city to locate and designate areas and parks where people with autism and their caregivers can find solace during challenging times," Concannon said.

Autism is a developmental disability that affects an ever-increasing number of children. Some autistic children have sensory problems and crowds can cause an overload. Throngs of people bewilder them and boisterous noises can startle, sparking an emotional meltdown. Removing a child to a cool, quiet and dark place is highly effective in helping the child regroup.

Jan Kassies at the Visitor Information Center - which is a part of Go Lake Havasu - said a planned renovation at the 2,000 square-foot center will include quiet zones where families can recuperate. He views it as a simple accommodation for those coping with autism.

"We are already ADA-compliant, so the quiet zones are an extension of that. Really, it's not much different than people in a wheelchair. Autism is just a different kind of disability," Kassies said.

It has also been suggested that when traveling with a child who is on the spectrum, it is a good idea to consider destinations that provide water experi-

ences. Being in water often gives a sense of calm to children on the spectrum.

That makes Lake Havasu an ideal summer travel destination for many families. Secluded coves and nearly-deserted stretches of beach offer less anxiety-producing stimuli.

Jackie Leatherman of Go Lake Havasu said that for her, the autism certification training increased her awareness and established her resolve to remove obstacles faced by traveling families.

"As a tourism destination, it's important that we make everyone welcome and comfortable," she said.

Colleen McShea applauded Go Lake Havasu's heightened interest in making Havasu a sensory-friendly environment for families affected by autism. McShea is co-owner of Milemarkers Therapy, which assists the developmentally disabled.

"We have chill zones here at Milemarkers, so I look forward to helping Go Lake Havasu design the quiet spaces for our visitors who battle sensory deficits," she said. McShea also offered some advice for those who witness an autistic child experiencing a meltdown.

Ignoring the situation is best because a parent doesn't need an audience while calming the child.

"But if you are going to look at the child, talk to them quietly or smile at them," she said. "And remember that the parent is having tough time, too."

*Pam Ashley can be reached at 928-453-4237, ext. 230 or pashley@havasunews.com.*

BIEHN: FIRST MOVIE ROLE WAS A 2-SCENE BIT-PART IN 'GREASE'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

London Bridge Rotary Club. Michael's mother Marcia was a nurse.

"I was 14 when we moved to Havasu. Only 5,000 people lived there at the time. There was a movie theater and a bowling alley—no police department, no stop lights, and only a few tract homes," he explained. "There were no restrictions. Everyone wore bathing suits all the time. There were only a few boats on the lake. Looking back, it was a paradise, a great place to grow up."

Biehn was among the first students to attend classes at LHHS the first year it opened. Before that, high school students were bussed to Kingman. His classmates called him Mike.

Steve Biehn called his younger brother a "smart, but a mediocre student. Girls were enamored with him. He's had girls hanging all over him from the time he was a little boy."

At LHHS, Michael showed more interest in sports than acting. At one time he considered being a football coach.

He earned varsity letters in football and basketball in his junior and senior years—playing guard and linebacker in football and guard and forward in basketball. On the JV football team, Biehn blocked for fullback Dave Ade who said, "Everybody liked Mike. He was a nice guy, one of the gang. He didn't stand out as someone you think would be a movie star. I liked all of his movies he's been in."

Football coach Lee Barnes said, "Mike was a good football player and a good student, well rounded. The type of student-athlete you'd always like to have." "I had a lot of fun playing basketball," Biehn said. I couldn't shoot, and I couldn't jump—I'm 6-feet tall and once or twice jumped and touched the rim, but I hustled and played aggressive-

ly. I was like the sixth man."

Despite his passion for sports, He liked the drama department, too and acted in a few plays, catching the attention of the head of the drama department at the University of Arizona who offered him a scholarship for books and tuition.

Biehn left college after only one semester.

"I'm fond of telling people I went to the University of Arizona from 1974 to 1974," he said. "I was in a fraternity (Sigma Nu) and wasn't studying. I didn't want to come back with my tail between my legs as a college dropout, so I called my parents and said I wanted to go to Hollywood and be an actor."

Biehn returned home to earn money to go to Los Angeles. He worked two jobs, as a handyman at the Nautical Inn, and a laundry worker at the Sandman Hotel, now called the Day's Inn. Retired LHHS Principal Pat Rooney was Biehn's Civics teacher.

"The last time I saw Mike, I was standing outside the gymnasium at the high school. He was either coming in or out of the gym," Rooney said. "He told me he was leaving college and said, 'I'm going to Hollywood and try to get into acting. Maybe someday you'll see me on Johnny Carson.' I replied, 'Good luck! I hope you do.'"

After saving up \$2,000, Biehn pointed his Volkswagen bug toward Hollywood and never looked back. His mother later told him it was the "saddest day" of her life.

Biehn's brother Steve followed in their father's footsteps and has practiced law in Havasu for the last 39 years.

"I don't think anybody in our family, or circle of friends, looked at Mick (his family nickname) as someone who was going to be a star. The remarkable thing about my brother is that he's a risk-taker. He was willing to fail, pick himself up and start all

over again. My parents recognized that he did have a gift and was a good actor. They had confidence that if anyone could make it, he could."

Biehn worked at various jobs to support himself while auditioning and searching for an agent.

He got a job in an import/export business collecting past-due accounts, and he assembled boxes in the warehouse. "I worked at McDonald's. I lasted about a week or so," he noted. "It seems I couldn't mop the floor properly." Biehn took acting classes and got noticed quickly, landing modeling jobs and acting in commercials.

His first movie role was a two-scene, bit-part in Grease. John Travolta punched him in the stomach while they were practicing basketball.

He was also in a scene when the camera swept across a group of students. The young actor didn't get a movie credit, however, he got paid union scale. Playing a psychotic admirer stalking Lauren Bacall in "The Fan" was Biehn's first significant role. His boyish good looks, a chilling contrast to the evil that lurked inside his character. This part launched his career into higher profile acting jobs. People noticed that this good-looking guy could act. Among them, director James Cameron. "Meeting Jim Cameron was my big break.

He directed me in The Terminator, Aliens and The Abyss. He's never made a movie that lost money," Biehn said. "After that, it was off to the races."

According to Steve, everyone in the family has a good relationship with their famous brother. Michael's sister Brooks and brothers Steve and Jon have achieved success in their fields as well, and they all support each other.

"There is one thing I'm jealous of," joked Steve. "Mick's always had girls hanging on him all the time. I never had that problem."



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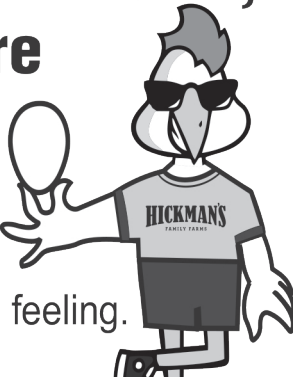
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