

El Mirage

Monthly Newsletter

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Vol. 6, No. 8

623-876-2978

Mayor's Message: Where Your Taxes Go

The City continues to maximize the value of its tax dollars by delivering improved police and fire services, upgraded streets, new public safety facilities, and a recreation facility with pool while keeping the primary tax levy flat.

While many cities and towns are still struggling to afford new capital projects and maintain staffing levels, the City of El Mirage has addressed such matters by concentrating on needs-based decision making, cost consciousness, and a desire to make El Mirage a destination.

El Mirage's current debt is 100% voter approved and does not rely on sales tax revenues for repayment. Additionally, the City has a fully funded capital improvements plan and continues to maintain a minimum \$6 million rainy day fund. Utility rates are stable and are anticipated to remain unchanged through June 2019.

Below is a graph depicting the sales tax per capita of several West Valley cities. As the graph illustrates, El Mirage has the lowest per capita sales tax among all cities noted. El Mirage relies on property taxes more than some other cities as we currently do not have the businesses necessary to generate adequate sales tax revenue.

One of the reasons that the City is currently involved in several road projects is to attract those businesses. Developers have indicated that improved roadways, an attractive cityscape, and good amenities are key components for attracting the businesses we need.

In response to the questions I receive most frequently about property taxes and their uses, the following Q & A is provided for your information:

Q: Where do my property taxes go?

A: The largest share of

your property taxes, 58%, is not City related but is collected for schools and education, which include the Dysart Unified School District, Dysart Unified Bonds, Dysart Unified Override, the Community College District, Community College District Bonds, a credit for State Aid, the State

Council Resolution and for voter approved debt.

The following chart is a summary of the property tax allocations presented above.

Q: How much of the City budget do my property taxes represent?

A: The majority of the City's budgeted revenue

comes from local grants, fees, and revenues shared with the City by the State of Arizona. An individual's property taxes are less than five percent of the City budget.

Q: How does the City use my primary property tax dollars?

A: About ten years ago the voters authorized a primary property tax to support the operating costs of the City of El Mirage. About four years ago this Council by Resolution restricted the use of these funds for Public Safety purposes only. At that same time the Council began to collect less than the maximum allowed by law which was a first for the City. Since then the Council has maintained the levy even though they could collect about 20% more as is depicted in the chart below.

The benefit of this

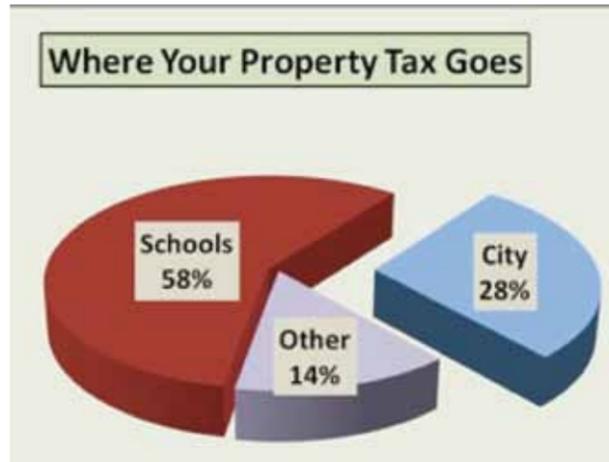
Council's action is a per capita tax of \$52; well below the average of \$79. If the Council continues to maintain the levy at this amount the per capita amount collected will reduce with every resident who moves into the City.

Q: Why does the City of El Mirage have a secondary property tax and other cities don't? What is the secondary property tax used for?

A: If a municipality has no outstanding bonds, it will not levy a secondary property tax since this is the purpose for which secondary property tax revenues can be used.

El Mirage levies a secondary property tax to pay for voter-approved bonds, which include funding for the fire station, police station, recreation

MORE TAXES ON 10



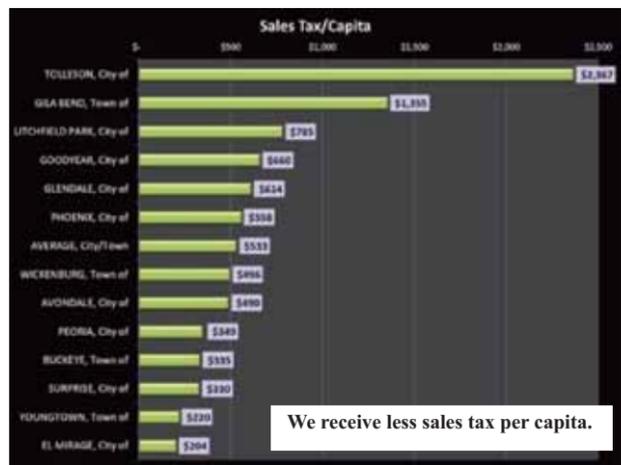
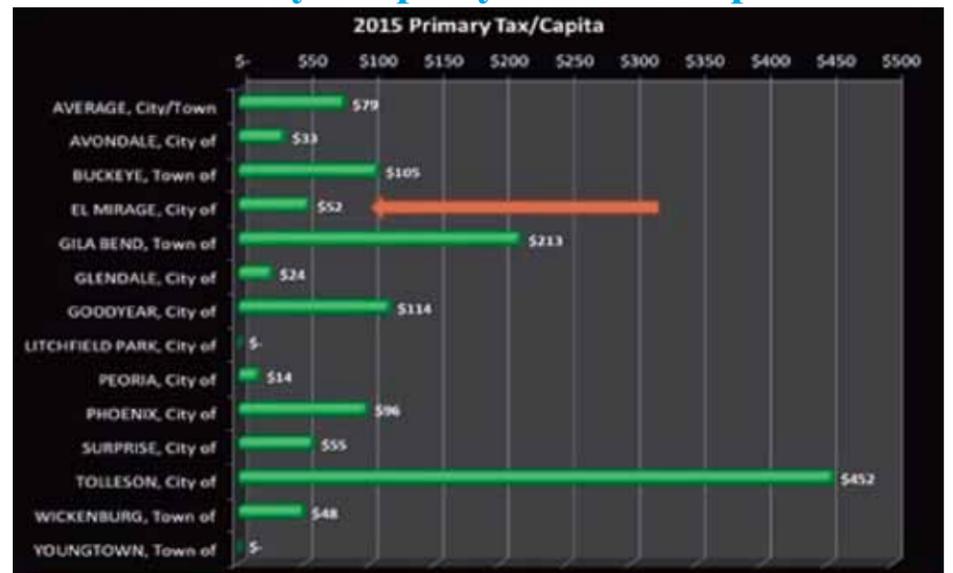
State, County, and Education make up 72% of El Mirage Property Taxes.

Equalization Tax, and West-Mec.

Another 14% of your property taxes are allocated to the County for the Central Arizona Water Conservation District, Election District, Fire District Assistance Tax, Flood Control of Maricopa County, Library District, Maricopa Special Health District, and McMicken Irrigation District.

The needs of our own City account for only 28% of your tax bill. This 28% can only be used to pay for police and fire services to keep residents safe per

Primary Property Tax Per Capita



Mayor Lana Mook Reappointed to MAG Executive Committee

On June 24, 2015, El Mirage Mayor Lana Mook was reappointed as an At-large member of the seven-member Maricopa Association of Governments' (MAG) Executive Committee. All Executive Committee members are mayors of their respective cities and towns.

Mayor Mook was the first elected official from El Mirage to serve on the MAG Executive Committee and has served on this committee since June 2013. The election of officers took place during a Regional Council meeting, followed by a networking reception where new officers were introduced during a passing-

of-the-gavel ceremony.

Mayor Mook stated, "I am honored and very proud to represent El Mirage on this important regional committee."

MAG is a council of governments and metropolitan planning organization that provides a regional forum for discussion, analysis, and resolution of regional issues including transportation, air quality, and human services. MAG prepares the 20-year Long Range Transportation Plan and five-year Transportation Improvement Program for the region.

To learn more about MAG, go to <http://www.azmag.gov/>

El Mirage Congratulates 2015 Police Explorer Graduates



From left to right: El Mirage Police Lt. Laura Liuzzo, Assistant Police Chief Terry McDonald, Clayton Haugh - Academy Graduate, Tayler Nelson - Academy Graduate, Xitlaly Luna - Academy Graduate, Mayor Lana Mook, Emily Burgoyne - ALEADS Graduate, Tyler Johnston - Academy Graduate, Cody Akin - Academy Graduate, Police Chief Steve Campbell, and Sergeant Chris Culp.

Keeping Kids Safe – Back To School Time

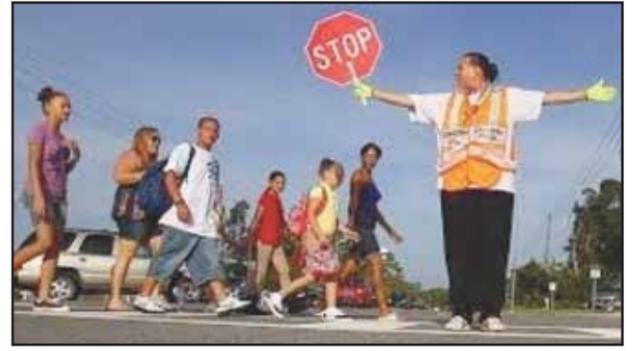
It's "Back to School Time" and the El Mirage Police Department is ready. Officers regularly conduct traffic patrols in school zones in an effort to insure the safety of students. Residents are reminded to follow traffic laws at all time, but particularly when children are in the area



as they may not be watching for cars. To do your part, remember the following:

- Slow down. Be aware of and obey all traffic laws and speed limits. **Speed limits in school zones are 15 mph.** The zone starts at the first sign and ends after the crosswalk.

- Stop for school buses that are loading or unloading children.
- Watch for and obey signals from crossing guards.
- Do not pass other vehicles or change lanes in school zones or at crosswalks. They may be stopping or slowing for pedestrian traffic that you cannot see.
- Do not make u-turns in school zones.
- Stay out of handicap



- Stay off of cell phones or emergency vehicle lanes or spaces when picking up or dropping off students, unless authorized to be there.
- Stay off of cell phones and don't text when driving. Inattention can be the cause of many collisions and injuries.

Mobile Enforcement for August 2015

Date	Van 1	Van 2	Trailer
1	12200 N Dysart Rd n/b D017	11900 W Cactus Rd E/B C003	12100 W Thunderbird Rd e/b T007
2	12200 N Dysart Rd n/b D017	11900 W Cactus Rd E/B C003	12100 W Thunderbird Rd e/b T007
3	12600 W Peoria e/b P002	Acoma @ 129 Ave w/b A006	12600 W Cactus Rd e/b C004
4	12900 N 129 Ave n/b X001	13000 N Dysart Rd n/b D024	12600 W Cactus Rd e/b C004
5	Acoma @ 124 Ave s/b A004	127th Ave @ Sunnyside s/b X007	12600 W Cactus Rd e/b C004
6	13700 N Dysart Rd s/b D020	13700 W 127 Ave n/b X003	12600 W Cactus Rd e/b C004
7	12600 W Peoria w/b P001	13000 N Dysart Rd s/b D025	12600 W Cactus Rd e/b C004
8	12600 W Peoria w/b P001	13000 N Dysart Rd s/b D025	12600 W Cactus Rd e/b C004
9	12600 W Peoria w/b P001	13000 N Dysart Rd s/b D025	12600 W Cactus Rd e/b C004
10	12900 N Dysart Rd n/b D022	12500 W Varney w/b V001	12700 N El Mirage Rd s/b E025
11	12700 W Canterbury n/b C002	Acoma @ 129 Ave e/b A005	12700 N El Mirage Rd s/b E025
12	12900 N Dysart Rd n/b D023	13300 N 127 Ave s/b X004	12700 N El Mirage Rd s/b E025
13	Acoma @ 124 Ave n/b A003	14600 N Dysart Rd s/b D002	12700 N El Mirage Rd s/b E025
14	12200 N Dysart Rd n/b D017	13200 Main St n/b M002	12700 N El Mirage Rd s/b E025
15	12200 N Dysart Rd n/b D017	13200 Main St n/b M002	12700 N El Mirage Rd s/b E025
16	12200 N Dysart Rd n/b D017	13200 Main St n/b M002	12700 N El Mirage Rd s/b E025
17	12600 W Peoria e/b P002	Acoma @ 129 Ave w/b A006	12100 W Thunderbird Rd w/b T008
18	12900 N 129 Ave n/b X001	13000 N Dysart Rd n/b D024	12100 W Thunderbird Rd w/b T008
19	Acoma @ 124 Ave s/b A004	127th Ave @ Sunnyside s/b X007	12100 W Thunderbird Rd w/b T008
20	13700 N Dysart Rd s/b D020	13700 W 127 Ave n/b X003	12100 W Thunderbird Rd w/b T008
21	13700 N Dysart Rd s/b D020	13000 N Dysart Rd s/b D025	12100 W Thunderbird Rd w/b T008
22	13700 N Dysart Rd s/b D020	13000 N Dysart Rd s/b D025	12100 W Thunderbird Rd w/b T008
23	13700 N Dysart Rd s/b D020	13000 N Dysart Rd s/b D025	12100 W Thunderbird Rd w/b T008
24	12900 N Dysart Rd n/b D022	13300 N 127 Ave s/b X004	12600 W Cactus Rd w/b C005
25	12700 W Canterbury n/b C002	14600 N Dysart Rd s/b D002	12600 W Cactus Rd w/b C005
26	12900 N Dysart Rd n/b D023	13200 Main St n/b M002	12600 W Cactus Rd w/b C005
27	Acoma @ 124 Ave n/b A003	11900 W Cactus Rd E/B C003	12600 W Cactus Rd w/b C005
28	Acoma @ 124 Ave n/b A003	Acoma @ 129 Ave w/b A006	12600 W Cactus Rd w/b C005
29	Acoma @ 124 Ave n/b A003	Acoma @ 129 Ave w/b A006	12600 W Cactus Rd w/b C005
30	Acoma @ 124 Ave n/b A003	Acoma @ 129 Ave w/b A006	12600 W Cactus Rd w/b C005
31	12600 W Peoria e/b P002	13000 N Dysart Rd n/b D024	12100 W Thunderbird Rd e/b T007

Public Input Invited

Maricopa County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Draft Ready for Review

A multi-jurisdictional planning team comprised of representatives from Maricopa County and the 27 participating jurisdictions comprised of tribes, cities, towns and other local governmental entities substantially located within Maricopa County, has been meeting regularly to participate in a hazard mitigation planning process. The purpose of this process is to update the current version of the Maricopa County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan according to The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA2K). The DMA2K requires all local, county, tribal and state governments to have a FEMA approved hazard mitigation plan in order to be eligible for certain federal disaster mitigation funds. The first draft of the newly updated 2015 Maricopa County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan has been completed and is ready for public viewing and comment. The updated draft of the plan can be downloaded at the following website: http://www.maricopa.gov/Emerg_Mgt/links.aspx or you can contact your community's representative as listed below:

The City of El Mirage Fire Department at 623/251-3509 or visit our web-site at www.cityofelmirage.org and view us on Facebook.



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Spanish Service - Sunday - 4:30pm

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Clerk's Corner ...S.T.E.P. U.P. !

S.T.E.P. U.P. !

Student Teen Election Poll workers Understanding the Power of civic duty

ATTENTION EL MIRAGE TEENS – did you know you can become a poll worker and get paid to work at a polling location during elections?

A 2006 state law (A.R.S. 16-531G) allows students to work at election polls and Maricopa County Elections Department has designed a program to engage teenagers in the election process even before they can register to vote. This program allows students who are 16 to 17 years old to work at polling places on Election Day as board workers; students work together with registered voters to run the polling places. The goal of the program is to develop civic responsibility for future voters with a positive first-hand experience in the election process.

To qualify for the S.T.E.P. U.P. program, a student **must** 1) be at least 16 years old, 2) be a U.S. citizen, 3) submit an application that includes parental/guardian and school permission, and 4) attend a mandatory training class. Qualified and selected students on a first-come-first-serve basis will be paid \$10 to attend the mandatory training class, \$5 for a set-up meeting, and \$100 to work on Election day.

The next election dates for students to apply to work at polls are:

- DUSD Bond Election Tuesday, November 3, 2015

(Applications due September 16th no later than 5 pm)

- Presidential Preference Tuesday, March 22, 2016

(Applications due January 8th no later than 5 pm)

- Primary Election Tuesday, August 30, 2016
- General Election Tuesday, November 8, 2016 (Presidential Election!)

Student poll worker applications are available through the El Mirage City Clerk at City Hall (623-876-2943). Information is also available at www.maricopa.gov or by contacting the Maricopa County STEP UP Program Director April Snow at 602-506-1519.

So don't "mumble, grumble, complain, or wallow – do something!" **STEP UP**, serve, and get paid!

Maricopa County Elections Department hires nearly 5,000 poll workers

on election days and is also looking for adult poll workers who need only to be registered voters in Maricopa County to qualify. Please go to www.maricopa.gov or contact El Mirage City Clerk for more information.



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News from the El Mirage Police Department

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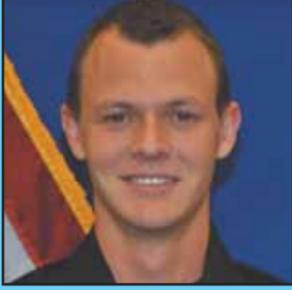
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New officers at police department



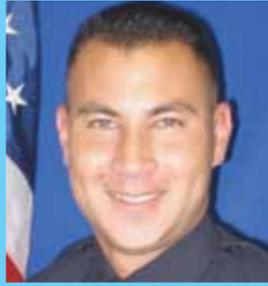
Officer Miles McLane



Officer Collin Madeya



Code Enforcement Officer Chris Herrbach



Sgt. Chris Culp

In July, the El Mirage Police Department swore in two new full time Police Officers: Officer Miles McLane and Officer Collin Madeya.

Officer McLane is a transfer from the Wickenburg Police Department. Officer Madeya has been working as an unpaid Reserve Officer since January 2015.

Both officers will be working in patrol and

responding to citizen calls for service.

The department also welcomed Chris Herrbach as a new Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Herrbach has previous law enforcement experience and will be patrolling the City in support of Code Enforcement efforts.

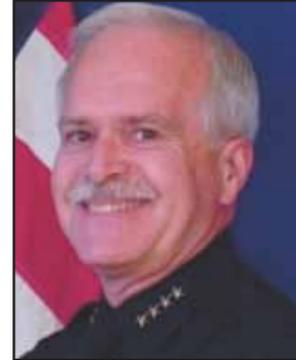
The El Mirage Police Department also promoted Officer Chris Culp to the rank of Sergeant and he will

supervise a patrol squad.

Welcome and congratulations!

El Mirage Police Chief Retiring

El Mirage City Manager Dr. Spencer A. Isom has announced the upcoming retirement of Police Chief Steve Campbell. Chief Campbell's retirement comes after serving over 34 years in law enforcement within the state of Arizona, with his last four years as the El Mirage Chief of Police. His last day is scheduled to be September 18th.



Chief Steve Campbell

In a communication to City Manager Isom, Chief Campbell wrote, "It has been a privilege to serve you, the Mayor and City Council, as well as the citizens of this city for more than four years as your Police Chief. I am very humbled by the support provided to me by

our City leaders... Serving alongside the men and women of the El Mirage Police Department has been a sincere and blessed honor."

City Manager Isom, commented on the announcement by stating, "Selecting Steve as Chief of the El Mirage Police Department four years ago

was an easy decision, one that I have never regretted. He is a true professional and has been a guiding force in transforming El Mirage's Police Department and our community in what they have become today. I am saddened to hear of Steve's leaving but excited for the possibilities that lay ahead for him as he transitions to a career in the private-sector. I know Steve to be a spiritual man... a soldier of sorts... a person who will continue to positively impact the lives of others."

Cards and well wishes for Chief Campbell can be sent to the El Mirage Police Department, 12401 W. Cinnabar Ave. El Mirage, AZ 85335.

Keeping In Compliance - Parking Enforcement

Code enforcement enhances neighborhood livability and quality of life for residents. The El Mirage Police Department actively seeks opportunities to help neighborhoods thrive through code enforcement. Code enforcement officers work throughout the City of El Mirage to respond to citizen-generated complaints as well as proactively identify blight that negatively impacts our community. Code enforcement officers utilize several tools to assist them in their mission to support the beautification of the city. One of these tools is a door hanger, a brightly-colored cardstock notification to residents that a violation exists. These door hangers explain the violation and provide contact information for the code enforcement officer. In most instances, the violation can be corrected in a timely manner with no additional contact from an officer.

violations, especially if they create a hazard to others. This can occur especially with illegal parking.

Parking enforcement is a necessary component of code enforcement, as violations often contribute to neighborhood blight. As with other violations, the goal of parking enforcement is compliance, and that is often achieved through education. When education is not a viable option, citations may be written. Beginning in August, the El Mirage Police Department will begin enforcing parking violations through newly formatted parking citations. Common violations are:

- Vehicles parked left side to curb (parking in the wrong direction)
- Blocking traffic or a driveway
- Parking on the sidewalk
- Parking a truck/trailer on a residential street
- Parking on dirt/vacant lots

Please assist the El Mirage Police Department by keeping your property (and vehicles) in compliance with all applicable regulations. If you have any questions about code enforcement (including parking), please contact the Code Enforcement Unit at 623-500-3000.

While the goal of code enforcement is to assist citizens in bringing their properties into compliance, occasionally citations are issued. This occurs particularly when the citizen fails to bring the property into compliance after multiple requests by a code enforcement officer. Citations may also be issued for particularly egregious

El Mirage Police Department Property and Evidence Division

UNCLAIMED PROPERTY NOTICE TO CLAIM PROPERTY

Case #	Item Category	Last Name	First name
E14010848	Paperwork	Garcia	Enrique
E15041571	Key(s)	Banks	Joshua
E15051164	Purse w/ misc. items	Contreras	Erica
E15051586	Cell Phone	Garza Jr.	Roel
E15051735	Misc. Personal Items	Gonzales	Manuel
E15051741	Clothing	Garcia-Salas	Refugio
E15051836	Wallet	Telles	Ivy
E15052336	Misc. Personal Items	Arbayo	Edgar
E15060410	Misc. Personal Items	Barrera	Kenneth
E15061373	Scissors	Wilson	Kevin
E15061577	Bicycle	Cavazos	Diego
E15061604	Wallet	Ankrom	Aaron
E15061605	Misc. Personal Items	Beveridge	Dylan
E15061684	Cell Phone	Galvan	Brandon
E15061684	Cell Phone	Galvan	Brandon
E15061690	Cell Phone	Gaines	Lavarcia
E15062124	Knife	Schad	John
E15070163	Currency	Culbertson	Sybil
E15070244	Misc. Personal Items	Ybarra	Jesus
E15070285	Debit Card	Canez	Joyce
E15070420	Wallet	Graham	Steven

Photo ID is required. Please call 623-500-3038 for an appointment to claim your property. Property not claimed by August 30, 2015 will be disposed of in accordance with the law.

El Mirage Police Department Will Be Out in Full Force to Catch Drunk Drivers

Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over

As summer winds down, the El Mirage Police Department is ramping up its enforcement efforts as part of a national crackdown on drunk driving. The 20-day, high-visibility campaign, *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*, is a partnership with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to curb impaired driving and save lives. August 21-September 7 (Labor Day), law enforcement partners nationwide will show zero tolerance for drunk driving. Increased state and national messaging about the dangers of driving drunk, and

additional officers on the road, aim to drastically reduce the toll of drunk driving.

In 2013, there were 10,076 people killed in drunk-driving crashes, almost a third of all traffic fatalities. Thirty-eight percent of crash fatalities on Labor Day weekend that year involved drunk drivers (with blood alcohol concentrations [BACs] of .08 or higher), amounting to 161 lives lost. And we're not just talking about a little bit of alcohol, either. More than a quarter (27%) of the crash fatalities that occurred on

Labor Day weekend involved drivers with BACs of .15 or higher—almost twice the illegal per se limit.

In every state, it's illegal to drive with a BAC of .08 or higher. Chief Campbell wants to remind drivers that it's not a recommendation; it's the law. And during the enforcement period starting August 21, there will be a special emphasis on drunk-driving enforcement. Local drivers should expect to see more patrol vehicles and increased messaging about this reckless, preventable crime. "The number of people who are still drinking



and driving is unacceptable," added Chief Campbell. "Yes, we want to increase awareness for the campaign, but we want the effects to be permanent."

Sergeant Andrew Vanderwerf, El Mirage's traffic unit supervisor, emphasized the preventable nature of drunk driving: "All it takes is a

little planning ahead. Designate a sober driver or call a cab. But whatever you do, don't drink and drive."

The new SaferRide mobile app (free from the iTunes store and Google Play), can help users call a taxi or a friend for a ride home. The app can even help you identify your location so you can be picked up. This August and year-round, remember that there's no excuse for drunk driving. If you choose to break the law, the El Mirage Police Department will see you before you see them. *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.*

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News from the El Mirage Fire Department

13601 N. El Mirage Road • 623-583-7968 • www.cityofelmirage.org/fire

Operations and Administration open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday



City Hydration Stations

The summer heat in Arizona can be deadly. According to the National Weather Service, the Phoenix area averages 110 days of temperatures above 100 degrees. It is important to protect yourself from the dangers of heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

Vulnerable populations like older



adults, children, people who are experiencing homelessness, and those who work outdoors need to take extra precautions.

The City of El Mirage has joined other cities

across the Valley to make two hydration stations available. Coco's Towing donated water for our hydration stations. The stations are:

- El Mirage Fire Department located at 13601 N. El Mirage Road
- El Mirage Police Department located at 12409 W. Cinnabar Avenue

2 Seconds Is Too Long!

Pool Safety Information

The summer months are here and many people are enjoying their residential swimming pools. As enjoyable

as they are, they can also present a dangerous hazard to infants, children, and adults. According to the Drowning Prevention Coalition of Arizona, since January 1, 2015, there have been 86 water related incidents in Maricopa and Pinal Counties with 20 water related fatalities.

Here are some drowning risk factors to consider. If two or more of these factors exist, the risk of water related incidents increases significantly:



- New Parents/ Caregivers
- New owners of a pool
- Multiple children around the pool
- Lack of barriers (fences) or safety precautions around the pool (No toys, climbable furniture, ladders, etc. near fence or pool)
- Other water hazards around the home without safety features (buckets, bathtubs, toilets, etc.)
- Underestimate the mobility and ability of a

toddler
MOST CRITICAL FACTOR

Breakdown in supervision or a lack of focus when children are present

REMEMBER - 2 SECONDS IS TOO LONG! LET THE PHONE RING!

Arizona Revised Statute (A.R.S) 36-1681 - Pool enclosures; requirements; exceptions; enforcement, guides residential pool owners on the legal requirements of pool ownership and proper pool safety.

To view A.R.S 36-1681, visit the Arizona State Legislature's website at: www.azleg.gov

Community Uplift Program Seeks Projects and Volunteers for Make-a-Difference Day!

The Community Uplift Program (CUP) has announced that it will be taking part in a nationwide day of volunteerism in the United States scheduled on October 24, 2015, known as Make A Difference Day. CUP is seeking not only volunteers, but projects and properties that need attention.



Dysart High School Key Club volunteers

NEED HELP? Property owners can apply for landscaping work, tree trimming, exterior painting, trash clean-up, and other exterior work by completing an application available at City Hall, the Fire Station, or on the El Mirage website, <http://www.cityofelmirage.org/index.aspx?nid=1603>. Selected property owners will be notified by October 1, 2015.

VOLUNTEER? Volunteers can sign up by calling 623-251-3508 or contacting either Councilman Selby at lselby@cityofelmirage.org

org or Mary Dickson at mdickson@cityofelmirage.org.

This is a great project for church groups, scouts, and clubs to do together and help those who need some assistance.

DONATE? If you wish to donate items for the event, CUP needs paint brushes, paint roller pads and trash bags. CUP will also accept gently used lawn tools, such as rakes and trimmers! Items can be dropped off at the Fire Station at any time. Anyone wishing to make a monetary donation to cover

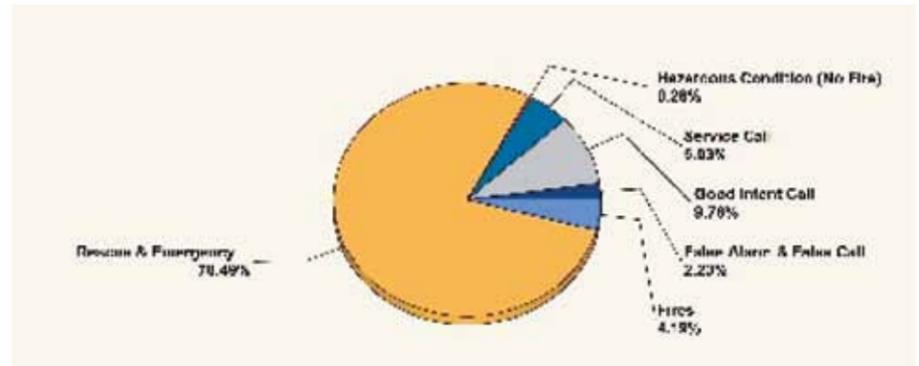
the costs of these items may donate through the Dysart Community Center.

Please contact Mike Cassidy at mike.cassidy@dysartcommunitycenter.org.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors! Last year 70 volunteers tackled 14 projects ranging from painting houses, removing dead plants, installing new landscape rock, and pulling weeds.

Be part of this nationwide event in 2015! Apply, donate, or volunteer today!

City of El Mirage Fire Department Operations Report June 2015



Total Calls for Service = 369

Average Response Time for All Aid Types: 00:06:46

Community Outreach

- 06/01/2015 Fire Department crews enjoyed a busy month of citizen ride-a-longs
- 06/01/2015 This date marked the beginning of the El Mirage Hydration Station located at the front entrance of the fire administration building. This station has been a great success with many citizens taking advantage of the location and free bottled water during the hot months of our great Arizona summer. Thank you to Coco's Towing for the water donations!

Significant Incidents

- 06/05/2015 Fire personnel responded to a reported structure fire, crews were able to contain the fire to the place of origin
- 06/08/2015 Fire personnel responded to a reported structure fire, crews encountered industrial equipment on fire and contained the fire to the equipment involved
- 06/22/2015 Fire personnel responded to a commercial sized dumpster fire, fire was extinguished and was contained without fire spread
- 06/22/2015 Fire personnel responded to an RV fire, crews found heavy fire and damage, no injuries were reported and the fire was extinguished without incident
- 06/30/2015 Fire personnel responded to a reported structure fire crews were

able to minimize fire extension

- 06/30/2015 Fire personnel responded to a kitchen fire and encountered heavy smoke and fire, no injuries were reported and the fire was extinguished without incident

Training Activities

- 955 total training hours, combined Fire and EMS

FIRE, BUILDING, AND LIFE SAFETY DIVISION REPORT (FBLSD) For Period Ending: June, 2015

- The record number of permit applications in May has resulted in a 20% increase in inspection requests during June. Permit numbers continue to be high with most being residential permits.

Nearly a dozen new homes have been installed in the past 2 months and 20 since January.

An audit of our IGA with the Office of Manufactured Housing was conducted in June.

Our processes, procedures, and inspection methods with manufactured housing must match what is required by the State which sometimes differs from standard practice. Building is awaiting the final report.

Statistics for period of June, 2015

- Permits issued- 85
- Plan reviews- 7 Commercial, 88 Residential, 1 Fire
- Inspections- 353 @ 188 stops (15 daily average)
- Annual Business Inspections- 16
- Revenue from permits- \$ 24,109

El Mirage Court Moves to nCourt for Payment Options

The El Mirage City Court is pleased to provide additional options when paying traffic citations. For a small administrative fee, customers will be able to pay fines in full or make previously agreed upon payments through nCourt either online at www.elmiragepayments.com, www.cityofelmirage.org, or by calling 1-855-741-7785. This state-of-the-art system also includes the option to make payments from smart phones.

Court customers will be informed of this new option when a plea is accepted an nCourt notification will be attached to the court contracts.

For more information regarding the El Mirage Court, visit www.cityofelmirage.org/index.aspx?NID=1111 or call 623-815-2186.





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Qualified participants will receive study-related care and study medication at no charge.

Compensation for time and travel may be provided.

For more information, please contact:
Arizona Arthritis & Rheumatology Research
480-626-6656
info@azarthritistrials.com

El Mirage Homes Sales - June 2015

Address	Price	Date Sold	Total SF
11923 W Columbine Dr	\$125,000	6/30/15	1,238
12223 W Scotts Dr	\$131,000	6/30/15	1,238
12745 W Bloomfield Rd	\$162,500	6/30/15	2,232
12124 W Ironwood St	\$167,000	6/30/15	2,117
12310 N Palm St	\$105,000	6/30/15	1,089
12517 W Larkspur Rd	\$157,000	6/30/15	2,002
14800 N 129 th Ave	\$199,900	6/30/15	3,086
11518 W Scotts Dr	\$120,000	6/30/15	1,068
13021 W Aster Dr	\$142,000	6/30/15	1,407
12730 W Sharon Dr	\$154,355	6/30/15	1,691
13709 N 129 th Dr	\$138,000	6/30/15	1,348
12749 W Dreyfus Dr	\$127,000	6/30/15	1,495
15205 N Luna St	\$159,900	6/30/15	1,642
12821 W Valentine Ave	\$126,000	6/29/15	1,495
12814 W Sweetwater Ave	\$125,500	6/29/15	1,106
12410 W Soledad St	\$137,000	6/26/15	1,358
12610 W Willow Ave	\$65,000	6/26/15	1,495
13053 W Scotts Dr	\$170,000	6/26/15	2,255
12410 W Rosewood Dr	\$123,000	6/25/15	1,106
12505 W Laurel Ln	\$130,100	6/25/15	1,090
13218 N 128 th Ln	\$159,000	6/25/15	1,978
12232 W Columbine Dr	\$118,000	6/25/15	1,385
13003 W Surrey Ave	\$165,000	6/25/15	1,872
15105 N B Cir	\$148,000	6/25/15	1,978
12489 W Via Camille	\$139,000	6/24/15	1,534
13013 W Lisbon Ln	\$156,000	6/24/15	1,949

Address	Price	Date Sold	Total SF
12037 W Scotts Dr	\$157,120	6/23/15	1,832
12629 W Shaw Butte Dr	\$133,000	6/23/15	1,385
12008 W Dahlia Dr	\$134,900	6/23/15	1,832
12700 W Lisbon Ln	\$123,000	6/23/15	1,934
12108 W Tara Ln	\$192,000	6/23/15	1,623
12915 W Soledad St	\$164,000	6/23/15	2,108
12754 W Santa Fe Ln	\$175,000	6/22/15	2,178
13034 W Ash St	\$188,000	6/22/15	2,108
13009 W Lisbon Ln	\$160,000	6/22/15	1,534
12725 W Via Camille	\$140,000	6/19/15	1,530
11605 W Windrose Ave	\$149,000	6/19/15	2,180
12803 W Voltaire Ave	\$160,000	6/19/15	2,058
14610 N 124 th Ln	\$120,000	6/18/15	1,308

June 2015 Business Licenses

Type	Business Name/Address	City	Zip	Phone
Contractor	A.C.S. Inspection Services	Peoria	85345	623-556-9580
Contractor	Jaime Electric Co	Tolleson	85353	623-936-4355
Contractor	LEHR Electric LLC	Phoenix	85033	623-329-5516

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(623) 399-5672 or wilf91324@yahoo.com

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Bible Study - 9:00 AM
Worship Service - 10:15 AM

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<p>■ 2007 FORD ESCAPE, SUV, XLT, RED #156578A \$7,995</p> <p>■ 2011 KIA FORTE, LOADED, SILVER MET #150574A \$9,995</p> <p>■ 2009 NISSAN FRONTIER, KING CAB, BLACK #146121A \$10,995</p> <p>■ 2010 FORD FUSION, SE, LOADED, WHITE #160072A \$10,995</p> <p>■ 2013 KIA SOUL, STICK, LOADED, LT GREEN #156593A \$11,995</p> <p>■ 2005 CHEVROLET SILVERADO, LS, RED #156759A \$11,995</p> <p>■ 2014 CHEVROLET SPARK, STICK, LT BLUE #FT5181A \$11,995</p> <p>■ 2007 NISSAN MURANO, AWD, SL, WHITE #FT5531A \$12,995</p> <p>■ 2012 FORD FOCUS, SEL, CERTIFIED, RED #156400A \$12,995</p> <p>■ 2011 JEEP COMPASS, SUV, LOADED, BLACK #156671B \$12,995</p>	<p>■ 2012 TOYOTA CAMRY, LE, LOADED, WHITE #156057A \$13,995</p> <p>■ 2011 KIA SPORTAGE, LX, SUV, SILVER #150430A \$14,995</p> <p>■ 2012 HONDA CIVIC, 4DR, HF, LOADED, GRAY #150520A \$14,995</p> <p>■ 2014 CHEVROLET CRUZE, LT, GOLD #150347A \$14,995</p> <p>■ 2010 FORD ESCAPE, SUV, XLT, WHITE #156232B \$14,995</p> <p>■ 2008 FORD EXPLORER, XLT, LOADED, SILVER #156682A \$14,995</p> <p>■ 2010 HONDA CR-V, AWD, LOADED, SILVER #156702A \$16,995</p> <p>■ 2012 NISSAN FRONTIER, SV, SILVER MET #145921A \$18,995</p> <p>■ 2015 HYUNDAI TUCSON, SUV, SILVER #156128B \$20,495</p> <p>■ 2013 NISSAN MURANO, 5DR, LE, GARNET #150746A \$25,995</p>
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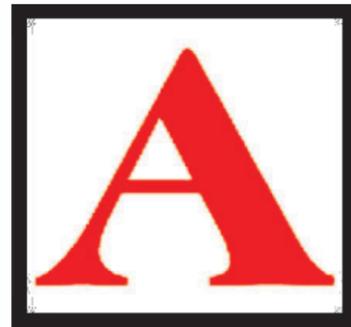
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TAXES: From 1

facility with pool, and El Mirage Road improvements.

Under Arizona Revised Statute §35-458, El Mirage is required to levy a secondary property tax in an amount sufficient to pay our bond principal and interest.

The City has worked hard to keep the secondary property tax to a minimum. The Mayor, City Manager, and staff presented in person to the bond rating agencies of Moody's and Standard and

Poor's in order to get the best bond rating possible at the time the bonds were sold. The resulting A1 and A+ ratings we received saved the City approximately \$1.3 million in interest on bonds. Additionally, El Mirage was able to take advantage of lower interest rates to refund some higher rated bonds, thereby reducing the bond payments.

Q: What is the difference between the Tax Levy and the Tax Rate?

A: Tax LEVY: Total amount of taxes that need

to be collected to operate the City. The City approves the tax levy, not the tax rate. The Council has maintained the tax levy for FY 2016 at the same amount as FY 2014 and FY 2015.

Tax RATE: Individual dollar rate per hundred dollars of assessed value of a given property that is used to calculate a yearly tax bill. The rate is set by the County Assessor based on the tax levy and limited property values.

Q: Why can't the City just keep my taxes exactly

the same as they were last year?

A: Property taxes cannot remain the same each year, primarily because property tax rates are based on property values which are affected by market conditions. Currently, property values are on an upward trend. The City has issued voter-approved bonds for facilities and infrastructure which must be repaid on schedule, much like a homeowner's mortgage, so the secondary rate will vary based on

how much property values have changed. The Council also reviews the revenue needs for operations and adjusts the primary rate to help meet those needs, while keeping the primary property tax levy within the legal limit.

In any given year, any of these numbers could go up, go down, or stay the same. It is not legally possible to assign a flat tax to every property in El Mirage in order for the City portion of your property taxes to remain exactly the same

each year.

I hope this information has helped clarify what property taxes are and how they are used to benefit the citizens of El Mirage.

Through good management, this Council has not increased the primary property tax levy while delivering our promise to build a police station, build a recreation facility with pool, and upgrade city streets. This Council has significantly increased services for our residents while controlling expenses.

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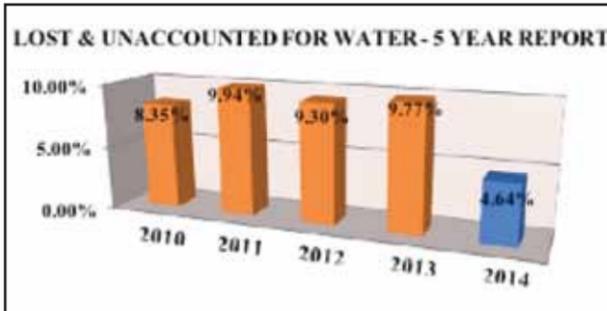
City Cuts Lost & Unaccounted for Water in Half

El Mirage achieved unprecedented success in 2014 with a drastic reduction in Lost and Unaccounted (L&U) water. The City halved L&U water in 2014, dropping it to 4.64% compared to just under the 10% limit for the past three years.

The major factors that contributed to this significant outcome are the implementation of

the council approved Automated Meter Infrastructure, improved utility billing, and streamlining the turnaround time on water leaks and fire hydrant repairs. The net results have considerably decreased the amount of water being lost or unaccounted.

Overall, the City has made extraordinary strides in managing water



resources and the results continue to speak for themselves.

The Arizona Department

of Water Resources requires L&U water reports to stay within a 10% limit; exceeding the

limit would require the City to implement a series of stringent conservation practices that can be financially excessive. Prior to 2014, L&U water had been hovering round the 10% limit, but through a series of innovative and effective techniques and practices, El Mirage's L&U water drastically dropped to 4.64%.

Jamie McCullough, Environmental Com-

pliance Coordinator stated, "The 4.64% L&U water amount is the lowest El Mirage has experienced in years."

Mayor Lana Mook stated, "This is just another example of the continued efforts of council and staff to properly manage city resources, look for creative ways to save the community money, and ensure water rates stability."

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St. Joachim & St. Anne Catholic Parish in Sun City will be enrolling

Adults (RCIA) and Students (RE) for the 2015-2016 Semester of Religious Education after all 4pm & 5:30pm Sat. Masses in Aug. in St. Anne's Hall.

Adult Classes are for anyone 18+ who would like to learn about the Catholic Faith, become Catholic, or just 'brush up' on the Faith. Our 1st Class is Mon., Sept. 14th at 6pm in the rectory conference room

Students (RE) for students 1st - 12th Grade who are seeking Catholic instruction and/or studying for reception of the Sacraments. There is a Parent / Teacher Meeting Wed., Aug. 26th at 7pm and classes begin on Wed., Sept. 9th.



For more information call 623-972-1179
11625 111th Avenue, Sun City 85351
Karen Ratti

Church of St. Joachim & St. Anne

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COMMUNITY EVENTS – AUGUST 2015

SENIOR CENTER

Come visit the Senior Center and socialize with other Seniors from the El Mirage Community.

At the Center you will find:

- Hot Lunches for only \$2.50
- Prize BINGO
- Arts and Crafts
- Exercise Classes
- Health and Wellness Speakers
- Monthly and Holiday Parties
- Board and Card Games

The center operates from 8 am - 12:00 noon Monday - Friday.

We welcome all El Mirage seniors age 55 and older to participate in these and more activities.

Call 623-876-4232 to make your meal reservation today!

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Phone: 623-876-4232

E-mail: rarvizu@cityofelmirage.org

www.cityofelmirage.org

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ONGOING ACTIVITIES

August 2015 – Ongoing Activities

Co-ed Adult Soccer
Games played at Gateway Park. For information, go to www.azcoedsoccer.com or 1-800-BSA- 0886

Benfica Youth Soccer
Mon –Thurs., 6 pm – 8 pm year round
For information, go to www.azbenfica.org or 1-800-BSA-0886

White Tanks Little League
Baseball and Softball
Ages 4 to 16
Send Fall Ball registration inquiries to: Whitetanksl@msn.com or (623) 241-4602

El Mirage Martial Arts Academy
Ages 6–12 learn traditional martial arts and life skills including “stranger danger.” \$45/month, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 6 pm – 7 pm.
Ages 13+ train at their own speed in weaponless defense. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 7 pm – 8 pm.
For information, contact Richard Gutkosky (623) 628-6725.

El Mirage Library

14011 N. 1st Ave.

Ph. (602) 652-3000; www.mclldaz.org

Thanks and Congratulations to all our Every Hero Has a Story Summer Reading Program participants!
* * * Be sure to redeem your free book voucher by August 15th, 2015. * * *

Children/Tweens/Teens

Regular library programming will resume in September after Labor Day.

Adults/All Ages

Free Blood Pressure Checks – August 20 (Thursday) 10:00 - 11:00 am. Roxanne Butler from Hospice Promise will be available every third Thursday of the month to take blood pressure readings. This program is at the El Mirage Senior Center.

DYSART COMMUNITY CENTER 14414 N. EL MIRAGE ROAD

Youth After-School Program
(623) 583-2137

Mon 1-7 pm, Tues, Wed, Thurs 3-7 pm. \$1/day. Youth receive homework help, late lunch, physical activities, games, arts/crafts, social development opportunities, and more!

All programming is delivered by caring and qualified staff committed to helping local youth succeed!

Adult Education Classes
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GED – Twice per week with qualified instructor, classes available Mon through Thurs, 10 am – 12 pm and 6 – 8 pm, \$30

Citizenship – Full instruction for passing US citizenship test, \$25

News

This summer, Dysart Community Center proudly kept more than 120 local youth safe, learning, and growing in our Summer Camp Program! Thank you to all youth, parents, volunteers, community partners, and staff for making this another fun and successful summer!

We are proud to announce our recent graduation from the University of Arizona's 2-year ASPIRE project for developing quality after school youth programs!

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY AT DYSART COMMUNITY CENTER – AUG 1ST AT 1:00 PM

FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH 1:00 PM

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Insight: Community Image Is More Than Vocal Support



Tom Doyle, Economic Development Specialist

follow. Find out what projects are happening in the City and help spread positive energy about these new activities. For example, the Thunderbird overlay project will have new street lights, bike paths, landscaping, wider crosswalks, and buried utility lines. The City will have a new vibrant look that will be appealing to

businesses wanting to come here. Let's continue to strengthen our community image and sense of place by nurturing and supporting El Mirage. Be an advocate by showing support and taking action to make our City better. You never know who is watching.

El Mirage is our home and one we can all take pride in! A prior article I wrote stated the importance of community image and the key role it plays when attracting new business to the City. The article stated that "all residents" are ambassadors of the City and this continues to hold true. Many business owners considering a move will often visit "incognito" to gather information, measure attitudes, and make visual appearance determinations. As residents of El Mirage our attitudes and values are vital to the overall image of the City. Each of us can play an important role to ensure El Mirage's community image continues to thrive. Together we can continue to educate each other on the importance of caring for our City. I compiled a few suggestions that will make us shine.

Take responsibility for your activities at public gatherings. If you consume food and beverages make sure you pick them up and dispose them properly. Leaving empty containers and other trash leaves a negative image and promotes others to litter. **Show your kids and others by picking up litter on the ground and disposing it.** Children will often follow their parents' action. Teaching them by doing is one of the best methods and that also influences their friends. Be a positive role model by showing you care. **Be aware of your surroundings and offer a helping hand.** A good deed comes from the heart but too many times we are unaware of these opportunities and fail to act. Expressing and doing common courtesies become natural when you make a continual conscious effort to respect and help others. **Community image is contagious.** Set an example by supporting and vocalizing community projects and others will

El Mirage is Open for Business

The City of El Mirage released a new economic development web page located at www.cityofelmirage.org/econdev or www.elmirageed.com to promote new business attraction and retention. The new page will also have information for site selectors and business owners interested in locating to the City.

Mayor Lana Mook sees this web page as a vital component in order for the City to attract new businesses. Mayor Mook stated, "This web page will make it easy for site selectors and business owners to gather information regarding what El Mirage has to offer to the commercial and retail community."

For more information, please contact Thomas Doyle, Economic Development Specialist, at 623-876-2935 or tdoyle@cityofelmirage.org.

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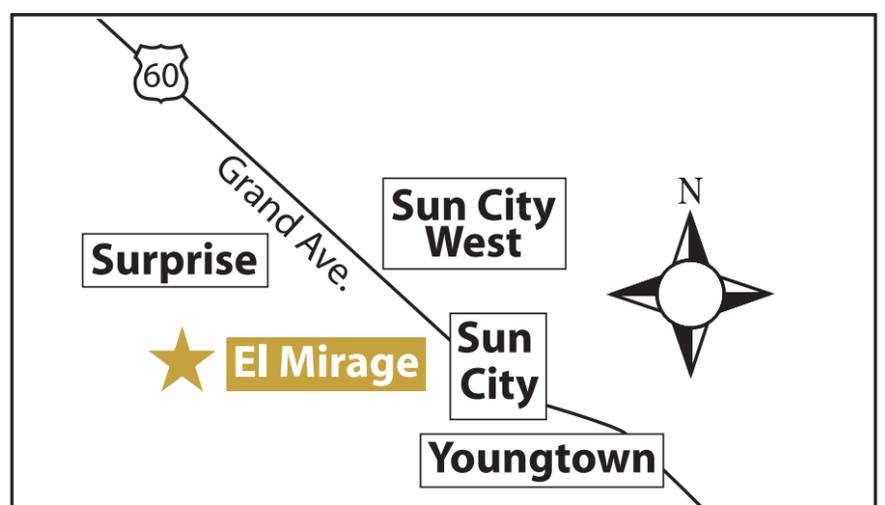
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