

El Mirage News

www.cityofelmirage.org

Vol. 3, No. 5

623-972-8116



Dignitaries at the celebration included Brent Hines, White Tanks Little League President; Bill Pupo, Deputy City Manager; Councilman Joe Ramirez; Councilman Jack Palladino; Mayor Lana Mook; Councilman Lynn Selby; Dave Wood, White Tanks Little League Vice-President; and Lance Calvert, City Engineer.

Bill Gentry Park gets a makeover

The City of El Mirage re-dedicated Bill Gentry Park on Saturday, March 24, 2012 with a ceremony recognizing the extensive improvements recently made to the facility. The family of Bill Gentry, the park's founder, was on hand to help celebrate the occasion, which also coincided with the start of baseball season for the White Tanks Little League. In her remarks during the ceremony, Mayor Lana Mook stated, "The park's renovation is vital to El Mirage residents' quality of life

and supports a series of goals toward that end."

Bill Gentry Park is an iconic symbol of downtown El Mirage. For more than 40 years, the park has been a mainstay for baseball, softball, soccer, football and numerous other recreational activities for El Mirage residents. The park is closely tied to the City's heritage, serving as a neighborhood meeting place for hundreds of families whose love of family and sports have brought them to Bill Gentry Park for generations.

Improvements to the park include the re-orientation of the ball field, installation of perimeter fencing, adjustment of existing sports lighting, the addition of covered dugouts, and construction of a concession/restroom facility. Park improvements were identified as a priority in the City Council's 2011 Goal Setting Report approved by the Council in February 2011. A portion of the improvements was made possible through an \$86,000 grant from the Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority (AZSTA).

YMCA in Talks with City to Operate Recreational Facility

In early February, the City solicited proposals for the management, operation, and maintenance of the new multi-generational recreational facility with a swimming pool approved by voters last November. When constructed, the facility will be located just west of Gateway Park on El Mirage Road.



After a month-long open solicitation period, the City received only one proposal, that coming from the Valley of the Sun YMCA.

A detailed staff review of the YMCA's submittal provided strong evidence of the organization's depth of experience, as well as its potential for sustaining the El Mirage facility as a community centerpiece. The YMCA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization celebrating 120 years of service this year in the metro Phoenix area. It currently operates 17 major community recreational facilities, along with program centers and sports fields throughout Arizona, employing between 1,400 and 1,800 staff members yearly. The organization's future plans include operation of seven more facilities over the next two years.

On April 3, the City Council formally granted staff permission to commence negotiations with YMCA officials for development of a service agreement to be brought to Council for approval at a later date. The agreement will outline the mutual responsibilities of the City and the YMCA with respect to oversight of recreation, sports, health, and social services to benefit a broad mix of El Mirage residents, along with residents of other West Valley communities. Under the agreement, the YMCA will be responsible for the facility's operating costs.

Concerning the YMCA's selection, Mayor Lana Mook expressed the sentiment of the Council as a whole, saying, "The mission of the 'Y' focuses on building strong families and individuals through services for everyone. We want each El Mirage resident to feel the facility offers something for them."

The City anticipates that the facility will open in late 2013.

Fire Hydrant Testing Underway

The El Mirage Fire Department is conducting inspections and flushing all City-owned fire hydrants over the next three to six months to ensure fire hydrants remain in proper operating condition. Fire hydrant flushing will occur between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and will not impact water customers. There will be water flowing in the streets in the areas where flushing is being conducted.

This routine testing program, which occurs once a year, involves flushing water through fire hydrants

throughout the water system. In addition to helping ensure the reliability of fire hydrants, testing enables the City to review system performance under high flow conditions.

Residents can help the Fire Department and improve the safety of their neighborhoods by keeping areas around fire hydrants clear of landscaping and other potential obstructions. City fire code requires that at least 3 feet of space around all fire hydrants must be kept clear.

For information, contact the Fire Department at 623-583-7968.



Firefighters Mark Bessey and Erik Lauer test a hydrant.

El Mirage Changes Photo Enforcement Program

The City has elected to discontinue Red Light enforcement effective 11 a.m. on April 17. The City will continue photo enforcement for speed only. Red light enforcement cameras at the intersections of Northern Avenue & El Mirage Road, Olive Avenue & El Mirage Road, Primrose Street & Grand Avenue, and 129th Avenue and Thunderbird Ave will no longer monitor motorist for red light infractions. They will, however, continue monitoring motorist for traveling 11 mph and over the posted speed limits.

City Manager Isom, in consultation with Mayor Lana Mook, decided to end automated photo Red Light enforcement. In a statement, Isom says "The City has decided to discontinue photo enforcement for red light violations as enforcement objectives can be achieved by routine police enforcement. We'll continue automated enforcement for speed as manpower constraints do not allow us to effectively enforce speed. Automated photo enforcement of speed continues to be useful in achieving the City's public safety goal for safer travel within our City limits."

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Mayor's Message: Volunteerism Strong in El Mirage

The spirit of volunteerism is deeply rooted in El Mirage's culture and there is now a new way to engage you in our government through volunteer committees, community projects and in specific city departments. I believe that volunteering helps to make our community a better place to live.

There are numerous volunteer opportunities with

the City of El Mirage, depending on your interests and time parameters. For example, if you enjoy working with children, and being outdoors, then special events in El Mirage could be a perfect way to give back. Or if you enjoy office tasks, like writing, filing, database entry or other clerical assignments, there is always a department in the City of El Mirage that could use a helping hand. The Police Department is also seeking volunteers (see article on page 4). El Mirage is YOUR community, so lend a helping hand, and see how great you can make it.

Did you know that the City has also several volunteer committees that focus on the following topics: Public Safety, El Mirage History, Community Garden/Farmers Market, Home Improvement/Revitalization, Water and Energy Conservation, Parks and Recreation, and Senior Services? These committees are working diligently to advance the City's efforts in these arenas with no City funding.

Below is an update on the new Committees and how



Mayor Lana Mook

you can become involved.

Public Safety

With resident Johnathan Clayborn serving as chairman, the committee has been busy discussing outreach methods to the public through the public safety departments - police and fire. The Committee suggested using the Gateway Park digital sign board to display safety messages and staff followed through on this request. In coordination with the Home Improvement/Revitalization Committee, the Public Safety Committee is working to develop a central electronic volunteer clearinghouse for city residents to submit applications.

Committee member Brian Crosby formed a group to speak to El Mirage fifth and sixth grade students on

making good choices in life. So far, he presented to two schools and will be joined by Officer Lazinski to bring the program to other El Mirage schools soon.

A recommendation was made to me to award residents who do "good things" for the community. I am evaluating the selection process and type of award.

For more information or to volunteer on this committee, contact Assistant Police Chief Terry McDonald at 623-433-9511, or tmcdonald@cityofelmirage.org.

El Mirage History

The Historical Committee is currently focusing on Fire Department related artifacts, photos, plaques, trophies, clothing, helmets, boots, etc. to develop a historical exhibit in the new fire station. The exhibit will feature artifacts and interesting historical memorabilia. The committee is looking for City "firsts," such as a photo of the first engine, uniform, building, or buildings that burned down or are no longer in existence.

The Committee is also

MORE MESSAGE ON 3

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El Mirage News

Published monthly by the City of El Mirage • Andi Welsh, Editorial Coordinator
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MESSAGE: Volunteerism runs deep, From 2

in the process of contacting all former Mayor's or their families to obtain an 8"x10" photo to display in the lobby of City Hall. Photos of prior council members or group photos are also being sought. Should you have any photos the City may borrow to copy and return in the same condition received, contact Sharon Antes at 623-876-2943, or via email at santes@cityofelmirage.org.

Councilman Delgado is interviewing seniors to obtain an oral history of El Mirage. If anyone is interested in participating, please contact Ruby Arvizu at the senior center at 876-4232.

For more information or to volunteer on this committee, contact Sharon Antes at 623-876-2943, or via email at santes@cityofelmirage.org.

Community Garden/Farmers Market

During the week of April 9, the City leased the remaining garden boxes constructed during Phase 1 of the project. Over the next few weeks, City staff and volunteers will be working to build additional garden

boxes and a center pathway. Volunteers will also be working to complete brick and concrete benches throughout the site. The gardeners, all of whom participate on the garden committee, have been planting rows of vegetables, herbs, and flowers in recent weeks, and their boxes are already sprouting colorful produce. Councilman Jack Palladino and his wife, Michelle, have graciously offered a broad variety of seeds to all gardeners participating in the project.

As summer approaches, the garden committee will be focusing on ways to protect plants from the heat, as well as funding options for fencing and lighting to add both beauty and security to the garden site. Upcoming committee meetings will feature guest speakers with expertise in various aspects of garden development, who will lend their perspectives on sustaining a successful, welcoming community garden in El Mirage.

For more information about becoming a member of the garden committee, reserving a garden box,

volunteering, or serving as a guest speaker, contact Pat Gregan at 623-876-2973, or via e-mail at pgregan@cityofelmirage.org.

Water and Energy Conservation

This committee plans to work with SRP and other private companies to develop water and energy conservation educational materials.

For more information or to volunteer on this committee, contact Larry Dobrosky at 623-876-4253, or via email at ldobrosky@cityofelmirage.org.

Home Improvement/Revitalization

The Home Improvement/Revitalization Committee has been meeting regularly to strategize. Working with no funds, the small committee has outlined several agencies and organizations that provide assistance to qualified citizens. In March, a church coordinated with the Committee to assist several homeowners with weed control, basic landscaping upkeep and general maintenance. Larger projects are being planned for the Fall.

The committee is creat-

ing a list of contractors, 'handymen' or church/civic groups available to volunteer with additional homeowners requests for assistance. To volunteer for this committee or to assist with providing services, contact Mary Dickson at 623-876-2932, or via email at mdickson@cityofelmirage.org.

Parks & Recreation

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FOCUS ON THE FIRE DEPARTMENT



News from the El Mirage Fire Department

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Grilling Safety

While grilling can be a fun activity, it can also turn tragic. From 2005-2009, U.S. Fire Departments responded to an average of 8,200 home fires annually involving grills, hibachis, and barbecue pits. These fires caused an annual average of 15 civilian deaths, 120 civilian injuries, and \$75 million in direct property damage.



There are several hazards everyone should be aware of concerning the use of grills:

- Using a gas or charcoal grill on a balcony can put an entire building and its occupants' safety at risk of fire.
 - Hot charcoals and open flames can start fires if they come in contact with combustible materials.
 - Leaking gas from propane cylinders improperly turned off can be ignited by an ignition source and cause an explosion and/or fire.
 - Burning charcoal inside an enclosed area can produce high levels of carbon monoxide.
- Follow these simple safety tips when using a propane or charcoal grill:
- Only use the grill outdoors.
 - Place the grill well away from the home, deck railings, overhanging eaves, and branches.
 - Keep children and pets away from the grill area.
 - Keep the grill clean by removing grease or fat build-up from the grill and from trays below the grill.
 - Never leave a grill unattended.

For propane grills, check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose to test for leaks. A propane leak will release bubbles. If the grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test and there is no flame, turn off the gas tank and grill. If the leak stops, have the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the Fire Department. If the smell of gas is detected while cooking, immediately move away from the grill and call the Fire Department. Do not move the grill.

For charcoal grills, the following safety tips apply:

- Although there are several ways to light charcoal, two methods are preferred: (1) chimney starters allow charcoal to be started using newspaper as a fuel; and (2) electric charcoal starters do not require a flame. Be sure to use an extension cord with an electric starter during outdoor use.
- Only starter fluid made specifically for charcoal should be used to light charcoal. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire itself.
- Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- When finished grilling, let coals completely cool before disposing of them in a metal container.

Keep Your Kids Safe Around Water

One hundred degree weather is almost here and so is the beginning of Arizona's Drowning Season. Drowning is one of the leading causes of death among children under the age of four in Arizona. Children drown in pools and spas (the most common places for child drownings), but they also drown in buckets (especially the large five-gallon size), toilets, bathtubs, fish tanks, and ponds. Near drownings can also be very tragic, since many result in permanent brain damage. Drownings and near drownings can be prevented!

Young children are naturally curious. They crawl and pull themselves up while learning to walk, and tend to lean forward to play in water – all actions creating a high degree of danger when buckets filled with water

are left unattended in and around the home. When children topple into a bucket, they are often unable to free themselves and drown. A five-gallon bucket is particularly dangerous because its heavier weight reduces the likelihood that it will tip over when a child uses it to stand up. These buckets are about half the height of an infant and when filled with several gallons of water, weigh more than a child just learning to walk.

Drowning prevention guidelines concerning buckets are as follows:

- Never leave any bucket of water or other liquid unattended when small children are around. Even a partially filled bucket can be a drowning hazard.
- When doing household chores, immediately empty out buckets when finished

or move them to a safe place before taking a break.

- Always empty any bucket when it is not in use.

All pool owners, spa owners, and parents need to be aware of these additional, critical safety tips to prevent child drownings:

Block

- Make sure the pool or spa has an effective barrier such as a fence, even if the pool is covered.

- Lock doors and windows leading to pool areas.

- Install self-closing, self-latching mechanisms on pool fence gates. Latches need to be out of reach of young children.

Watch

- Never leave a child unattended in or near a swimming pool, hot tub, or spa – not even for a second.

- Keep toys and tricycles away from the pool or spa.

• Do not consider a child to be "drown proof" because they have taken swimming lessons.

• Do not assume barriers such as fences or walls will keep a child safe. There is NO substitute for adult supervision.

Learn

• Learn how to properly administer CPR, mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, and other lifesaving techniques.

• Know how to contact local emergency medical services. Install a phone or keep a cordless phone in the pool or spa area. Post the emergency number in an easy to see place.

• Learn to swim and teach age appropriate children to swim.

ALWAYS watch your children around water, inside the home, around the pool, and around the yard.

THE BLUE BYLINE

News from the El Mirage Police Department

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Do you have a few extra hours a week and like to serve the citizens of El Mirage? The El Mirage Police Department is looking for a few good men and women willing to volunteer and help make a difference in our community. Police Department volunteers can assist with many programs including Vacation/Vacant Home Patrol, VIN Etching, fingerprinting, data entry/office assistance, traffic control, and community outreach. The Police Department is looking for volunteers in the following areas:

- * Fleet Maintenance – assisting in the maintenance for department vehicles.



Volunteer Bill Criteser, Officer Troy Buck, Sergeant Craig Cormier and Volunteer Johnny Huerta assist at a recent Police Department event.

- * Victim Assistance – providing assistance to crime victims.

- * Administration – providing office related as-

sistance in records, investigations, property and evidence, or at the front desk.

Volunteers must be at least 18 years old with no felony convictions and willing to volunteer a minimum of 8 hours a month.

Volunteers must also be able to pass a background and polygraph. For further information, please check the department website at www.cityofelmirage.org/police, or call 623-433-9500.

Fire Operations Division

El Mirage Fire Units responded to the following incidents during the month of March 2012

Structure fires.....2
Other fires.....11
EMS calls.....206
False Alarms.....21
Other service calls....96
TOTAL..... 336

Total Fire Loss = \$213,200

Average Response Time to calls in El Mirage = 00:04:33

Training Hours = 953 hours

Significant Incidents/Activities

• 3/2 – Reported structure fire at 12117 NW Grand Avenue. Cause was an electrical failure in the air conditioning unit. Estimated Damage: \$5,200

• 3/8 – RV fire at Pueblo El Mirage. The cause of the fire was unattended cooking. Estimated damage = \$208,000



New reserve officer for City

Assistant Chief Terry McDonald (left) and Police Chief Steve Campbell (right) welcome new Reserve Police Officer Steven Braswell (center) to the Department.

Police Department Employee Awards

El Mirage Police Department employees were honored for dedicated and professional service on March 28, with their annual Employee Appreciation Day and 2011 Awards Ceremony. Family and co-workers joined to celebrate the achievements and the following employees were honored. Officer David Patterson was honored as the 2011 Officer of the Year for his strong work ethic, attention to detail, dedication to his co-workers and the support of charitable efforts throughout the community. Sergeant John Heffelfinger was awarded the 2011 Supervisor of the Year for

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THE BLUE BYLINE:

Awards, From 4

his efforts as Acting Patrol Lieutenant for the past year. Heffelfinger was noted as a strong leader, with innovative ideas and creative solutions. The 2011 Volunteer of the Year was awarded to Jonathan Kacer for his 215 hours of volunteer service to the department from September – December 2011. Kacer is currently attending a police academy and will be a future El Mirage Police Officer. Kim Tisdall was awarded the 2011 Professional Staff Member of the Year. Tisdall is the departments' Crime Scene Technician and was honored for her high level of professionalism, attention to detail, and success in helping to connect seized guns with past crimes.

Additionally, Officer Paul Lazinsky and Sergeant Phillip Witte Jr. were awarded the Lifesaving Award after responding to a call for assistance from a family that had been unable to reach another family member that had various medical issues. Officer Lazinsky and Sergeant Witte made entry into the residence and found the victim in a serious medical state. Their quick and decisive action likely saved the life of the victim.

Several officers were awarded Certificates of Excellence in Police Work, which honor employees that exhibit the highest levels of professionalism and cooperation. Awards were bestowed upon Sergeant Annita Boynton, Officer Troy Buck, Sergeant Matt Ecker, Officer Steve Hastings, Officer Mike Henige, Officer Doug Jones, Officer Paul Lazinsky, Officer Karyn Mucci, Officer David Patterson, Officer Travis Slater, Officer AJ Vanderwerf, and Officer Robb Wirth.

The police department also honored employees with milestone years of service. Officer David Patterson and Investigations Assistant Laura Pina celebrated 5 years, Officer Susan Gallant, Officer Stacy Manos, and Chaplain Rick Palmer celebrated 10 years of service, and Records Clerk Gloria Jones celebrated 30 years with the police department.

Congratulations to all those honored and thank you for your dedication to the safety of the citizens of El Mirage.

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- 5-year/60,000-mile 24-hour roadside assistance*

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*Soul. 36 Mo. Lease, \$1999 due at lease signing. Sorento. 36 Mo. lease, \$2999 due at lease signing. Optima. 36 Mo. lease, \$2499 due at lease signing. Prices plus tax, title, license and \$499 doc fee. Exp. 6-12-12.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

New Business Licenses Issued In El Mirage

BizConnectPro issued business licenses in March to the following new businesses:

Business Type	Business Name	Address	Zip
REALTY	Angelo R Rivers PC	El Mirage	85335
CONTRACTOR	Beckham Electric LLC	Goodyear	85395
MOBILE	Chemy's	El Mirage	85335
RETAIL	Diamond Shamrock AZ, Inc. dba Valero Gas	El Mirage	85335
SERVICE	Donna's Nails & Spa	El Mirage	85335
SERVICE	Doody Round-Up	Glendale	85306
REALTY	GarverEMHouse	El Mirage	85335
REALTY	Magnum Opus Property Management, LLC	Anthem	85086
CONTRACTOR	More Sun Electric Inc	Chandler	85226
CONTRACTOR	Mountain States Pipe & Supply	Peoria	85345
SERVICE	Peoria Pest Control Inc	Glendale	85307
RETAIL	Smoke Away LLC	El Mirage	85335
SERVICE	Systemic Bias LLC	El Mirage	85335
CONTRACTOR	Zodiac Enterprises, Inc.	Peoria	85345

HOME SALES IN EL MIRAGE IN MARCH 2012

72 homes sold in El Mirage in March according to the Phoenix Multiple Listing Service (MLS), courtesy of David Hancock of Realty ONE Group. The average sale price was \$80,355 or approximately \$50.80/sq. ft. Information on each is below:

Address	SqFt	Year	Price	Address	Year	Price
13001 W ASH ST	1,455	2001	81,000	12538 W BLOOMFIELD RD	2001	70,000
11626 W WINDROSE AVE	1,662	2002	51,500	12246 W BLOOMFIELD RD	2002	77,500
11814 W CHARTER OAK RD	964	2000	60,000	12530 W SURREY AVE	2003	80,000
11929 W FLORES DR	1,089	1999	68,000	12004 W WINDROSE DR	2000	87,000
12110 N 128TH AVE	1,832	2001	81,000	12512 W ROSEWOOD LN	2001	95,000
11825 W ALTADENA AVE	1,090	2002	82,000	11534 W CORRINE DR	2002	50,000
11812 W MAUNA LOA LN	1,978	2005	85,000	12602 W SCOTTS DR	2001	58,000
11858 W ACAPULCO LN	1,978	2006	86,000	12526 W SURREY AVE	2003	58,000
12925 W WILLOW AVE	1,138	2001	62,202	12477 W ST MORITZ LN	2003	69,500
13001 N 130TH LN	1,138	2002	76,000	12717 W HEARN RD	2001	70,000
12923 W SHARON DR	1,559	2002	78,000	13018 W COLUMBINE DR	2002	72,500
12441 W ROSEWOOD DR	1,978	2001	88,000	11721 W PARADISE DR	2002	105,000
13009 W MAUNA LOA LN	2,178	2004	107,000	12517 W ROSEWOOD DR	2001	125,000
12192 W VALENTINE AVE	2,453	2004	117,500	11413 N PABLO ST	2002	70,000
11839 W PORT ROYALE LN	1,609	2006	75,000	12483 W MANDALAY LN	2003	72,500
13022 W ASH ST	1,531	2002	88,000	11787 W WINDROSE AVE	2000	93,000
11510 W COLUMBINE DR	1,068	2001	65,000			

MORE HOME SALES ON 10



Mayor Mook assists in planting a miniature garden.

Mayor Mook and Vice-Mayor Shapera Visit Sí, Se Puede! Learning Center

On March 16, Mayor Lana Mook, Vice-Mayor David Shapera, and Navy veteran Jay Wilbur participated in a miniature community garden project with the Cesar Chavez Foundation event at the Sí, Se Puede! Learning Center in El Mirage.

City officials and other volunteers toured the facil-

ity, then assisted local students with painting planter boxes and creating mini-gardens.

The Sí, Se Puede! Learning Center's mission is to provide youth the opportunity to empower themselves and achieve success in school, at home, and in the community. All services provided by the Center are free. In addition, the

Center offers high school volunteer opportunities to engage older teens in the community.

The mini-garden project is run completely by Americorps volunteers, who provide a year of service to the Center. Americorps is a federal agency that funds assistance for a variety of nonprofits all over the United States.

Local Teacher Wins Teacher of the Year Award

Mrs. Kristi Martorelli was named the 2012 Teacher of the Year by the Arizona Educational Foundation. Martorelli is a kindergarten through 3rd grade reading interventionist at Thompson Ranch Elementary School. The annual Teacher of the Year program is the premier event of the Arizona Educational Foundation (AEF), a statewide organization that promotes and awards the exceptional efforts being made in Arizona's public schools.

During the AEF awards luncheon,

the 2012 Teacher of the Year is honored before more than 500 attendees including Arizona educators, elected officials, and business leaders. As Teacher of the Year, Kristi Martorelli will receive a host of awards and recognitions, march in the Fiesta Bowl Parade alongside the Wells Fargo Stagecoach, and serve as spokespersons for her profession, advocating for excellence in the classroom by making presentations statewide to education, civic, government and professional organizations.



Summer Camp 2012

Registration starts May 7th

Summer Camp Dates: Mondays through Thursdays, June 4th - July 26th, 8:00am-3:00pm

Prices:

El Mirage residents: Pay \$20 per week OR \$100 for 8-weeks

Non El Mirage residents: \$40 per week OR \$200 for 8-weeks









Who: Youth, grades K-12, of El Mirage and surrounding communities

What: A summer full of fun, laughs and everlasting memories!

Where: 14414 N. El Mirage Rd, El Mirage, 85335

Space is limited. Pre-Registration and 1 Week Payment Required.

For more information contact Priscilla Pena at (623) 583-2137 or priscillap@dysartcommunitycenter.org.



Councilmen David Shapira and Roy Delgado, Deputy City Manager Bill Pupo, Mayor Lana Mook, Councilman Len Selby, Lupita's owners Henry and Lupe Galindo, and City Manager Dr. Spencer Isom celebrate the new location.

New Location for Lupita's Mexican Food Restaurant

Anyone with ties to El Mirage knows about Lupita's Mexican Food Restaurant. The family owned eatery has been serving up its popular chimichangas and chile rellenos for more than seven years, and recently relocated to a new, expanded location at 13915 N. Dysart Road. Restaurant owners Lupe and Henry Galindo are

life-long El Mirage residents, and on most days, customers will find three generations of Galindos working in the restaurant. On March 30, the Galindos were joined by members of the El Mirage City Council and City staff to mark the grand re-opening of Lupita's with a special ribbon cutting ceremony.



El Mirage Engineering Department inspectors conduct final measurements on new culvert grates at the Thunderbird Road wash crossing.

Culvert Project Complete

Construction of access barriers at entrances to the eight drainage culverts beneath City roadways along the wash drainage channel in El Mirage is now substantially complete.

This project was identified as a priority project in the "City Council Goal Setting 2011 Report" approved by the City Council in February 2011. The culverts, which are large enough to walk through in some areas, are located between Greenway and Cactus Roads. The culverts will no longer provide a place for hidden activity.

The access barrier improvements consist

of heavy gauge steel grates that fully cover culvert entrances, yet still allow for storm water runoff during rain events. The grates can be removed for periodic maintenance of the culverts. The project was reviewed and permitted by the Maricopa County Flood Control District in accordance with flood control standards. The project also included replacement of the existing chain link fencing at the Thunderbird Road location with new wrought iron fencing on both sides of the road for improved safety.

Visit the City's website at www.cityofelmirage.org for further information.

Fourth Friday Recess begins May

Due to the warm summer temperatures, Fourth Friday's will recess May through August. Fourth Friday's are held September through April the fourth Friday of the month from 6 to 9 p.m. at the El Mirage City Plaza located adjacent to Bill Gentry Park.

Contact Angela Serda, Special Events Coordinator, at 623-876-2942, or aserda@cityofelmirage.org for more information.



- Fresh Meat
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- Pinatas
- Pan de Huevo
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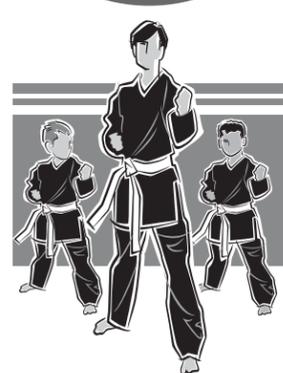
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- FREE Safety Recall Inspection

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Pastor Daniel J. Duarte

Schedule of Services
 Sunday School -10:30 a.m.
 Sunday Worship - 12:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Bible study - 7:30 p.m.
 Friday Worship - 7:30 p.m.
 Prayer 1 hour prior to each service

"For it is written, my house shall be called the house of prayer" Matthew 21:13

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Join us for our

Fall Festival Games, Food & Fun ALL FREE!
 Sat. May 5, 2012
 4pm - 9pm

Taco Stand
 Sat. May 12, 2012
 11am - 4pm

TRI-TIP Barbecue
 Sat. May 19, 2012
 11am - 4:30pm

VOLUNTEERISM: City involved, From 3

The Parks and Recreation Committee is to bring back the community feel and unity to the City of El Mirage. With this scope in mind, the Committee has developed four major goals: enhance communication with the community, enrich the quality of events, develop a city resources guide, and lastly, to develop the community by creating a sense of community and pride.

For more information or to volunteer on this committee, contact Angela Serda at 623-876-2942, or via email at serda@cityofelmirage.org.

Senior Services

The Senior Services Committee gathered yarn donations that the Knitting/Crochet Club used to make blankets, hats, and other items to donate to the "De Colores"

domestic violence shelter in Phoenix. De Colores is a safe home for women and children who have been forced to flee their homes due to domestic violence. Currently, De Colores is the only domestic violence shelter in the Phoenix area to exclusively offer bilingual and bicultural services.

The Committee also organized a beans and rice food drive at Pueblo El Mirage in March. Due to the generosity of these residents, a trunkful of beans and rice were delivered by me and my husband to the Senior Center and benefitted 30 seniors.

For more information on the Senior Center and its programs, contact Ruby Arvizu at 623-876-4232, or via email at rarvizu@cityofelmirage.org.



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Sunday, May 20, 2012 • 9am-3pm

Admission: Adults \$5.00 Children 12 & Under Free

Held at the El Zaribah Shrine Auditorium located at 552 N. 40th Street (just south of the 202 Freeway on 40th Street), in Phoenix, Arizona. Offering a large variety of Exotic Birds, Cages, Toys, Feed, and Assorted Supplies for the bird owner, the Bird Mart provides:

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El Mirage Uses New Method for Extending Pavement Life

Recently, the El Mirage City Council approved a pavement maintenance plan that includes a forward thinking, cost effective approach to preserving the City's asphalt paved roadways. Several residential streets within the City are in the process of receiving a new advanced asphalt preservation treatment called High Density Mineral Bond (HA5). The treatment will reduce costs over time and prolong the life of streets, which are a critical component of the City's infrastructure.



New High Density Mineral Bond asphalt preservation is applied in El Mirage.

El Mirage is the first community in the State to use the cutting edge pavement maintenance solution. The City Engineer first identified HA5 for asphalt preservation last year after reviewing techni-

cal results from successful applications over millions of square feet of roadway in Nevada and Utah. Applying HA5 will limit roadway deterioration and the effects of aging, while producing a uniform appearance. The City has contracted with Holbrook Asphalt for HA5

installation in multiple neighborhoods. This year, HA5 will be applied to streets in the Montecito, Thompson Ranch, Sun Dial III, and Grand Mirage neighborhoods. Other neighborhoods are scheduled for treatment in future years.

City Engineer Lance

Calvert stated, "When it comes to preserving asphalt roadways, there are many variables to consider such as existing surface conditions, traffic, drainage, and other factors. In El Mirage, staff from Public Works and Engineering carefully evaluated surface treatments that would provide the greatest life extension at the lowest possible cost over time. HA5 was really the best solution for us."



Dysart Community Center Volunteer Appreciation

Dysart Community Center Annual Volunteer Appreciation in March. The Center wants to extend its sincere appreciation to the entire City, neighbors and supporters. If you are still seeking ways to become involved in your community, drop in to the Center for a tour.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EL MIRAGE BRANCH LIBRARY
14011 N. 1st Ave.
602-652-3000
www.mcladaz.org

District branch libraries are closed on Monday, May 28 for Memorial Day.

2012 Summer Reading Program OUR STATE, OUR STORY begins May 24. Programs for All Ages!

Go to www.mcladaz.org/summer to register online or visit the library!

CHILDREN

STORY TIME FOR ARIZONA SUMMER

May 29 (Tuesday) 10 AM

Fun stories and silly songs for summer; for children ages 1-5 and their caregivers.

ALL AGES

AUTHOR VISIT—LINDA EXLEY

May 25 (Friday) 1:30 PM

Award-winning children's author Linda Exley is coming to El Mirage! Linda Exley is the co-author of this year's ONEBOOK Arizona: Arizona Way out West and Witty. That's Arizona's history punctuated with true but gross, humorous, interesting and witty facts about the Grand Canyon State! Meet this famous author and sign up for Summer

Reading!

JERRY LAYNE, VENTRILOQUIST

May 30 (Wednesday) 11 AM
Young people and adults alike relate to humorist Jerry Layne and his company of hilarious "dummies," animated animals, and his "talking" books. Special show for Arizona Centennial! Sign up for Summer Reading too!

TEENS

SCRAPBOOKING

May 3 (Thursday) 4 PM

Ages 12 and up; Make your own scrapbook and learn about scrapbooking. Bring 5 to 10 of your favorite pictures. All supplies provided. Registration needed and begins April 4.

ADULTS

FRIENDS OF THE EL MIRAGE LIBRARY

May 17 (Thursday) 4 PM

Join the Friends and help support the El Mirage Library. New members welcome!

DYSART COMMUNITY CENTER

14414 N. El Mirage Rd.
623-974-4156

Adult Education Classes

Class: Citizenship

Date/Times: 11 classes every Wednesday beginning August

15, 6-8 PM

Price: \$25.00

Details: Learning the civic questions, practice interview and filling out the N-400 application

Class: Computer Basics

Date/Times: Wednesday beginning May 2, 5-7:30 PM

Last class will be October 5th

Price: \$25.00

Details: Learning computer basic skills: Microsoft Word, Internet and creating an email account.

Class: ESL

Date/Times: Classes resume in Fall 2012

Price: \$60.00 includes two free study books and access to Rosetta Stone computer program

Details: Registration Wednesday, September 5, 2012

Registration Time: 8:00 AM-8:00 PM

Class: GED

Date/Times: Wednesday 6 PM-8 PM year-round, Monday-Tuesday 10 AM-12 PM November-April

Price: \$30.00

Details: Preparation course for the GED exam

Class: Rosetta Stone

Date/Times: Times vary

Price: \$25.00

Details: Basic English vocabulary through a computer

software program.

To register, contact Susie at 623-974-4156 or susier@dysartcommunitycenter.org.

Youth Programs

After School Program, Kindergarten through high school youth and teens, is in session

Mondays, 1-7 PM, Tuesday - Fridays, 3-7 PM

\$1/day drop-in rate or \$20/month

Youth Summer Camp (grades K-12) registration starts May 7th

Mondays through Thursdays, June 4th - July 26th, 8:00 AM-3:00 PM

Prices: El Mirage residents: Pay \$20 per week OR \$100 for 8-weeks and non El Mirage residents: \$40 per week OR \$200 for 8-weeks

Space is limited. Pre-Registration and 1 Week Payment Required.

FREE (age 0-5) PLAYGROUP meets every Wednesday at 10:15-11:15 AM. Bring your young children, meet some neighbors, and enjoy a fun time. This is hosted by Phoenix Children's Hospital and supported by First Things First.

For more information on youth programs, contact Priscilla Pena at (623) 583-2137 or priscillap@dysartcommunitycenter.org.

HOME SALES, From 6

12946 W SCOTTS DR	2,255	2002	110,000
13019 W MANDALAY LN	1,534	2004	94,000
11930 W ASH ST	895	1963	32,000
12426 W SURREY AVE	1,776	2002	89,900
12634 W COLUMBINE DR	2,002	2000	97,000
12713 W HEARN RD	1,530	2001	79,350
15105 N LUNA ST	1,642	2005	90,100
12857 W ASTER DR	2,252	2002	100,000
12314 W FLORES DR	1,106	2001	45,000
13005 N CESAR CHAVEZ DR	1,097	1999	52,000
11614 W CORRINE DR	1,518	2002	60,720
12401 W VIA CAMILLE	1,058	2002	61,500
14502 N 124TH LN	1,534	2002	75,000
12011 W WINDROSE DR	1,238	2000	76,500
12330 W ROSEWOOD DR	1,978	2001	90,000
12105 W FLORES DR	1,385	2000	71,000
11847 W PORT ROYALE LN	1,265	2006	74,000
11813 W SIERRA ST	1,090	2002	75,000
13209 N 130TH LN	1,549	2000	95,250
12409 N 128TH AVE	2,232	2002	116,000
12034 W SCOTTS DR	1,089	1999	68,000
11826 W WINDROSE AVE	2,191	2000	73,000
12302 W BERRY LN	1,723	2000	126,000
12406 W FLORES DR	1,106	2001	75,000
12524 N 121ST AVE	1,832	1999	76,000
12029 W SCOTTS DR	1,832	1999	88,000
12888 N B ST	1,930	2000	70,000
15228 N B CT	1,978	2006	85,000
11829 W LUPINE AVE	1,832	2002	107,900
14406 N 130TH LN	3,086	2001	127,000
11610 W BLOOMFIELD RD	1,930	2001	71,900
12601 W DREYFUS DR	1,430	2001	62,111
11534 W BLOOMFIELD RD	1,746	2002	63,000
11706 N OLIVE ST	1,832	2002	83,000
11801 W SUNNYSIDE DR	1,832	2002	71,000
13017 W EVANS DR	1,685	2000	92,500
12309 N 128TH DR	1,835	2002	105,100
12218 W FLORES DR	1,832	2001	65,000
12517 W PERSHING ST	1,794	2002	87,500

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8' x 6'8" (2 panel)	\$1350.00
9' x 6'8" (3 panel)	\$1650.00
10' x 6'8" (3 or 4 panel)	\$2050.00
12' x 6'8" (4 panel)	\$2350.00
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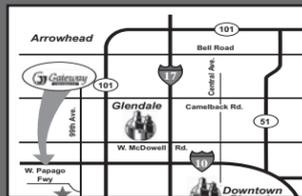
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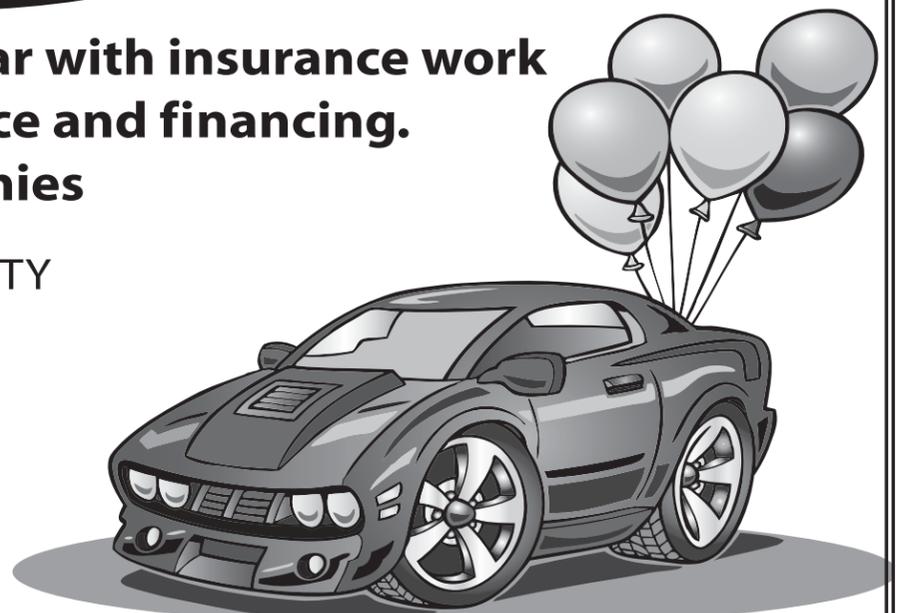
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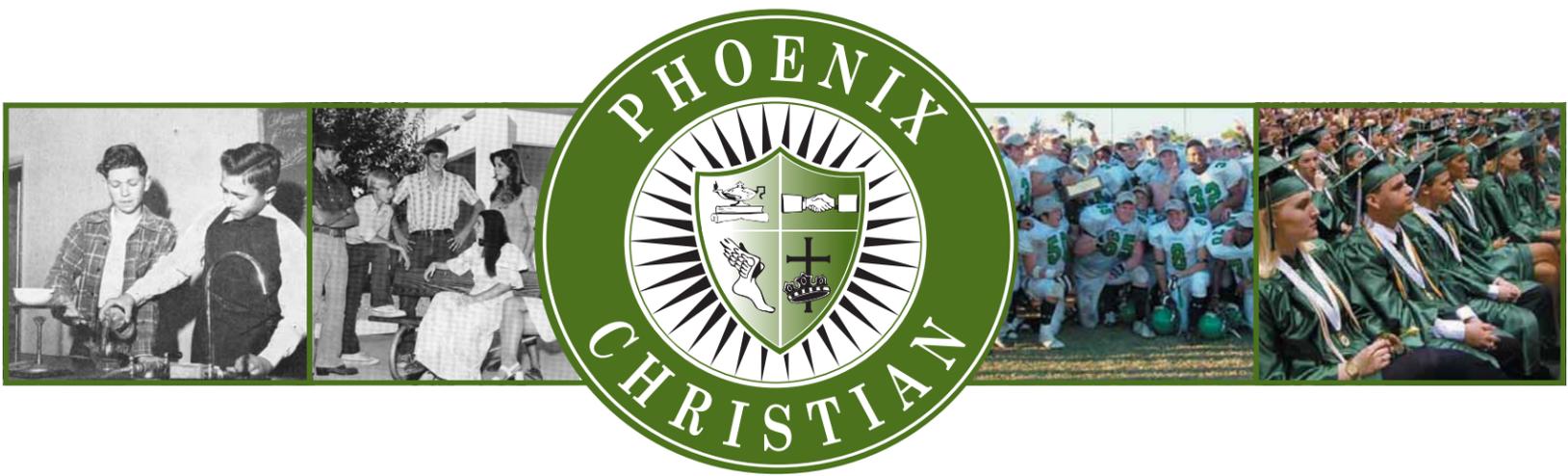
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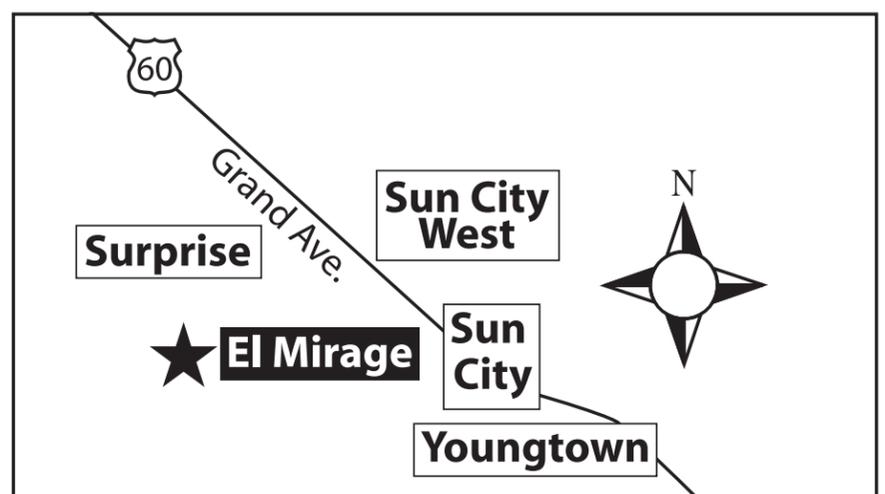
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