

El Mirage

Monthly Newsletter

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

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Glendale, AZ
PERMIT #244

POSTAL CUSTOMER
ECRWSS

www.cityofelmirage.org

Vol. 7, No. 11

623-876-2978

Mayor's Message: City Departments Tout Cost Savings and Innovations

Over the last five years, City Council, Management, and Staff have worked hard to reduce costs and improve services for our citizens. In some cases, this meant coming up with innovative ways to provide and deliver these services. Always keeping in mind the goal of improving the quality of life for our citizens, I am proud to share these accomplishments that have resulted in this effort.

Public Works

Curbside bulk trash program – the City's bulk trash program format was changed to a curbside approach, which greatly increased the program's popularity and efficiency. The program offers residents a zero cost option to clean their properties twice per year and has contributed greatly to improved community appearance.

Pavement preservation program – the City implemented a pavement preservation program in 2012 that focuses on an innovative approach to maintaining roadways that are in good condition. This preventative approach saves millions of dollars on road reconstruction and replacement costs over the thirty-year life of the program.

MAG funded street sweepers – the City purchased street sweepers worth a total value of \$360,000 with federal funds provided through the Maricopa Association of Governments. It should be noted that the total out-of-pocket costs for these two sweepers was under \$10,000, a savings of over \$350,000.

Wayfinding signs/directory signs – the City installed wayfinding signs at many high visibility intersections and right-of-ways in 2013. These signs provide an easy way to navigate to all City facilities.

Digital access control for City facilities – nearly all City facilities are equipped with digital access control. This has been installed over the last four years and provides the facilities with a higher level of security, lower hardware cost, and instant control over facility access.



El Mirage Lights Up Purple to Support Domestic Violence Awareness Month

On October 4, 2016, the City of El Mirage lit up City Hall, the Police Department building, and the Fire Department building purple to support Domestic Violence Awareness Month. El Mirage joined cities across Maricopa County and the State through the regional efforts of the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) to light the region purple through October.

Last year, the El Mirage Police Department received approximately 697 domestic violence related calls for service.

In fact, one in four women and one in seven men will experience domestic violence in their lifetime. In 2015, 107 people in the State of Arizona lost their lives as a result of domestic violence.

As part of the Lighting the Valley Purple campaign, the City of El Mirage invited businesses and residents to join the effort by lighting their businesses and homes purple to bring attention to the impact that domestic violence has on families and children. "We want citizens and

residents, and businesses and partners to shine a purple light during the nights of October signaling our region's unity in the fight against domestic violence," Mayor Lana Mook stated.

For further information about domestic violence, visit MAG Domestic Violence Victim Advocate Services at www.finddvservices.com, Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence at www.azcadv.org, or contact the El Mirage Victims Assistance Unit at 623-500-3090, vau@cityofelmirage.org.

Same day trash/recycling pickup – the switch to same day trash/recycle pickup provides cost savings to residents by providing efficiencies in waste collection. Changing to same day service also improves the appearance of the community with receptacles on the streets for half of the time as a traditional two-day service.

Automated meter infrastructure – the City implemented a complete water meter change out that began in 2012. 11,500 City water meters were replaced with automated meters that remotely report and log water use. El Mirage is the very first City in Arizona to complete the transition to full automation. The switch has saved the City in operational costs and more importantly, decreased the amount of lost and unaccounted for water.

Solar power at City facilities – nearly all City facilities have received solar covered parking structures that supplement a traditional power source. These structures decrease El Mirage's environmental footprint and have secured energy costs for the next 20+ years through power purchase agreements.

Solar pathway lighting in parks – the City installed over 60 solar powered LED lights in Basin Park and area pocket parks. The lights provide added security for park users and are an environmentally friendly alternative to traditional hard-wired lighting.

Extinguishment credit purchase – assured water supply – the City is required to replenish all water pumped and used annually. It does this through a variety of sources including effluent recharge, long-term storage credits, and now, extinguishment credits. Extinguishment credits presented a great opportunity for the City to save between \$10 - \$15 million because of their low cost compared with the traditional options of water credit purchases. This landmark purchase by the City helps assure the supply of water through 2042.

Mayor Mook Speaks to 1st Grade Class at El Mirage Elementary School



October 14, 2016 - Mayor Lana Mook takes questions from 1st Graders at El Mirage Elementary School as Music Teacher Art Mendivil looks on.

EL MIRAGE
SALUTE TO VETERANS
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2016
NOON - 9:00 P.M.
GATEWAY PARK * EL MIRAGE AZ.



**THE VIETNAM TRAVELING WALL
 OPEN FOR VIEWING
 24 HOURS A DAY
 THURSDAY, NOV. 3, 11:00 A.M.
 THRU SUNDAY, NOV. 6, 2:30 P.M.**



PEBBLE ROCK BAND



BEHIND THE BADGE BAND



BALLOON GLOW

FEATURING: **VIETNAM TRAVELING WALL** **FREE ADMISSION!**
FREE KID'S ZONE WITH RIDES
SKATEBOARD DEMO * BEER GARDEN
FOOD TRUCKS * BANDS * 5K RUN/WALK
GIANT HOT AIR BALLOON GLOW
CLASSIC CAR SHOW * MOTORCYCLE RALLY



**FOR INFO OR TO REGISTER FOR CAR SHOW OR 5K RUN CALL 623-876-2942
 OR EMAIL TO JANDERSON@CITYOFELMIRAGE.ORG OR WWW.CITYOFELMIRAGE.ORG**

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
 FOR HEALTHY LIVING
 FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

City of EL MIRAGE

**SALUTE TO HEROES
 FAMILY 5K RUN**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH

Join our **FREE*** family-friendly fun-run event that pays tribute to our men and women in uniform! Dress up in patriotic colors! There will be prizes for best spirit/patriotic/costumes!

Immediately following the run stay for the **FREE*** Annual El Mirage Firefighters Charity Pancake Breakfast!
 *(Donation for 5K and Breakfast Requested)

Check-In at 6:30am/Race at 7:30am
Begins and Ends at Beautiful Gateway Park!
 Gateway Park is located at 10100 N. El Mirage Road in El Mirage, AZ.
Participants who register by Oct. 15th receive a free shirt!
In lieu of an entry fee, we ask that you donate to your favorite Veteran charity or at the event.
Registration Forms Available at
www.valleymca.org or at www.cityofelmirage.org
(Registration Form on Back of This Poster)
 Submit Race Entries to: janderson@cityofelmirage.org or Incorral@valleymca.org
 Or call Jeffrey Anderson, El Mirage Special Events Coordinator at 623-876-2942

**Clerk's Corner...
 Every Vote
 Counts!**

YOUR VOTE COUNTS

Clerk's Corner

2016 ELECTION INFORMATION

**Tuesday, November 8, 2016 is the
 General Presidential Election**

If you have not already voted by mail by the time you receive this newsletter, you may still vote early at one of several early voting sites (El Mirage City Hall is an early voting site) until 5 PM on Friday, November 4th, and if you haven't voted early you may vote at your designated voting location on Tuesday, November 8, 2016.

There are four precincts in El Mirage and each precinct has one polling location; you will be notified by mail of your specific location. Polls are open from 6 a.m. – 7 p.m. on Election Day. City Hall **WILL** also have a ballot box available on November 8th from 6 a.m. – 7 p.m. for voters to drop off voted ballots only.

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**

**CITY OF EL MIRAGE
 OFFICE CLOSURE NOTICE**

THANK YOU VETERANS
 Veterans Day - November 11

Happy Thanksgiving

El Mirage City Hall, 12145 NW Grand Avenue, will be closed in recognition of the following holidays:

Veteran's Day	November 11, 2016
Thanksgiving	November 24-25, 2016

The Municipal Court located at 14010 N. El Mirage Road will be closed.

The El Mirage Senior Center will be closed.

Fire and Police Emergency and Non-Emergency Services are fully operational during the holiday closures.

Utility Payments: Residents wishing to make payments for utility bills may utilize the drop box located in the Customer Service parking lot on Alto Street or the <http://www.XpressBillPay.com> feature on the City's website at <http://www.cityofelmirage.org>.

Trash Holiday Schedule: <http://www.cityofelmirage.org/DocumentCenter/View/9976>

If you have any questions, please call El Mirage City Hall 623-876-2978.

Never Leave Your Dog in a Parked Car

ON A 78° DAY:

Parked cars quickly trap the sun's heat. Even on a day when it's 70 degrees outside, the temperature inside a car with all the windows closed can hit 90 degrees in just 10 minutes.

Car parked in SHADE = 90°
 Car parked in SUN = 160°

For more information visit: www.dontleaveme.org

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR DOG IN THE CAR!

El Mirage Newsletter
 Published monthly by the City of El Mirage

Amber Wakeman, Assistant to City Manager – Intergovernmental and Public Relations
 Sarah Crider, Executive Assistant to City Manager
 Janeen Gaskins, Assistant to City Manager – Grant Writer
 12145 NW Grand Ave., El Mirage, Arizona 85335
 Phone 623-876-2978 | Fax 623-876-4603 | TDD 623-933-3258
info@cityofelmirage.org

For advertising information and placement, call Pueblo Publishers, Inc. 623-847-4601. The El Mirage Newsletter is the monthly publication of the City of El Mirage. All editorial content is collected, prepared, edited, and published by the City of El Mirage as an informational service to residents and the public at large. The City of El Mirage does not warrant or make representations or endorsements as to the quality, content, accuracy, timeliness or completeness of the information, text, graphics, links, and other items contained in the El Mirage Newsletter. Ideas and opinions expressed may not reflect the official position of the City of El Mirage. The El Mirage Newsletter is published and distributed exclusively by Pueblo Publishers, Inc., a private commercial firm in no way connected with the City of El Mirage. All advertising, production, and distribution of the El Mirage Newsletter is the sole responsibility of Pueblo Publishers, Inc., 7122 N. 59th Ave., Glendale, Arizona 85301, 623-842-6000. The City of El Mirage derives no income from this publication and the appearance of advertising does not constitute an endorsement of any advertisers by the City of El Mirage.

CITY DEPTS: From 1

Street sign upgrades – a Citywide sign upgrade was completed in 2014 with federal funding through MAG. The project replaced all City street signs with new, larger font signs.

Fire hydrant maintenance program – the Utilities division worked closely with the Fire Department to implement a fire hydrant maintenance program for all City fire hydrants. All hydrants are checked annually by the Fire Department and repairs are noted and completed by the Utilities division. This program helps ensure the safety of residents' homes and also provides important water conservation.

Smart scouter security cameras – these cameras provide security in City parks and send instant pictures to the police department when activated. The cameras are motion sensitive and are set to work when the parks are closed overnight. Since the smart scouters have been implemented in City parks, there has been a significant decrease in vandalism.

NIA water allotment – the City secured an annual allotment of 1300-acre feet of water from Central Arizona Project that will add to the security of El Mirage's assured water supply. Many organizations and agencies applied for a share of this allotment and El Mirage was one of two municipalities that were awarded. This water provides a low cost alternative for El Mirage to meet its annual replenishment requirement.

WRF post filtration improvement project – The Wastewater division modified the post filtration process by constructing a gravity fed pipe system to transfer effluent from the clear well to the reuse station. This eliminated the need of three pumps, saving on electricity and maintenance costs. It also allows for approximately 45 minutes of additional contact time for disinfection which results in a higher quality effluent.

Automated irrigation controllers for parks and right-of-ways – irrigation controllers that automatically adjust water supply have been installed in City parks and along sections of landscaped right-of-ways. These controllers provide cost savings by limiting water use based on variables such as temperature and weather. The controllers can be remotely adjusted which saves costs on staff time and labor.

Zeriscape landscaping in right-of-ways – in an effort to conserve water and improve community appearance, the City installed low water landscape alternatives in several right-of-ways. The alternative landscaping looks great and saves the City thousands of gallons of water annually.

WRF fine screens - the Wastewater division completed the fine screens capital improvement project at the Water Reclamation Facility. The new fine screens system has significantly improved the efficiency of the WRF. The new system captures more solids, which reduces wear on other process equipment and increases the effluent quality.

Electronic work order system – the Utilities division and Customer Service department collectively implemented an electronic work order system, which vastly improved operation efficiency and customer service response time. The mobile devices provide staff with remote access to the City's automated meter system, GIS, and SCADA.

Well site programmable logic controllers – the City completed a programmable logic controls (PLC) upgrade at the City's Canterbury well site. This is the first of four well sites that will be upgraded. The new PLC's allow City staff to operate the sites more efficiently, which results in energy savings, equipment longevity, and most importantly it helps ensure a safe and reliable water supply to the residents of El Mirage.

Finance Department

Bond Ratings –The City's exceptional bond ratings are estimated to save the City more than \$1.3 million over the life of the bonds and will result in lower tax levies and lower property taxes for residents.

Refunding GO Bonds - Refinancing \$3.2 million in existing bonds (2012) to a lower interest rate will save the City several hundred thousand dollars over the life of the bonds.

WIFA Bond Reserve Reduction - As a result of the City's excellent bond rating, the City is currently working with WIFA to free up more than \$3 million in reserves

to be used to improve the system or pay down debt. The potential savings to the City ranges from approximately \$700,000 to more than \$1 million.

Public/Private Partnerships – The City has partnered with businesses like Parks and Sons, YMCA, and BizConnectPro to outsource services instead of having to provide these services in-house. These public/private partnerships have saved the City hundreds of thousands of dollars every year.

Human Resources

Arizona Metropolitan Trust (AzMT) - The Arizona Metropolitan Trust is a self-insured benefits pool that provides Medical/RX, Dental, Life, Vision, Employee Assistance (EAP) and Wellness benefits to the eligible employees and dependents of each of its member entities. The Trust was formed with 4 entities (City of El Mirage, Avondale, Apache Junction and Youngtown) in 2012 and has continued to grow to 8 member entities in FY17. The City of El Mirage was instrumental in the formation of the AzMT; having the vision and foresight to begin this initiative by exploring pooling as an option to save money on benefits while providing employees with a competitive, affordable benefit package.

Since joining the AzMT in 2012, The City of El Mirage has projected savings of approximately \$1.1 million in medical benefit costs, while providing long-term stability and control over ever-increasing healthcare costs.

Open Enrollment (employee benefits) – The City invested in an integrated payroll & benefits technology solution through ADP, Inc. that provides an online enrollment feature which is utilized for the City's annual open enrollment event. Employees can make benefit elections online which eliminates the need for paper enrollment forms. This not only streamlines the process for employees, it minimizes errors in processing benefit elections and saves significant Human Resources staff time in processing enrollments. Employees can access personal benefit information and other resources at any time, with internet access.

NEOGOV - Beginning June 1, 2015, the City of El Mirage began utilizing new online software to improve the hiring process for job seekers. The new software streamlines the job search and application process. The NEOGOV technology permits applicants to create a user profile and subsequently allow job seekers the ability to submit multiple applications and attachments electronically. NeoGov also provides many useful reporting tools such as the job interest card on the City's employment page located at www.cityofelmirage.org. This card can indicate potential jobs the applicant might be interested in, when a job is posted, and automatically emails a notification to the applicant.

Fire Department

Community Outreach Program – In 2013 the El Mirage Fire Department increased interactions with the community through events such as Reading across America, car seat installation/inspection program, and CPR classes. In addition, El Mirage's Fire Department's Honor Guard, Volunteer Red Shirts, and Cadets continually participate in activities throughout the City.

New Positions – In 2013 the Fire Department created a new position for a Public Information Officer to provide fire awareness, education, and communication. Also, two technicians were hired to conduct in-house testing and repair. This resulted in a major cost savings to the department since the work did not require outsourcing to a third party.

Fleet Maintenance and Supplies - After analyzing all operations, the Fire Department realized a cost saving in fleet maintenance, EMS supplies, fire hose supply, personal protective equipment, and self-contained breathing apparatus.

Fire Training - Four additional employees were trained to investigate fire/arson related incidents. The Fire Department was able to increase training within City facilities, which cut costs in fuel and registration fees.

Electronic Patient Care Reporting (EPCR) - The Electronic Patient Care Reporting (EPCR) has allowed the department to implement paperless reporting. This innovation increases accuracy and efficiency in patient care reports. In addition, this technology allows heart monitor readings to be sent in real time to hospitals.

Compliance Engine Notifications - Fire, Building and Life Safety Department integrated the use of the Compliance Engine to send out reminders in advance to owners of buildings with fire suppression equipment. This allows staff to concentrate on the physical inspection of the buildings. With this free service, the number of business re-inspections has been dramatically reduced.

Development and Community Services

Economic Development - Created an Economic Development website to attract businesses and investors. Partnered with Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC) on business leads and submitted manufacturing and distribution center proposals.

Engineering - Managed the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to assure projects are delivered on schedule and within budget while protecting the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of El Mirage. Created a Road Construction Update webpage to provide residents and traveling public with traffic restrictions and suggested routes: <http://www.elmirageaz.gov/1659/Road-Construction-Updates>.

Planning and Zoning - A Major General Plan Amendment was approved, changing the land use designation to provide the opportunity for a residential and commercial development. The Development Review process and the Group Home permitting process were streamlined by making it easier for applicants to submit development plans and permits. A new large plotter was purchased that will save the City time and money in producing plan sets, color maps, and posters. New small cell sites were approved throughout the City that will enhance wireless connectivity and provide security lighting at local parks.

Senior Center – The Senior Center implemented new programs to ensure the health and wellness of the El Mirage seniors. The Center added more recreational activities, sewing programs, and fitness programs.

Police Department

Police Explorer Program - In March of 2014, the El Mirage Police Department re-established the Police Explorer Program. El Mirage Explorer Post 2780 has attended every City event to promote the program. They have donated countless volunteer hours where they fingerprinted hundreds of children, participated in Special Olympic fundraisers, and participated in Community Uplift Program. El Mirage Explorers attend weekly meetings, trainings and compete in competitions in and out of the state.

Police Volunteer Program - In 2014, the Police Department expanded the Volunteer Program. Program volunteer hours have saved the City more than \$38,462.10 since 2014. The volunteers have been a vital part of the department and have helped the City implement a successful Victim Assistance program.

Shared Archive For Evidence (SAFE) - The Police Department implemented a new property and evidence impound program called Shared Archive For Evidence known as (SAFE). Since its implementation in May of 2015, it has saved the City a significant amount of manual labor. The system has increased productivity by sharing the workload between the officers that impound the evidence and the Property Technician that maintains records. It also saves the officers time and increases the overall accuracy of the records by using the computer terminal to process the evidence instead of filling out redundant handwritten documents.

Community Engagement Sergeant - In 2016, the Police Department created a new position titled Community Engagement Sergeant. The new position focuses on building relationships within the community. The Community Engagement Sergeant oversees Code Enforcement, Photo Enforcement, the Explorer Program, and Traffic/DUI enforcement. The Community Engagement Sergeant works with the Dysart Unified School District to promote the Explorer Program and teach students about bike safety, alcohol awareness, and other law enforcement related programs. The Community Engagement Sergeant is the primary liaison for the HOA's within the City and has assigned patrol officers to each HOA. This position promotes community policing and is proactively addressing national concerns related to police interactions with minority populations.

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



EMPD Domestic Violence Assistance

During 2015, El Mirage Police Officers received approximately 697 domestic violence related calls for service. El Mirage Police Department's Victim Assistance Unit provides assistance to victims of domestic violence. The goal of the unit is to provide effective resources to victims of domestic violence through education, awareness, intervention, and accountability.

The program provides on-scene and follow-up assistance to victims, public education, and resource referral. Since its inception, the department has received invaluable positive feedback from the victims it has served. Such feedback includes victims who reported feeling more empowered to make safe

choices and life changes.

Our Victim Advocates assist victims in filing for Orders of Protection in situations where victims are in fear of harm from their abusers. In addition to providing services directly to victims, the unit provides continuous, updated trainings in the area of Domestic Violence to officers and employees.

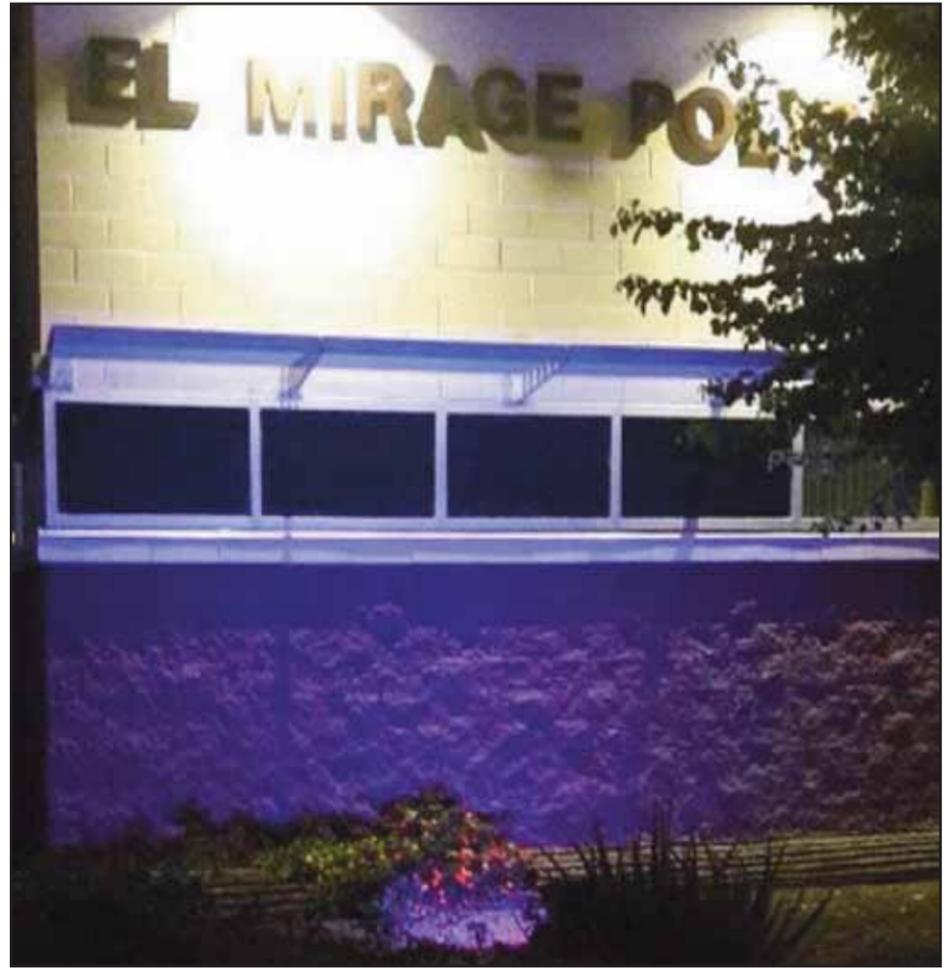
Last year, the department officially kicked off the full implementation of the Department's Lethality Assessment Program. In the field, officers complete an assessment identifying potential risk as they respond to intimate partner violence.

Immediately following the assessment, officers connect victims with the Victim Assistance Unit

who provide vital resources to assist the victims in planning for their ongoing safety and healing.

El Mirage participated in recognizing Domestic Violence Awareness Month by wearing purple ribbons to signify the department's commitment to domestic violence prevention. Purple ribbons were made available to citizens to pick up at the El Mirage Police Department Administration Office during the month of October.

To report domestic violence in progress, call 9-1-1. Non-emergency reports can be made by calling the police department at 623-933-1341, or visiting www.azcadv.org, or <http://www.cityofelmirage.org/1130/Victim-Assistance>.



El Mirage Police Department turns purple to support Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

EMPD to lead West Valley DUI Task Force



El Mirage DUI Task Force van

Sergeant Chris Culp will represent the El Mirage Police Department as the West Valley DUI Task Force Coordinator. Sgt. Culp was selected by his peers to the position, which is responsible for coordinating DUI task force and M.A.D.D. events, as well as coordinating the holiday joint task force event with the east valley.

Sgt. Culp will also serve as a liaison

between west valley agencies and the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS). GOHS has long supported the El Mirage Police Department's DUI and traffic enforcement efforts through grant funding for enforcement overtime and equipment such as motorcycles and radar units, which increase community safety. Congratulations, Sgt. Culp.

El Mirage Police Department Property and Evidence Division UNCLAIMED PROPERTY - NOTICE TO CLAIM PROPERTY

Primary Case #	Category	Item Belongs to
E13020058	Cellular Phone	Ana Perez
E16090012	Shoes / Blanket	Unknown
E16090332	Nike Shoes	Francios Johnson
E16090442	Motorcycle Helmet	Christopher Gallagher
E16090768	Backpack w/ Misc. Items	Stephen Grabowski
E16091219	Clothing and Misc. Items	Ruben Hernandez
E16091418	Identification	Adolfo Luna
E16091534	Wallet	Carlos Mendoza
E16091585	Identification	Koen Staeyen
E16091585	Misc. Tools	Unknown
E16091698	Cellular Phone	Randy Solis
E16091806	Tools	Jose Sanchez
E16100205	Wallet	Jonathon Duhon
E16100339	Clothing	Robert Moss
E16100423	Tools	Unknown
E16100458	Cellular Phone	Oscar Ybarra

Photo ID is required.

Call 623-500-3038 for an appointment to claim your property.

Property not claimed by 11/30/16 will be disposed of in accordance with the law.

Police Explorers Recognized



Left to right, top row: Lt. Randy Stewart, Off Stacy Manos, Police Chief Terry McDonald, Sgt. Bill Witte, and Sgt. Chris Culp; Bottom row: Explorers Michael Rodriguez, Xitlaly Luna, Jadon Sobarzo,

El Mirage Police Department Explorer Post did not receive the award, as a finalist, the Post was recognized for their participation in making a difference in the community and their innovative approach to expanding the Explorer program.

While the El Mirage Police

Department Explorer Post did not receive the award, as a finalist, the Post was recognized for their participation in making a difference in the community and their innovative approach to expanding the Explorer program.



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



EMFD Turns Purple to Support Awareness for Domestic Violence



El Mirage Fire Department Receives Grant from Governor's Office of Highway Safety



El Mirage Firefighters Nick Falbo and William Flohr

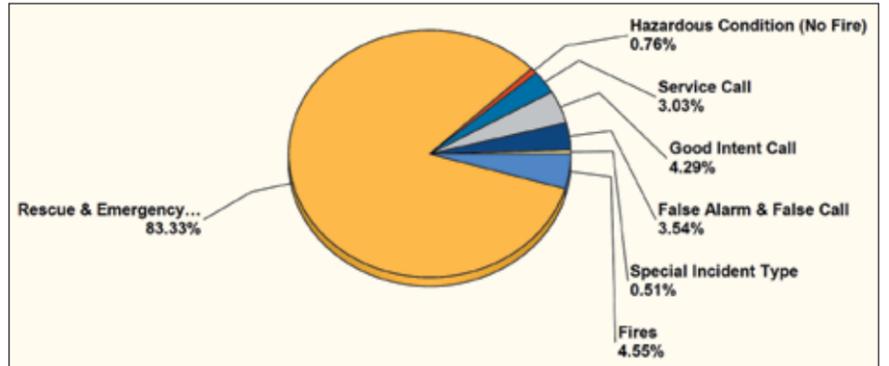
The City of El Mirage Fire Department received a grant from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety as part of the Occupant Protection Program. The goal of the program is to improve the use of seat belts and child safety seats and to reduce the number of fatalities and injuries due to vehicular crashes throughout the

State of Arizona. The grant will allow the El Mirage Fire Department to provide 105 child safety seats for local families that cannot afford one and to sponsor educational activities to raise awareness.

Car restraint citations are down by 36 percent in the City of El Mirage, but they are still higher than desired.

City of El Mirage Fire Department Operations Report September 2016

Total Calls for Service = 396
Average Response Time for All Aid Types: 00:07:00



Community Involvement

- 09/01: El Mirage Fire Department participated in sprinkler activation training with other local fire departments.
- 09/02: El Mirage Fire Department provided instruction and installation for five car seats through the car seat program.
- 09/21: El Mirage Fire Department provided station tours for Daisy, Brownies and Junior Girl Scout troops. A total of 15 children and three adults.
- 09/29: El Mirage Fire Department provided station tours for Happy Hearts Preschool, which included five children and two adults. Crews also gave a demonstration on how personal protective equipment are used.

Significant Incidents

- 09/25: El Mirage Fire Department responded to a motor vehicle incident at Litchfield Road and Peoria Avenue. Four people suffered serious injuries and were transported by ground and air to local trauma centers.
- 09/28: El Mirage Fire Department responded to a two vehicle incident with four patients, all treated and transported to local hospitals.
- 09/30: El Mirage Fire Department

responded to a school bus - car incident, resulting in minor injuries.

Training Activities

- 889 total training hours, combined Fire/EMS

Fire, Building, and Life Safety Division Report for period ending: September 2016

Fire and Building staff started monitoring the fire drills at all City schools. Annual inspections of the facilities will be conducted by the City staff, which was approved by Arizona State's Fire Marshal's Office.

FBLS staff members attended a week-long training at the AZBO Education Institute. Staff also attended the MAG Building Codes Committee, Central Chapter of the ICC, and AZBO meetings this month.

Statistics for period of September 2016

- Permits issued: 46
- Plan reviews:
 - 2 Commercial
 - 42 Residential
 - 2 Fire
- Inspections - 231 at 142 stops (11 daily average)
- Annual Business Inspections - 29
- Revenue from permits - \$22,719

The Fire Department is committed to reducing traffic injuries by helping citizens understand the importance of seat belts, child safety seats, helmets, distracted

driving, and the impact of driving while under the influence. For more information, contact the El Mirage Fire Department at 623-583-7968.

EMFD Community Connections

Fire Hydrant Flushing

The City of El Mirage Fire Department is currently performing annual hydrant flushing and inspections. The program will continue through December 31, 2016. Fire hydrant flushing is an important maintenance practice that is performed on the water distribution system which provides water to homes and businesses. During flushing process the following items are checked and recorded:

- Water leaks – above and below ground
- Proper operation of all moving parts of the hydrant
- Condition of internal gaskets
- Flushing out corrosion, rust, rocks, and debris
- Water pressure
- Flow of gallons per minute
- Accessibility to fire hydrants
- Overall condition of hydrants

Residents may experience water discoloration which can be eliminated by running the cold tap water until the water

is clear. Residents are urged to contact the Fire Department if they observe any other unusual activity during this time frame by calling 623.583.7968 and leaving a detailed message describing the location and the issue.

Dryer Safety Tips

It is common for clothes dryer to build up lint inside and eventually catch fire. It has been noted that lint burns itself out inside the machine leaving a burning smell and damage to the appliance. However, there are times when the flames spread, destroying a family's home, belongings, and sometimes life! Here are several important steps you can take to keep this from happening to you.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, the leading cause of home clothes dryer and washer fires is failure to clean them.

1. Have your dryer installed and serviced by a

professional.

2. Do not use the dryer without a lint filter.
3. Make sure you clean the lint filter before or after each load of laundry. Remove lint that has collected around the drum.
4. Rigid or flexible metal venting material should be used to sustain proper air flow and drying time.
5. Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating. Once a year, or more often if you notice that it is taking longer than normal for your clothes to dry, clean lint out of the vent pipe or have a dryer lint removal service do it for you.
6. Keep dryers in good working order. Gas dryers should be inspected by a professional to make sure that the gas line and connection are intact and free of leaks.
7. Turn the dryer off if you leave home or when you go to bed.

El Mirage's Marysol Ortiz competes on big stage

At age five, El Mirage resident Marysol Ortiz competed in front of a live audience of a few hundred people at Dysart High School. Last summer, Ms. Ortiz competed in front of millions when she performed for seven weeks on the worldwide Univision program, Va Por It.



Marysol Ortiz with Mayor Lana Mook

The reality show Va Por It has been called the Mexican version of American idol where singers perform each week and advance through the competition based on votes by the viewing public. Ms. Ortiz sang and performed well enough to advance through seven rounds of competition, finishing in the top four out of 28 original participants. "It was a great experience," said Marysol. "I really tried to be in the moment and really have fun with the process."

Ms. Ortiz is well known in El Mirage. She comes from a musical family and has been performing at weddings,

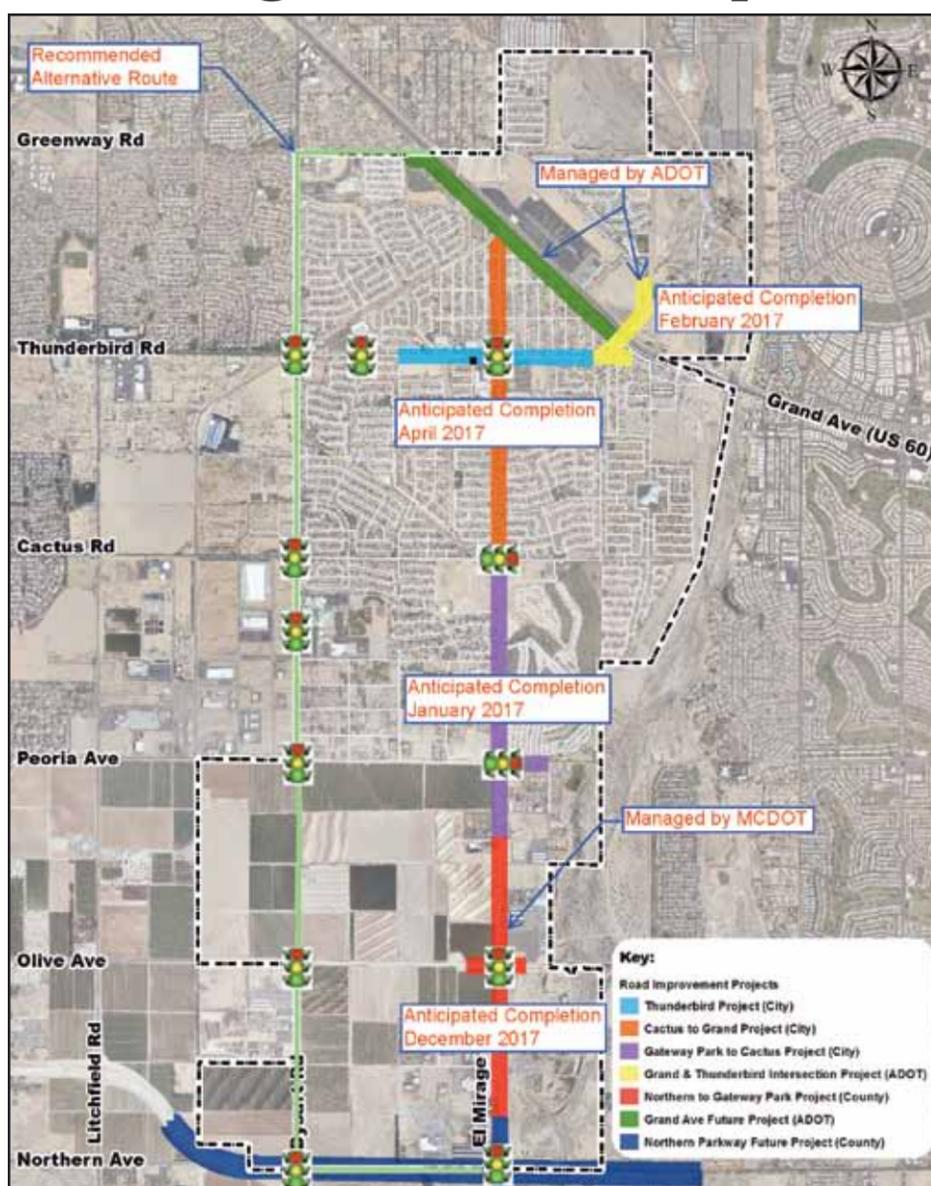
family reunions, and at City of El Mirage special events for years. The El Mirage native balanced her musical career with education. She matriculated at El Mirage Elementary, Dysart High School, Glendale Community College, and then attended ASU earning a degree in Journalism and Mass Communication from the Walter Cronkite School.

Following her success on Va Por It, Ms. Ortiz has been offered many performing opportunities. She is sorting through them while deciding on the next steps of her

career. But no matter where her voice and singing take her, the El Mirage resident remains grounded. "I am really grateful for all the support that I have received from everyone throughout the years," she said. "I don't forget where I came from and where my roots are."

Ms. Ortiz will be performing at the City of El Mirage Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Friday, December 9th at Gentry Park. Ms. Ortiz can be reached at 623-692-6250 or marysolsunny@gmail.com.

El Mirage Construction Update



Thunderbird Road is under construction from Cinnabar Avenue to Grand Avenue. APS is finishing converting power lines from overhead to underground. Most of their work is being done at night to minimize disruptions to customers. Cox and CenturyLink are relocating some underground lines to avoid conflicts with our proposed improvements.

Sunland Asphalt has started curb and sidewalk on the south half of the road. 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 will be complete in December. The contractors are finishing the roadwork and APS is installing our new transit style light poles. 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 new connection with Grand Avenue, this project widened a portion of Thompson Ranch Road. The west half of the new intersection is under construction. 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. Roadwork should start spring 2017.
 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: azdot.gov/bellandgrand and surpriseaz.gov/bellandgrand
 For more information, visit www.cityofelmirage.org/ConstructionUpdate or contact:
 Chris Hauser, P.E. – Assistant City Engineer
 12145 NW Grand Ave., El Mirage, AZ 85335
 P: 623-876-2971 | E: chauser@cityofelmirage.org

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

FALL, FAMILY, FUN!

- Youth Volleyball and Basketball
- For Youth Development and Social Responsibility

NEW!

- Member and Non-Member Options
- Lower rates for Members

LIMITED TIME OFFER

FREE DAY PASS

Bring this pass in for a free visit to the Northwest Valley YMCA to experience all the Y has to offer!

Expires: 12/31/2016

City Hall is Moving

January, 2017
City of El Mirage
10000 N. El Mirage Road
El Mirage, Arizona 85335
(Between Peoria Avenue & Olive Avenue)

New City Hall

New Council Chambers

New Veterans Memorial Plaza

Customer Service Utilities Office and Payment Drop Box
 The physical address will remain at: 14406 N. Alto St, El Mirage, AZ 85335
 For details visit: <http://www.cityofelmirage.org/326/Customer-Service> | Call 623.933.1228

El Mirage Wins Dysart Education Foundation 2016 Golf Tournament

On October 2, 2106, a team from the City of El Mirage participated in the 2016 Dysart Education Foundation Golf Tournament at the Luke Air Force Base Falcon Dunes Golf Course.

The group won 1st place by scoring an outstanding 17 under par and a final score of 54 on the par 71 Falcon Dunes Golf Course.

El Mirage completed against approximately 26 teams comprised of 104 golfers from around the Valley.



Left to right: Rod Wettlin (Director – Court Services), Chris Herrbach (Code Enforcement Officer), James Shano (Deputy City Manager / Public Works Director, and Joseph Young (Senior Customer Service Rep)

COMMUNITY EVENTS - NOVEMBER 2016

<p>SENIOR CENTER 14010 N. El Mirage Road, El Mirage, AZ 85335 623-876.4232 rarvizu@cityofelmirage.org</p>	<p>EL MIRAGE SPECIAL EVENTS AT GENTRY PARK</p>	<p>ONGOING ACTIVITIES</p>
<p>Come visit El Mirage's Senior Center and socialize with other seniors from the City.</p> <p>Senior Center Activities Include: Hot lunches for \$2.50 BINGO, Board Games, Card Games, Art & Crafts, Exercise Classes, Health & Wellness Speakers, Monthly Birthday & Holiday Parties</p> <p>ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS Come enjoy X-Box November 9th and 23rd from 9:30 - 11:00 am</p> <p>Free Fitness Classes Monday's and Wednesdays from 10:00 - 11:00 am Must be 55 and better. We offer free variety classes that include Zumba Gold, Standing Yoga, Safe Weight Lifting, and Resistance Bands</p> <p>Sewing Tuesdays, from 9:00 -11:00 am Learn to sew with confidence! Whether you are a beginner or just need inspiration to pick up sewing again, all are welcome. Learn which notions are essential for the home sewist; how to thread; operate sewing machines; and, complete selected projects. The 1st project will be holiday table toppers, while we talk about sewing trends, techniques and tips. Bring your sewing machine, if you can, and we will provide the materials, notions and a few machines for the 1st project.</p> <p>The Senior Center also takes donations. For more information: Call: 623-876-4243 or Email: rarvizu@cityofelmirage.org or Visit: www.cityofelmirage.org</p>		<p>Co-ed Adult Soccer Games played at Gateway Park. For information, go to www.azcoedsoccer.com, or 1-800-BSA- 0886</p> <p>Benfica Youth Soccer Mon –Thurs., 6 pm – 8 pm year round For information, go to www.azbenfica.org, or 1-800-BSA-0886</p> <p>White Tanks Little League Baseball and Softball Ages 4 to 16 Whitetanksl1@msn.com, or (623) 241-4602</p> <p>West Valley Youth Football Ages 5 – 15 learn flag, tackle, cheer, dance, and step. For information, go to www.wvyfaz.com, or email wvyouthfootball11@gmail.com</p> <p>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</p>

EL MIRAGE LIBRARY

14011 North 1st Avenue, El Mirage Arizona 85335 | 602-652-3000 | <http://mcladaz.org/events/elmirage>
Please see the online calendar for full program description

YOUTH

Storytime for Preschoolers – November 3, 10, 17 (Thursdays), 10:30 am.
Children 3 to 5 years old with parent or caregiver. Stories, songs and fun action rhymes in an interactive program for the preschool crowd. Audience participation is encouraged for tots and grownups alike. Registration not required but space is limited.

Purposeful Play Group – November 14 and 28 (Mondays), 10 am – 11 am.
For children ages 1 to 5 with parent or caregiver. Interested in socialization, creative play and stimulating brain development for your little one? Learn why and how to play with your child to maximize brain and skill development. Purposeful Play Groups are led by Family Educators from the Benevilla Family Resource Center. Registration is not required but space is limited.

Turkey Tango Dance Program – November 18 (Friday), 10 am – 11 am.
Ages 2 – 5 years with parent or caregiver. Join us for a dance party! Come dance, listen to music, and have fun while learning early literacy skills!

TWEENS

El Mirage Code Club – November 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 (Mondays), 1:15 pm – 2:45 pm.
Ages 8 – 13 years. Have you ever wanted to learn how to code? Come to the library to learn the basics on how get started making apps, games, and websites. No computer or coding experience needed. Absolute beginners are most welcome! *Space is limited to 10 students, registration is required.* Program runs for 12 weeks. See Customer Service Desk for a full list of class meeting dates

ADULT

Armchair Explorers Book Club – November 1 (Tuesday), 10 – 11:30 am.
Join us for a new book discussion group! We will be reading fiction and nonfiction titles that take place all around the world. The November title is *Where'd You Go, Bernadette?* by Maria Semple. 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. See online calendar for more information. <http://mcladaz.org/events/elmirage>

Jan Sandwich Nostalgia Show – November 2 (Wednesday), 10 am – 11 am.
Jan Sandwich's Nostalgia Show features music from the 1920's through the 1950's, plus great comedy, impressions and more! Jan's special charm and talent are guaranteed to get the audience involved. The Jan Sandwich Nostalgia Show promises to be a program to remember! *This program will be at the El Mirage Senior Center.*

Friday Morning Book Discussion – November 4 (Friday), 10 am – 11:30 am.
The title for November is *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi. 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.

ALL AGES

Color Your Own Bookmark – November 3 (Thursday), 5 pm – 6:30 pm and November 5 (Saturday), 12 pm – 1:30 pm. Coloring isn't just for kids anymore! Create your own special bookmark with your friends, siblings or kids. We have 4 designs to choose from. Coloring materials will be provided. The program will be in the library. Space is limited, however, all are welcome.

DYSART COMMUNITY CENTER

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

<p>YOUTH AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM (623) 583-2137</p> <p>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!</p> <p>All programming is delivered by caring and qualified staff committed to helping local youth succeed!</p>	<p>ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES (623) 974-4156</p> <p>Clases de Ingles (ESL) – Clases individuales y en grupo disponibles incluyendo los libros de estudio y el programa Rosetta Stone, \$60</p> <p>GED – Twice per week with professional instructor, classes available Mon through Thurs, 10 AM – 12 PM and 6 – 8 PM, \$40</p> <p>Citizenship – Full instruction for passing US citizenship test, \$25</p>	<p>TEEN ARTS & ACTION PROGRAM (TAAP) (623) 933-4242</p> <p>Tues/Thurs 3:30-6 PM. FREE.</p> <p>Local teens are making a difference in our community! TAAP offers creative project-based curriculum focusing on the arts and community engagement.</p>	<p>MOBILE FOOD PANTRY 623-974-4156</p> <p>at Dysart Community Center Oct 1st at 10:00 am First Saturday of Each Month 10:00 am 623-974-4156 Movil Distribucion de Despensa en Dysart Community Center Primer Sabado de cada mes a la 10 am.</p> 
---	---	--	--

WIN GREEN AND ROOT FOR THE HOME TEAM!

You could win over **\$1,400** cash during every pro football home game!



Rewards Members can earn entries to The Big Red Money Machine. Grab as much cash as you can in 30 seconds on every pro football home game day! Plus, receive an extra 25 entries when you bring your ticket stub from the game!

DRAWINGS ARE EVERY HALF HOUR FROM 5:30PM – 8PM:

November 13

Experience the possibilities.



866.DDC.WINS | [f](#) | [t](#) | [@](#) | [DDCAZ.COM](#)

*See the Rewards Center for details. Ticket stubs must have the same date as the drawing to be valid. Limit is (1) ticket stub per guest. 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.