

El Mirage

Monthly Newsletter

City of El Mirage
12145 NW Grand Ave.
El Mirage, AZ 85335

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Vol. 7, No. 8

623-876-2978

Mayor's Message:

Projects underway the past five years

As Chief Executive Officer of the City of El Mirage, it is my honor to highlight many of the projects the City Council has authorized during the last five years.

- *The Honorable Lana Mook, Mayor*



New City Hall - Construction of the voter approved bond for City Hall began this past April. The 21,776 square foot energy efficient building, two stories in height, is located near the northwest corner of El Mirage Road and Mountain View Road on a 2.8 acre parcel. Construction is on schedule and is expected to be completed by early 2017.

Luke Air Force Base Support – This Council will continue to make good on a pledge to our citizens to support Luke Air Force Base.

Through discussions with residents and other stakeholders regarding flight contours, noise effects, and zoning stipulations, the Council was assured



Maria Leonard, Brigadier General Brook Leonard, and Mayor Lana Mook

of the community's overwhelming support for Luke's mission. The enduring presence

of Luke Air Force Base means El Mirage will continue to have as its neighbor one of the most highly regarded military installations in the world, inevitably influencing the growth of El Mirage for many years to come. Luke employs more than 8,000 highly skilled workers and infuses \$2.17 billion into the state's economy.



Castle Aeronautics - Castle Aeronautics recently signed a lease agreement and should be operational soon. Castle is located at 10111 North El Mirage Road, Suite 2. Castle Aeronautics, LLC is dedicated to providing the highest quality in aviation component services and customer support.

Lifepak 15 & ePCR - It has been a year of progression and upgrades for the El Mirage Fire Department.

The department has been able to secure new upgrades that include the Lifepak 15, a heart monitor defibrillator. This new technology gives the paramedics the ability to read and transmit heart related information to the local hospital for faster treatment and better patient outcomes. The Lifepak is shown with the one of our other newest technologies, the ePCR (electronic patient care record) this technology is utilized on a simple tablet. The ePCR will enable the department to document calls and send information to the department, as well as to local hospitals.



Somerset Landscape LLC – This company moved to El Mirage in February 2016. The company is located at 12007 West Peoria Avenue. Somerset employs over 100 people servicing landscaping needs throughout the Valley. Somerset does commercial landscaping and residential trees. They are certified arborists and certified irrigation technicians.



El Mirage Goodwill Store - Goodwill Industries Store – Located at 13055 West Thunderbird Road opened in November 2015. The new 27,000 S.F. building offers a wide variety of clothing and other items at great prices. Goodwill has quickly become a favorite place to shop in the City.



New Portable Radio System - The fire department has made a marked improvement in the capability of the radio system with the purchase of a new portable radio system. The new radio system will enhance the department's ability to provide effective and efficient communication.

Burger King – Burger King recently submitted site plans to build a restaurant near the new Goodwill Store at Dysart and Thunderbird Road. The new Burger King will begin construction soon. This is the second Burger King in the City. The other Burger King is



on the corner of Olive and El Mirage Roads.



El Mirage receives Desert Peaks Award

Janeen Gaskins Assistant to the City Manager Grant Writer, Mayor Lana Mook, and Jorge Gastelum, Director of Community Development, accept the Desert Peaks Regional Partnership award. The City of El Mirage was recognized as an award winning participant for the 2016 Desert Peaks Award Regional Partnership. The new regional program eliminates Dial-a-Ride transfers between East Valley and West Valley transit providers, which ultimately, saves riders time and money.

More projects on page 2

PROJECTS: From page 1



Fire Department Thermal Imaging Camera - Cooled Medication Boxes and Thermal Imaging Cameras - In addition to these items, our Fire Department is using cooled medication boxes which maintain a reasonable temperature during the summer and thermal imaging cameras that allow our Firefighters to peer through smoke and darkness. The Fire Department will continue to look for ways to innovate create efficiencies.



Brisas Well Site - 12940 N. B Street - Utility System Facility Improvements include important upgrades to water production sites and the wastewater facility. Replacement of essential system components as part of this improvement plan ensure that residents are provided with safe and reliable drinking water and sewer services.



Sidewalk Improvements – Main Street and Santa Fe Lane - The City received Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for two projects from the Maricopa County Development Division (MCDD) for FY2014-2015. One project provided new sidewalks on the west side of Main Street north of Myer Lane. The second project provided new sidewalks and curb/gutter on the south side of Santa Fe Lane between El Mirage Road and 5th Avenue.

Citywide Traffic Signal Improvements - This project upgraded and modernized existing traffic signals at six locations within the City of El Mirage via Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding from the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG). The work occurred at Thunderbird Road at both 129th Avenue and El Mirage Road, at Cactus Road and Dysart Road, and at Olive Avenue at both El Mirage Road and Dysart Road intersections. Upgrades included traffic and pedestrian signal heads, ADA audible pedestrian push buttons, emergency preemption devices, video detection cameras, street name signs, traffic control pedestals, and battery backup.

Varney Road Sidewalk - This project will construct approximately 1,100 feet of concrete sidewalk along the north side of Varney Road from 125th Avenue to El Mirage Road in order to eliminate a gap in the existing infrastructure.

Weekly Curbside Recycling and Twice Yearly Bulk Trash Pick-up which began in FY 2012-13, helped to revitalize neighborhoods, enhance safety, and improve the quality of life for all citizens.



New Police Vehicles - The Police Department has begun to replace the Crown Victoria fleet with the Ford Explorer Police Interceptors. This year the department will retire four Crown Victoria's and replace them with the Explorers leaving only three Crown Victoria's remaining in the fleet. The Explorers represent an upgrade from the Crown Victoria and have more room for officers, prisoners, and equipment. They are also safer, handle better, and come standard with full-time all-wheel drive.

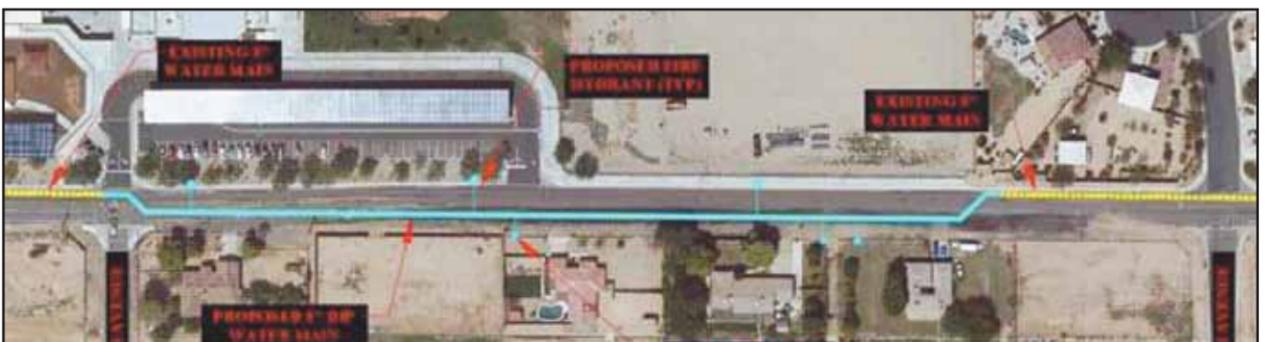


Pavement Maintenance Project - Pavement Maintenance Projects are an important part of the infrastructure picture for El Mirage. El Mirage roadways are maintained with a continued focus on pavement preservation through application of state of the art surface treatments combined with a flexible long range improvement plan.



Grand Avenue at Thunderbird and Thompson Ranch Road - The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) has started the construction of this project. Phase I consists of the reconfiguration of the Thunderbird Road and Thompson Ranch Road intersection. Costs include the design, right of way acquisition, and construction of the ultimate configurations. The project has been identified for funding through ADOT using MAG/Federal funds.

CAP Water Allocation of just over 1,300 acre-feet this year will reduce the City's dependence on groundwater, help stabilize water rates, and provide added assurance that El Mirage will have a reliable, more economical water replenishment source for the City's 32,000 residents.



Varney Road Water Main Improvements - 127th Avenue to 129th Avenue - This project included the design and construction costs to provide approximately 1,100 feet of a new 8" ductile iron water main that connects existing lines at both 127th and 129th Avenues. The improvements also included additional fire hydrants and water services to adjacent residential lots. The water main completed an existing gap in the water system and provided an increase in flows.

Dysart Road and Cactus Road Intersection Improvements - This project consisted of roadway improvements at the intersection of Cactus Road and Dysart Road in order to alleviate an existing grading issue. The project also updated two other ramps and added handrails to existing scuppers which would make the intersection more conducive to pedestrian movements, as well as conform to the latest ADA standards.



New Police Radios - Last year the Police Department replaced 57 handheld and 11 mobile radios to updated state of the art police radios. The department plans to replace the remaining 4 mobile radios in 2016-17. This update was to ensure our Police Officers have the best technology available and that El Mirage would be ready for future updates and changes to public safety radio bands.



Buena Vida Park - 12900 N. 124th Lane - Neighborhood Park Improvements include replacement of six play structures in neighborhood pocket parks throughout the City. Aging neighborhood playgrounds were replaced with up-to-date structures that focused on activity, safety, and improved appearance. The new vibrant playgrounds have become a focal point of each neighborhood.



CLERK'S CORNER



PRIMARY ELECTION
Tuesday - AUGUST 30, 2016



IMPORTANT DATES	EVENT	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Monday, August 1, 2016	Last Day to Register – voter registration ends at 5:00 pm to be eligible to vote in the Primary Election	Voters who register after August 1, 2016 will be eligible to vote at the General Election on November 8, 2016
Wednesday, August 3, 2016	First day of Early Voting at City Hall – Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	All registered voters that reside in Maricopa County can vote at the City Hall early voting site – 12145 NW Grand Avenue, El Mirage, AZ 85335 or drop off a voted ballot
Wednesday, August 3, 2016	Early ballots to be mailed out by Maricopa County	Only voters on the Permanent Early Voter List (PEVL) will receive a ballot in the mail automatically. Normal delivery time is 3-5 days
Friday, August 26, 2016	Last day to vote an early ballot at City Hall – open 8 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Early voting ends at 5:00 p.m.; there will not be voting at City Hall on Monday or Tuesday, August 29 and 30, 2016
Tuesday, August 30, 2016	Primary Election Day – at four precinct Polling Locations in El Mirage. Voters going to polls must vote at their designated polling location; watch for your notification in the mail from Maricopa County	All polling locations will be open from 6 a.m. – 7 p.m. and will have a ballot box for drop-off ballots. City Hall will NOT have a ballot box to collect ballots on election day.

WHAT IS ON THE BALLOT AT THE PRIMARY ELECTION? You will be voting on a U.S. Senate seat, U.S. Representatives in Congress (Districts 1, & 3 – 9), three Corporation Commissioners, numerous County seats and in El Mirage, three City Council seats

For More Information – please contact either City Clerk Sharon Antes at 623-876-2943, santes@cityofelmirage.org, or Maricopa County Elections Department at 602-506-1511, <http://recorder.maricopa.gov/>.

YOUR VOICE, YOUR VOTE – BE COUNTED

El Mirage Construction Update



Thunderbird Road is under construction from 127th Avenue to Grand Avenue. APS is working on converting power lines from overhead to underground. Cox and Century Link are relocating some of their underground lines to avoid conflicts with our proposed improvements. After utility work is complete, crews will pave the south half and concentrate their efforts on the north half. The completed roadway will consist of two through lanes in each direction, center median with landscaping, bicycle lane, wide sidewalks, and many other multimodal and safety enhancements.

El Mirage Road is under construction from Cinnabar Avenue to Grand Avenue. The section between Peoria Avenue and Cactus Road is close to completion. Utility relocation work is ongoing north of Cactus and south of Peoria.

ADOT's Thunderbird and Grand

project is under construction. In addition to the connection with Grand Avenue, this project will widen a portion of Thompson Ranch Road. To safely complete this work, Thompson Ranch Road will open August 2. Specific information about the project along with renderings of the proposed improvements can be found at: www.azdot.gov/tbird

Maricopa County completed the design for El Mirage Road from Northern Avenue to Gateway Park. Utility companies are relocating in advance of construction. The county is preparing to solicit bids for construction of this portion.

ADOT and the City of Surprise are managing the Bell Road and Grand Ave/US 60 interchange project. This project will have a major impact on regional traffic flow. Further project information is available at:

<http://azdot.gov/bellandgrand>
<http://www.surpriseaz.gov/bellandgrand>

Questions?

Chris Hauser, P.E. – Assistant City Engineer
 12145 NW Grand Avenue, El Mirage, AZ 85335
 P: 623-876-2971 | M: 602-291-6894
 E: chauser@cityofelmirage.org

THE BLUE BYLINE



News from the El Mirage Police Department

12401 W. Cinnabar Ave. • 623-933-1341 • www.cityofelmirage.org/police

Follow us on Facebook. Sign up for emergency notifications at www.nixle.com



The El Mirage Running Man Challenge

Dysart Community Center youth and El Mirage Police officers showcased their dancing talents at local businesses throughout the city during the June. Dysart Community Center's Executive Director, Mike Cassidy encourages local teenagers to work together and develop projects that focus on social issues that impact their lives. The most recent production centered on the community-focused Running Man Challenge video. The Running Man Challenge was started by two teens, Kevin Vincent and Jerry Hall. It has taken social media by storm, and is similar to other viral dance trends. It is a variation of the old running man dance to the 90's hit song called, "My Boo" by Ghost Town DJ's.

Officer Myron Williams took the lead on this project for the Police Department,

and has done a phenomenal job assisting Mike Cassidy by reaching out to businesses and community members for involvement. Officer Williams' enthusiasm and passion infected the entire community. The video demonstration is especially important to the Police Department, because it highlights their commitment to positive citizen interactions and engagement with local youth. Programs like this provide a visible illustration of the Police Department that is rarely seen during duty hours.

The El Mirage Police Department and Dysart Community Center will be posting the video on their websites for the community to enjoy.

Officer Myron Williams with (left to right): Alex Ramirez, Giovanni Puente, Thalia Flores, and Savanna Ramirez



WELCOME!



On June 7th, the Police Department swore in new Police Officer Tara Belisle. Officer Belisle graduated from the Glendale Law Enforcement Academy in May 2016. Welcome, Officer Belisle!

El Mirage Police Department Property and Evidence Division UNCLAIMED PROPERTY

Case #	Description	Item Belongs to
E16061513	Baseball Hat	Eliseo Leon
E16061566	Nissan Car Remote	Unknown
E16061778	Pocket knife	Alexander Palma
E16070088	Cell Phone	Belle Reyna Quintana
E16070338	Pocket knife	Jesus Enrique Guerero
E16070415	Visa Debit Card	Alexis Colon
E16070567	Cell Phone	Unknown
E16070568	Apple Ipad touch	Betsaida Zepeda
E16070611	Credit card	David Reid
E16070719	Flashlight	Jaime Villela Alvarez
E16070719	ID Card	Brianda Alvarez

Photo ID is required
Please call 623-500-3038, for an appointment to claim your property.
Property not claimed by 08/31/2016 will be disposed of in accordance with the law.

EL MIRAGE POLICE EXPLORER POST #2780



Police Explorers are young persons with an interest in law enforcement and community service as a career. The Explorer program is an intensive, long-term process designed to assist youth in meeting the hiring requirements of local police departments. As the hiring standards for police employees are very high, our program seeks to select Explorers who can commit several years of study and participation in order to best achieve their career goals.

Overview of Explorer Selection Process

- Be between 14 1/2 and 20 1/2.
- Have completed the 8th grade.
- Bring proof of a C average or better in school.
- Be free of felony arrests, current drug or alcohol use, and criminal activity.
- Attend two general meetings a month.
- Submit required application forms and pass a background check.
- Complete a 2 week academy in the summer, monthly training, and six-month probation period.

Applicants and their parent/guardian are encouraged to attend a meeting to have their questions answered about the Explorer program. If however, more information is required prior to attending a meeting, the Explorer Advisor, Officer Joe Johnston, can be reached at (623)500-3076 or jjohnston@cityofelmirage.org.

City of EL MIRAGE
Arizona
CITY OF EL MIRAGE
VETERANS' MEMORIAL PLAZA
ESSAY COMPETITION - 2016 SCHOLARSHIP
DUE: September 9, 2016 by 3:00 pm
For more information visit
<http://www.cityofelmirage.org/>
Many Thanks to:
Tohono O'odham Nation for Program Funding Support
Supporting Partners of Read on Arizona - Greater Surprise

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Join over a dozen El Mirage organizations working together on **Make A Difference Day** Saturday, October 22, 2016

Gear Up the El Mirage Way!
Calling all community leaders, schools, businesses, churches, and others to help by providing project ideas, materials, supplies, or volunteers.

For more information contact:
Councilman Selby at: LSelby@cityofelmirage.org or call Mary Dickson at: 623-251-3508



Millions of volunteers from all over the world will unite with the mission of improving the lives of others during "Make a Difference Day", Saturday, October 22, 2016. "Make a Difference Day" is the largest national day for community service activities. The City of El Mirage is gearing up for this big event, which is led by, the Community Uplift Program or CUP. This year CUP is stepping up its efforts by encouraging all residents to participate between 8am and noon. CUP works completely with volunteer labor and donated goods and services. CUP is looking for volunteers to help paint houses; eliminate graffiti, trim trees, pull weeds, and clean up the community. CUP is also taking project requests, and looking to El Mirage residents to help identify community needs. Property owners who qualify can apply by completing an application available on the City website, at any City

building or at Dysart Community Center. Please note that interior work or repairs are not eligible projects.

Volunteers can join the event through their HOA, churches or by contacting CUP. Volunteers will be matched with projects according to skillset. Businesses can also contribute with teams of employee volunteers or through donations of water, trash bags, paint, or snacks! Donations may be made to help with supplies and tools by donating through the Dysart Community Center. For more information please contact Mary Dickson at 623-251-3508 or email at mdickson@cityofelmirage.org.

Mary Dickson, CBO-
Building Official
Fire, Building and Life Safety
Office- 13601 N. El Mirage Rd.
Mailing- 12145 NW Grand Ave.,
El Mirage, AZ 85335
623-251-3508

June 2016 Home Sales

Address	Price \$	Date Sold	Total SF
11928 W Dahlia Dr	130,000	6/23	1089
12520 N 121 st Ave	138,000	6/23	1089
12745 W Columbine Dr	175,900	6/23	1794
12521 W Surrey Ave	150,000	6/23	1106
12742 W Boca Raton Rd	220,000	6/22	3086
12228 W Columbine Dr	160,000	6/22	1832
14105 N 127 th Ln	150,000	6/22	1058
12506 W Mandalay Ln	182,000	6/21	2178
12502 W Windrose Dr	167,000	6/21	1794
13015 W Mandalay Ln	137,194	6/20	1534
12105 N 127 th Dr	160,000	6/20	1832
12649 W Bloomfield Rd	158,000	6/20	1430
11805 W Shaw Butte Dr	185,000	6/20	1832
12809 W Laurel Ln	138,000	6/17	1238
12229 W Ocotillo Ln	186,000	6/17	1907
12016 W Windrose Dr	145,000	6/17	1385
12802 N 115 th Ave	137,000	6/16	1208
12514 W Willow Ave	170,000	6/16	1699
14013 N 125 th Dr	167,000	6/16	1534
11837 W Corrine Dr	133,000	6/15	1068
13721 N 127 th Dr	165,000	6/15	1559
12926 W Scotts Dr	153,000	6/15	1243
12110 W Flores Dr	145,000	6/15	1090
12901 W Aster Dr	150,000	6/15	1407
13405 N 127 th Dr	173,000	6/15	1691
14509 N 2 nd Ave	111,000	6/14	1122
15705 N Poppy St	168,700	6/14	1680
11634 W Windrose Ave	66,660	6/14	1518
12627 W Rosewood Dr	157,000	6/14	1430
11901 W Maui Ln	166,000	6/14	1642
12714 W Willow Ave	163,000	6/14	1348
13040 W Lisbon Ln	163,500	6/13	1949
11633 W Wethersfield Rd	120,000	6/13	1068
12737 W Voltaire Ave	148,000	6/13	1145
12050 W Scotts Dr	141,000	6/10	1089
12549 W Via Camille	160,000	6/10	1534
12921 W Mandalay Ln	147,500	6/9	1308
11517 W Charter Oak Rd	147,000	6/9	1296

COMMUNITY EVENTS - AUGUST

SENIOR CENTER

1441 N. El Mirage Rd., El Mirage, AZ 85335
623-583-0016|rarvizu@cityofelmirage.org

Come visit El Mirage's Senior Center and socialize with other seniors from the City of El Mirage.

Senior Center Activities Include:

- Hot lunches for \$2.50
(Call 623.876.4232 for meals)
- Prize BINGO
- Arts & Crafts
- Exercise Classes
- Health & Wellness Speakers
- Monthly Birthday & Holiday Parties
- Board Games & Card Games



The Senior Center also takes donations for rummage sales

For more information:
Call: 623-876-4243 or
Email: rarvizu@cityofelmirage.org
Visit: www.cityofelmirage.org

EL MIRAGE EVENTS COMING IN SOON

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
Whitetanksl1@msn.com or (623) 241-4602
- West Valley Youth Football
Ages 5 - 15 learn flag, tackle, cheer, dance, and step.
For information, go to www.wvyfz.com or email wvyouthfootball11@gmail.com
- 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 Gutkoski (623) 628-6725.

FOCUS ON THE FIRE DEPARTMENT



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



Left to right: Mike Fusco with Battalion Chief Joe Fusco, Byron Ely with Battalion Chief Chris Richardson, Katie Cleveland with Battalion Chief David Cleveland, Fire Chief Jim Wise, Fire Captain Darrell Tirpak with Connie Tirpak, Fire Captain Joseph Rivera with Maria Rivera, and Fire Captain Jeffrey Kinkade with Samantha Kinkade

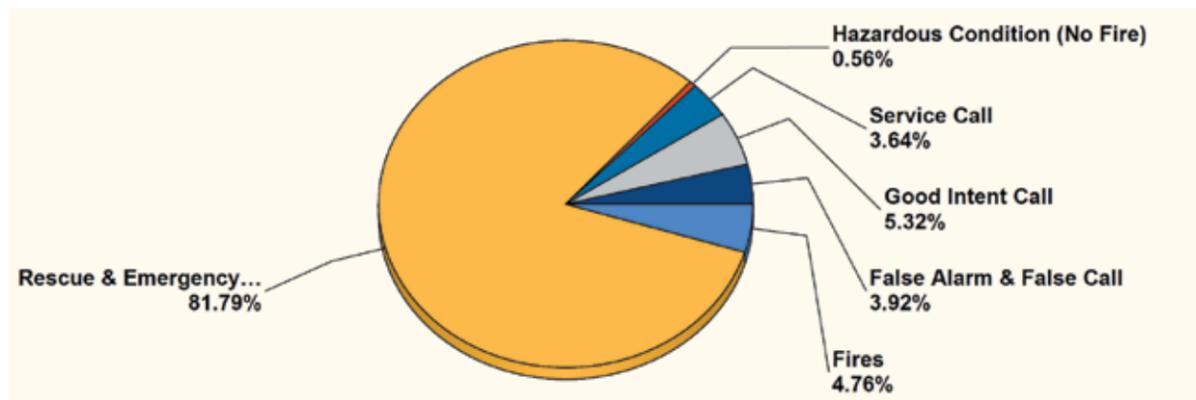
EL Mirage Fire Department promotes firefighters

The Fire Department recently made changes to its management structure. This change will allow the department to increase its capabilities to serve the public more efficiently. Congratulations to the newly promoted El Mirage Fire Department Battalion Chiefs Joe Fusco, Chris Richardson, and David Cleveland. Congratulations to the newly promoted Fire Captains Darrell Tirpak, Joseph Rivera, and Jeffrey Kinkade.

City of El Mirage Fire Department Operations Report - June 2016

Total Calls for Service = 357

Average Response Time for All Aid Types: 00:07:04



Community Involvement

- 06/02/2016 El Mirage Fire Department participated with the El Mirage Police Department explorers. Fire crews instructed CPR/First Aid.
- 06/24/2016 El Mirage Fire Department gave a station tour with approximately 50 attendees.

Significant Incidents

- 06/02/2016 El Mirage Fire Department responded to a car incident. Upon arrival crews found one vehicle that had rolled over multiple times. Patients treated and transported to local hospitals.
- 06/05/2016 El Mirage Fire Department responded to a mulch fire located in the 8000 block of North Dysart Road. Crews assisted with suppression efforts.
- 06/14/2016 El Mirage Fire Department responded a car that had been driven into the back patio of a house, only minor injuries.
- 06/15/2016 El Mirage Fire Department responded to a gunshot wound. Patient was treated and transported to a local hospital.

Training Activities

- 1113 total training hours, combined Fire and EMS
- FIRE, BUILDING, AND LIFE SAFETY DIVISION REPORT (FBLSD)**
For Period Ending: June, 2016

- Staff viewed a webinar presented by FEMA on how to identify dangerous subjects and strange behavior. It provided a basis for determining what is out of the norm and when to be concerned. The webinar covered what information to recall about subjects and their behavior and when to notify authorities.

- Ella met with the Arizona Building Official Board members to present the Permit Technicians annual report. She will formally present the information at the Annual Business meeting in July.

- New processes for annual business inspections put in place last March have greatly reduced the backlog of businesses that have not had annual fire inspections. These inspections are critical for keeping public buildings safe for everyone and acquaint fire fighters with the interior of businesses they normally may not go into.

- **All City buildings and facilities were inspected for ADA compliance as required by the Department of Justice. The City has improved the accessibility issues at the older buildings and is in full compliance at all new facilities. These buildings also received their annual fire inspections at the same time.**

Statistics for period of June, 2016

- Permits issued- 54
- Plan reviews- 7 Commercial, 39 Residential, 0 Fire
- Inspections- 273 @ 174 stops (12 daily average)
- Annual Business Inspections- 37
- Revenue from permits- \$ 33,393

EMFD Community Connections

July 1, 2016

The City of El Mirage Fire Department has started our annual Hydration Station. The water bottles will be in the ice chest located at the entrance of the Fire Administration Building, we ask that you limit yourself to what is needed so everyone has a chance to hydrate.

July 2, 2016

As we move further into the summer months temperatures and humidity will continue to rise. As the temperatures get higher so do the incidents of heat related illnesses such as heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke. In 2009 there were 74 heat related deaths in Maricopa County alone.

People suffer heat-related illness when their bodies are unable to compensate and properly cool themselves. The body normally cools itself by sweating. But under some conditions, sweating just isn't enough. In such cases, a person's body temperature rises rapidly. Very high body temperatures may damage the brain or other vital organs.

Several factors affect the body's ability to cool itself during extremely hot weather. When the humidity is high, sweat will not evaporate as quickly, preventing the body from releasing heat quickly. Other conditions related to risk include age, obesity, fever, dehydration, heart disease, mental illness, poor circulation, sunburn, and prescription drug and alcohol use.

Because heat-related deaths are preventable, people need to be aware of who is at greatest risk and what actions can be taken to prevent a heat-related illness or death. Summertime activity, whether on the playing field or the construction site, must be balanced with measures that aid the body's cooling mechanisms and prevent heat-related illness.

Monsoons

One of the most beautiful times of year for our valley is the Arizona monsoon season. Since monsoon season is upon us we wanted to stress the importance of being prepared for some of the issues you could possibly face during the rainy season. Monsoonsafety.org is a great resource for preparing for the monsoon season. <http://www.monsoonsafety.org/safety-prep/>

Power outages: It is always a good idea to have extra cases of water as well as candles, batteries and a portable radio in case of extended power outages. Food is also a smart idea. Over the next month purchase a little extra of what you already buy just in case. This also includes refreshing your home First Aid Kit. The American Red Cross has a list of items that are recommended

<http://www.redcross.org>

Flooding: We have several run off basins and dry river beds running through our city that can and will flood during a significant amount of rain. Please do not enter any flooded basin, wash, or street by vehicle or foot. It is not worth the risk!

In case of severe flooding The El Mirage Fire Department has canvas and sandbags available at the end of the Station parking lot. Feel free to stop by the station and use what you need should flooding become a concern; remember to bring your own shovel. There are also numerous other sites throughout the valley where sandbags can be made as well. You can find a list of them at <http://www.kpho.com>

Public Works – Working Hard for El Mirage

It has been a hot and busy summer for the Public Works department! Public Works continues to complete important projects in the community that have a positive impact on El Mirage residents. Here are some updates to some recently completed projects from Public Works:

Basketball Court upgrades: In June, all City owned basketball courts received upgraded playing surfaces. These new heavy duty surfaces enhance the playability, safety, and appearance of the courts. The basketball courts are located at Gateway, Gentry, and Veterans parks.

Radar signs for safety: Recently radar signs were installed at four locations along Cactus Road and 127th avenue. These signs display the speed of motorists driving along these busy roadways and will increase pedestrian safety along Cactus Road and 127th avenue.

Pavement maintenance: High-density mineral bond along with new striping was applied to maintenance projects



Basketball Court upgrades



Radar Sign

on sections of Varney, Dysart, Thunderbird, and Thompson Ranch roads. This not only improves the aesthetics of the roadway, but also prolongs the life of the road and lowers the overall cost to maintain the roadway.

Court/Senior Center new paint: In July, the Court/Senior Center Facility received a new coat of exterior paint. The new color really brightens up the appearance of the facility and is consistent with the pallet of the Gentry Park complex.

As the summer rolls on, the Public Works department will continue to work hard for El Mirage residents by keeping the community looking great and running services efficiently and responsibly!



Court/Senior Center

Change of Command Ceremony at Luke AFB



Photo Courtesy of U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Pedro Mota

Brigadier General Brook Leonard, his wife, Maria, and their children

On July 13, 2016, El Mirage Mayor Lana Mook attended the 56th Fighter Wing Change of Command Ceremony at Luke Air Force Base. Brigadier General Brook Leonard replaced Brigadier General Scott Pleus at the Change of Command Ceremony. El Mirage is proud to support Luke AFB and welcomes General Leonard and his family!

EL MIRAGE LIBRARY

14011 North 1st Avenue, El Mirage Arizona 85335 | 6202-652-3000 | <http://mclldaz.org/events/elmirage>
 please see the online calendar for full program description

YOUTH

Thanks and Congratulations to all participants in the **On Your Mark, Get Set, Read! Summer Reading Program**. ***Be sure to redeem your free book voucher by August 15th, 2016.** * More information at www.maricopacountyreads.org or #read20az.

Regular Youth programing, including Thursday Morning Storytime, will resume in September after Labor Day. See online events calendar for dates and times at <http://mclldaz.org/events/elmirage>.

ALL AGES

Color Together Family Coloring – August 6 & 27 (Saturdays), 10 am – 11:30am. Adults of all ages who feel stressed are quieting their minds and souls by putting away the smart phones and tablets and picking up pencils, markers, and crayons to color beautiful designs. Now make it a fun family event! Bring the kids and color together in the cool of the library. All supplies are provided; however feel free to bring your own. Seating is very limited. First come, first served. For more information, call 602-652-3000.

ADULTS

NEW BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP FORMING NOW! – Is the setting of the story just as interesting as the action for you? (Think, *The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* or *Under the Tuscan Sun*.) If so, join us for a new book discussion group that will be selecting titles that take place all around the world. We will be reading and discussing both fiction and nonfiction books set in locations such as France, Portugal, India and more. We will also sample refreshments that reflect the locale of the book. Share your travel adventures or listen in to the conversation, even if you haven't read the book. All are welcome.

The new book discussion group will meet in the El Mirage Library the first Tuesday of each month at 10 am, starting on September 6th. The title for September is *The Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George, translated by Simon Pare. Internationally bestselling and filled with warmth and adventure, *The Little Paris Bookshop* is for book lovers and anyone who believes in the power of stories to shape people's lives. Copies of the book will be available at the El Mirage Library Customer Service desk and online electronically through Overdrive on the Library's homepage.

Note: The Friday Morning Book Discussion Group will resume meeting in November. Check back for the first title to be announced soon.

DYSART COMMUNITY CENTER

14414 North El Mirage Road | info@dysartcommunitycenter.org | dysartcommunitycenter.org | 623-974-4156

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 (623) 974-4156

Clases de Ingles (ESL)
 Clases individuales y en grupo disponibles incluyendo los libros de estudio y el programa Rosetta Stone, \$60

GED

Twice per week with professional instructor, classes available Mon through Thurs, 10 AM – 12 PM and 6 – 8 PM, \$30

Citizenship

Full instruction for passing US citizenship test, \$25

LOCAL TEENS MAKING AN IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITY

DCC is helping local teens make a positive impact in our community through the arts. Please visit YouTube.com and search "El Mirage Police Department Running Man Challenge" to view our collaboration with the El Mirage PD!

Thank you for your support!

Mobile Food Pantry (623) 974-4156

Mobile Food Pantry at **Dysart Community Center** – Aug 6th at 1:00 pm

First Saturday of Each Month 1:00 pm 623-974-4156

Movil Distribucion de Despensa en **Dysart Community Center** Primer Sabado de cada mes a la 1 pm.



SWIPE YOUR CARD FOR A SURPRISE PRIZE!



YOUR NEXT BIG PRIZE IS SHROUDED IN SECRECY -
it's up to you to unlock the mystery!

Just swipe your Rewards Card at the promotional kiosk from 2PM - 8PM every Monday NOW through September 26 to claim your mystery prize:

- Up to \$500 in Free Play
- Up to 10,000 Bonus Points
 - \$5 dining vouchers
- A chance to spin the Prize Wheel to win more!

Experience the possibilities.



866.DDC.WINS |   | DDCAZ.COM

*See the Rewards Center for details. Must be 21. Desert Diamond West Valley Rewards Card necessary to participate. Management has the right to alter/cancel without notice. Please play responsibly. An Enterprise of the Tohono O'odham Nation.