

City Snapshot



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saving lives one home at a time



Statistics show that the vast majority of deaths due to fire in the home are a result of non-working or nonexistent smoke detectors in the home. In order to prevent this tragic occurrence in Casa Grande the Smoke Detector/

Battery Installation program began in 2007. As a project done in October, it fit in nicely with the Casa Grande Cares Program. This year will mark the 7th year that volunteers will be joining together to install smoke detectors in neighborhoods considered high-risk fire areas in Casa Grande. The October installation is targeting approximately 700 homes in the Rancho Grande, Desert Valley, and Rancho del Sol subdivisions. Because the program is not city funded, it relies on volunteers and sponsorship donations. It is comprised of volunteers from every corner of the city from Hexcel Corporation to the Lion's Club and various youth groups. The premier sponsor each year since its beginning in Casa Grande has been American Family Insurance. Besides monetary donations, which go towards the purchase of the detectors and batteries, sponsors help with in-kind donations such as food and water for the volunteers, help with set-up and break down of meeting and equipment distribution areas, packing bags that carry the detectors, batteries, and installation tools, and sorting equipment. To date, over 4,800 smoke detectors and 1,100 batteries have been installed in over 1,700 of the targeted 3,500 homes in Casa Grande. Besides the actual detectors, batteries (should be replaced once a year) are replaced in those homes that already have the detectors. This year the

vast majority of detectors to be installed are known as dual sensor which incorporates the photoelectric and the ionization smoke alarms. All alarms, regardless of its type, should be replaced every 10 years. The sensors become compromised over time and will not be reliable. The goal is eventually to begin returning to those neighborhoods that have already been serviced to place alarms in those that were missed for some reason and to reinstall batteries in the others. The opportunity to volunteer to help is still available. The date for this year's efforts is Saturday, October 12. Please contact Fire Marshal Barbara Rice, brice@casagrandeaz.gov or at Ext. 5989 to see how you or your group can help.

glad you're my co-worker



Between the two of them they were able to read the card that Debbie Jewell presented to Fidel Torres, Dispatch, as he received the September balloon. Debbie noted that Fidel is always so "...kind and patient with her no matter how hectic things get." Congratulations Fidel!

tech savvy?

Whether you are a new employee or one who has been here awhile, you may be interested in learning how to use your office phone and email before your retirement. Here's your chance to become a little more familiar with the technology at your fingertips. The EEC has asked Dave Blythe, IT Technician/Technical Trainer, to present three separate informational meetings on the use of our telephone system, Vertical Wave ViewPoint and our email system, Novell Groupwise. The 50 minute sessions will be held on Wednesday, September 18:

9-10 a.m.: City Hall Bldg. B, IT Lab
1 - 2 p.m.: The NOC, Lunch Room
4 - 5 p.m.: Public Safety Facility, Room 128

The Vertical Wave ViewPoint will last 25 minutes and the Novell Groupwise will last 25 minutes with a Q&A session following. Please RSVP to Laura Higgs, Ext. 5250 to sign up as seating is limited.

viva grande! ole'



What's all the fuss about you ask? Viva Grande will be here sooner than you think. A day filled with fun activities for the whole family, from Salsa contests to fancy Chihuahua Fashion Shows. There's still time to whip up a salsa for the Salsa Challenge or to enter the Horseshoe Tournament. Enter the Jalapeno Eating Contest and feel the heat! All this will take place on Saturday, September 28 from 5:00 -9:00 p.m. at the Paul Mason Sportsplex. For more information, be sure to check out the flyers in

your department or call Parks & Recreation at 421-8760. Viva Grande! promises to be a great community event that everyone can enjoy.

exclusive club needs you

Mayor's Reading Club needs volunteer readers. If you have one hour a month to read to CGESD kids, grade K-3, from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. please think about joining in on the fun. Please contact Caren Rausis, Ext. 1080 for more information or [click here](#).

wood garners award



Rod Wood has been named the 2013 Parks Professional of the Year by the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association (APRA). He was presented with the award during APRA's annual conference on August 29.

Rod is currently the Parks Superintendent for the City of Casa Grande, a position he's held since 1986. He is responsible for the overall maintenance and improvement of all city parks, facilities and equipment.

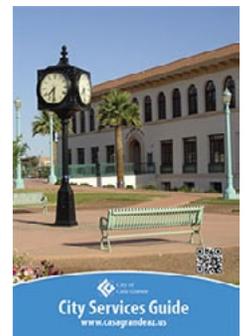
He was nominated for the award for his involvement in planning and leading the trails project at Casa Grande Mountain Park. Under his leadership, volunteers have constructed over 20 miles of natural surface trails for hiking, biking and equestrian use. The trails project was previously awarded the 2012 Natural Resources Award by APRA.

Community Services Director William Schwind said, "Not only did Rod plan and supervise the trails project, he also physically marked and constructed the project. Under his direction, the trail system has evolved into one of the finer park assets within the city."

Wood is professionally certified as a playground safety inspector by the National Recreation and Park Association. A native of Michigan, he started his career with the City of Casa Grande in 1979 as a pool caretaker and has worked his way up through the ranks. Congratulations Rod!

new city services guide available

There's yet one more informational resource for visitors and residents alike published by the city and it's free. Be sure to pick up the new City Services Guide available at all city facilities. It's a handy tool to keep by your telephone for answers to those questions you're bound to get. All services from recycling to annual community events are listed. All city numbers are also available. This comprehensive helper can save a lot of time. If your department needs more please contact Agustin Avalos, Ext. 2530.



September Anniversaries

<u>Name</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Years</u>
Christine Perez	29	David Jones	7
Mary Ann Gonzales	24	Genaro Rodriguez	7
Gilbert Celaya	18	Blaine Thomas	7
Bobby Costales	17	Eugene Ward	7
Jaime Barr	15	Ted Hawkins	6
Charlotte Barr	14	Amalia Parra-Valenzuela	6
Todd Miller	14	Jonathan Larson	5
Caryl Chase	12	David Beauchamp	3
Jeremy Ybarra	12	Jay Mull	3
John Parrish	11	Duane Eitel	2
Brian Walsh	11	Matthew Perry	2
Efren Lujan	10	Michael Wilson	2
Larry Waite	9	James Fults	1
Michael Hannah	8	Brian Langeliers	1
Robert Jackson	7		



Fruit
and
Veggies
Month



September Birthdays

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
David Blythe	1	Deanna Davis	16
Rose Roy	1	Kenneth Miller	16
Terry Montijo	2	James Murray	17
Daniel Allen	3	Matthew Jankowski	19
Fernando Estrada	3	Richard Bojorquez	20
Donald Lauderback	3	Sarah McKinney	21
Jeff Molner	5	Linda Harris	22
Brian Flynn	6	Mary Ann Solano	22
Michael Sciortino	6	Blaine Thomas	22
Justin Higgs	7	Fidel Torres	22
Andrew Leary	7	Kyle Wright	23
Joseph Kissinger	9	Dwight Amato	24
Frank Alanis	10	Laura Higgs	25
Eugene Ward	10	Scott Sjerven	25
Mary Kortsen	11	Cody Deuel	27
Ruben Ruiz	11	Diane James	27
Jason Andersen	12	Stephen Knauber	28
Isabel Pinon	12	Dawn Jett	29
George Davis	13	Norma Villescaz	29
Susan Johns	13	Orlando Jimenez	30
Derek Peters	13		

flu shots available oct. 9



As a precaution to flu season, flu shots will be available for all eligible United Healthcare members and their covered dependents (children must be over age 7). Shots will be administered on Wednesday, October 9, 9 a.m. - Noon at Parks & Rec. You must bring your United Healthcare Insurance Card with you. In order to have the right number of shots available you must RSVP to Admin. Services at 421-8607 no later than Thursday, September 19. There is no out-of-pocket costs for the shot.

know your numbers event

Once again, United Healthcare will be offering its "Know Your Numbers" event to all UHC members. This is a great time to find out some important health screening numbers. Health screening include blood pressure, glucose reading, cholesterol numbers, body mass index, and the A1C test for Diabetes prevention. All this will be done under one roof on Wednesday, October 9, 9 a.m. - Noon, at Parks & Rec. No fasting is required, but it is recommended that you drink two glasses of water before your appointment. Make your appointment by contacting Admin. Services at 4521-8607 by September 19. Be sure to bring your UHC card. There are no out-of-pocket fees for this event. Confidential results will be placed in your personal UHC account available at www.myuhc.com. This Biometric screening is the first step in UHC's Wellness Program. Good health is not just a roll of the dice!

change in cleaning products

In an effort to look for ways to improve on efficiency and purchase products that are user friendly and environmentally safe, the City is purchasing new products for our custodial contractors to use in our buildings. The new products are from a company named Diversey and are GREENGUARD Indoor Air Quality Certified. The products are nonalkaline, noncorrosive, phosphorous-free, peroxide-based cleaners that were specifically designed for healthcare, educational lodging, and government facilities. Previous products are slowly being phased out and the new product is replacing it. City buildings that have transitioned to the new products are: City Hall Main and Bldg B, Dorothy Powell, Parks & Recreation, Len Cholla, the Teen Center and the North Operations Center. Once residual products are used up, Wastewater, Peart Adult Center, Airport, Public Safety Facility, Communications, and the Main Library will come on board.