



**NEEDLES, CALIFORNIA—ONE-TIME HOME OF CHARLES SCHULZ AND INSPIRATION FOR SNOOPY'S
DESERT-DWELLING BROTHER SPIKE—TO HOST SIMULTANEOUS
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS ON AUGUST 12, 2025:
75 YEARS OF PEANUTS AND 50 YEARS SINCE SPIKE'S COMIC-STRIP DEBUT**

*Following a Video Greeting from Schulz Granddaughter Stephanie Revelli,
Peanuts and the Foundation for Hospital Art Will Present the Colorado River Medical Center
with Two Six-Panel Murals, One Featuring Spike, Snoopy, and Woodstock
and the Other Depicting the Peanuts Gang;
Both Murals Will Be Painted By the Community in a Peanuts PaintFest*

Needles, California, well known to Peanuts fans as the desert home of Snoopy's brother Spike, is perhaps less well-known for another famous resident: Charles "Sparky" Schulz, who lived in the California desert town for a year during his childhood. Decades later, Schulz found inspiration in Needles to create Spike (named after his own boyhood dog), who joined the Peanuts comic strip on August 13, 1975.

On Tuesday, August 12, 2025, Needles will celebrate two important anniversaries: the 75th anniversary year of the Peanuts comic strip (which launched in October 1950) and the 50th anniversary of Spike's debut.

Starting at 10:00 a.m., Peanuts and local organizations are planning a variety of activities at the Colorado River Medical Center, located at 1401 Bailey Avenue, Needles, CA 92363. The event is open to the public.

Festivities include:

Sweet Greetings

Stephanie Revelli, a granddaughter of Peanuts creator Charles M. Schulz, will greet Needles citizens and visitors via video, celebrating the two anniversaries and the longtime connection between Peanuts and Needles. Revelli, a baker and the creator of Sugar Cookies By Steph, will provide Peanuts, Spike, and Needles-themed cookies for the event.

“Like so many people around the world, I grew up with Peanuts—though in my case, I *literally* grew up with Peanuts, since I was lucky enough to have Charles Schulz for a grandfather!” says Revelli. “I know that Grandpa had a special feeling for Needles, having lived there during a significant time in his young life, and I’m so happy to be able to share the joy of these anniversaries with our friends in Needles!”

Hospital Art Donation and Peanuts PaintFest

A partnership between Peanuts Worldwide and the nonprofit Foundation for Hospital Art will bring the healing power of art to the local Colorado River Medical Center via two six-panel murals, in a celebration from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on August 12.

A community PaintFest will bring to life the two 56” x 49” paint-by-numbers style murals, which feature joyful Peanuts images: one of dancing Charlie Brown, Snoopy and Woodstock, Linus, Lucy, Sally, and Franklin, and a second mural—unique to Needles—featuring Spike, Snoopy, and Woodstock relaxing in the desert.

“We at the Colorado River Medical Center are delighted to receive these gifts from Peanuts and the Foundation for Hospital Art,” says Bing Lum, Executive Vice President of Colorado River Medical Center. “We’re proud to call Charles Schulz a former resident of Needles, and his humanity is as well known here as his humor, both of which will be appreciated by every patient, staff member, and visitor who experiences the joy of these murals.”

The Hospital Art Program is a central feature of the “Take Care With Peanuts” initiative promoting good global citizenship, which was launched in 2020.

Following the PaintFest, Mayor Janet Jernigan of the City of Needles, County Supervisor Dawn Rowe, and a representative from California Senator Alex Padilla’s office will each give brief remarks.

Artful Kids

In the days leading up to the PaintFest, children will have the opportunity to draw themselves as a Peanuts character on special coloring sheets created by Peanuts Worldwide and sponsored by the River Valley Artist Guild. The sheets can be found in various participating Needles restaurants through August 10. The finished artwork will be displayed on the walls of the Colorado River Medical Center during the PaintFest.

Selfies with Spike

Visitors can also take photographs with the famous larger-than-life Spike statue, on loan from the Needles Regional Museum and long-time Spike fan and Needles resident Joe Jones.

Snoopy’s Root Beer Floats

Snoopy’s favorite drink—root beer plus vanilla ice cream—will be available courtesy of the River Community Coalition, which will also be hosting a CakeWalk.

“Our nonprofit is dedicated to making healthcare visits a friendlier, more hope-filled experience for patients through the power of art—and who can do that more effectively than Peanuts?” says Scott Feight, Executive Director, for Foundation for Hospital Art. “Charles Schulz created indelible characters who bring joy to all who see them, which is why Peanuts is such a perfectly aligned partner for the Foundation for Hospital Art.”

“We are so delighted that Charles Schulz’s iconic characters will be bringing joy to the patients at the Colorado River Medical Center, in the town that Sparky once called home!” says Melissa Menta, Senior Vice President, Global Brand and Communications for Peanuts Worldwide and co-host of the ‘You Don’t Know Peanuts’ podcast. “We believe he would be thrilled to know that his work is meaningful to adults and children in Needles, where he derived such inspiration for his life’s work.”

-The End-

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