



# City Beat

May/June 2014



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NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF CASA GRANDE

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Let's Be Social!



## Life Saver Awards Presented to Members of the Community

The Casa Grande Fire and Police Departments recognized eleven individuals for their brave and heroic efforts that saved the life of a victim in need of help.



Bill Anthony suffered a heart attack and collapsed at a local business in Casa Grande. Residents George Salas and his son Chuck Salas immediately began cardio cerebral resuscitation (CCR) on Mr. Anthony. Casa Grande resident Ester Gonzalez called 911 and under the guided instruction from Public Safety Dispatcher Melissa Engstrom, the citizen rescuers continued to push hard and fast. Meanwhile, citizen Robert Lucio rushed outside looking for help and flagged down Police Officer Jeremy Ybarra. Officer Ybarra took over CCR procedures on Mr. Anthony while crews from Fire Station 501 responded and began to take immediate advanced life-saving action. Southwest Ambulance crews then arrived and helped transport Mr. Anthony to the hospital.

"We had a handful of community members that were willing to, and had the confidence to engage and actually do something about what was happening around them," said Casa Grande Fire Prevention Officer Andrew Hensley. "They didn't take an oath of service. They didn't have a duty to act. Each one of them played a very important role in the survival of Mr. Anthony. This is a perfect example of the community coming together to help save a life."

The following individuals received Life Saver Recognition Awards:

- George Salas, Citizen
- Ester Gonzalez, Citizen
- Chuck Salas, Citizen
- Roberto Lucio, Citizen
- Melissa Engstrom, CG Public Safety Dispatcher
- Jeremy Ybarra, CGPD Police Officer
- Brandon Baker, CGFD Fire Captain
- Jesse Valle, CGFD Fire Engineer
- Tom Finucane, CGFD Paramedic
- Rick Rebenstorf, Southwest Ambulance Paramedic
- Kory Coffman, Southwest Ambulance EMT

You can watch the Life Saver Recognition Awards Ceremony on Cox Channel 11 on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 9:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

As a reminder, the Casa Grande Fire Department offers First Aid and CPR training to the community. To sign up for a class call (520) 421-8777.



**FAST FACT** The Casa Grande Fire Department is on Facebook. 'LIKE' them on [facebook.com/cgfiredept](https://www.facebook.com/cgfiredept)



## Downtown Library and Communications Building Remodeled

After months of construction, the renovations at the Casa Grande Main Library and downtown police building were completed in late April.

The Main Library was reconfigured to make way for an open and brightly lit floor plan, taking advantage of as much natural light as possible. More outlets and computers were installed to meet the increase in technology demands of our community, and a new and larger computer lab will soon be available. The upper level was converted into a larger community meeting and activity space.

On the east side of the library will be a café complete with a quaint enclosed patio for patrons to have a sip while reading the latest novel. The entrance to the library was moved to the north side of the building next to Peart Park. While no expansion of the facility itself actually occurred, the feel is both vibrant and very spacious.

The downtown communications building was renovated to improve public safety operations and meet the future needs of the police and fire departments. The interior was renovated to create a new dispatch console room, police substation and appropriate office and support spaces for a 24/7 facility. The renovated facility houses staff that provides emergency dispatch calls for fire and police.



Watch a tour of the Main Library: [YouTube /cgazgov](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)



Police/Fire Dispatch Room

**FAST FACT** Last year, the Teen Summer Reading Program saw a 67% increase in the number of participants and the Adult Summer Reading Program saw an increase of 66%.

## Casa Grande's Sanitary Sewer System

In Casa Grande, everything that comes out of your house via sinks and toilets flows to the City's water reclamation facility, where it is collected, separated and treated with chemicals and enzymes to break it down. Wastewater that has been treated is called effluent or reclaimed water, which is discharged



to a large pond and then recycled by several businesses and used to water the greens at Dave White Regional Park and Golf Course. Any excess effluent is discharged to the North Branch of Santa Cruz Wash. City officials are currently working on developing two recharge facilities to maximize the reclaimed

water that is not being used by storing it underground and either recover it to offset groundwater use or sell the credits generated from the storage.

The City's Wastewater Division is responsible for maintaining the wastewater plant and ensuring that the facility complies with environmental regulations. The facility is permitted by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. The permits issued regulate the water from the plant used for reclaimed purposes as well as what is discharged to the Santa Cruz Wash. A lab technician regularly tests for over 150 potential contaminants to ensure they are not present or are at a level deemed safe



for the environment. The facility currently discharges class A+ quality effluent – that's the highest class rating given by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

There are approximately 260 miles of sewer lines throughout Casa Grande that are inspected and cleaned periodically to ensure the efficiency of the sanitary sewer system. An additional 4,500 manholes are rehabilitated on a regular basis. Most of the sewer cleaning is conducted by companies that the City contracts with every year.

Public Works Director Kevin Louis says, "It is imperative that the sewer system in these areas is cleaned and inspected to improve the functionality and overall quality of the wastewater collection system. Routine cleaning helps reduce odors and helps prevent damage from corrosion."

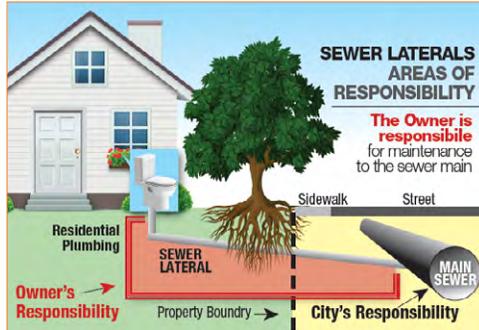
**FAST FACT** An average person contributes approximately 80 gallons of wastewater per day.

## How is the Sanitary Sewer System Funded?

The sanitary sewer system is funded directly through the rates and fees charged to wastewater customers. All homeowners pay a flat fee for the service. Currently, single-family homeowners pay \$28.70 a month for the service. Commercial and industrial customers pay \$2.38 and \$2.15 per 1,000 gallons used, respectively. Fees are adjusted on an annual basis to reflect increased costs of maintaining the sanitary sewer system.

The City of Casa Grande does not maintain private property sewer lines that connect to the main sewer line; property owners are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of those sewer lines.

If property owners are experiencing sewer back ups, the City encourages owners to contact them before calling a plumber. You can reach them at (520) 421-8625.



An expansion project was completed at the wastewater plant in 2012 that increased wastewater capacity from 6 million gallons a day to 12 million gallons a day.

The expansion project was named the 'Best Clean Water Project of the Year' by the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona and the Arizona Water Association.



Watch a short video on [YouTube /cgazgov](https://www.youtube.com/c/cgazgov)

This expansion has been instrumental in attracting new businesses to Casa Grande.

Recent additions to the community include Franklin Foods and Erhmann Dairy, two dairy processing plants that have added hundreds of new jobs to the local economy.

## How You Can Help Prevent Sewer Backups

- Never dispose of solid waste (food remnants, etc.) into the sewer system
- Never pour grease down sink drains, garbage disposals or into toilets – always allow to cool then dispose of in trash
- Use a paper towel to clean up excess grease residue left on pots, pans and utensils
- Never dispose of rags, paper towels or other non-flushable items into the sewer system

## Casa Grande's Photovoltaic System



Do you want to know how much solar energy the City of Casa Grande is generating from its photovoltaic system?

You can view solar energy production on the City's website, [www.casagrandeaz.gov](http://www.casagrandeaz.gov). Just look under the Items of Interest tab and click on Solar Panel Energy Production App.

The application allows you to view how much solar power the City is producing at any given time.

## Arbor Day Tree Planting Celebration



The local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), in partnership with the City of Casa Grande and other sponsors, hosted a tree planting ceremony at Peart Park to celebrate Arbor Day on March 28. This was the fifth Arbor Day celebration in Casa Grande.

Students from local schools had the opportunity to plant a tree and learn about the importance of trees in the community. This year's Arbor Day tree was the Chinese Pistache, a tree that is remarkably tolerant of aridity, heat and alkaline soil. Its dark

green foliage and umbrella top provide excellent shade on hot summer days. The tree grows to about 40 feet high with a 35 foot spread in Arizona. Two trees were donated by the Avocado Nursery.

According to the Arbor Day Foundation, trees produce oxygen, can add value to your home, help cool your home and neighborhood, and provide food for wildlife.

The City of Casa Grande has been recognized for the last seven years by the National Arbor Day Foundation for its policies of sound urban forestry management. Currently, Casa Grande is one of only 24 cities in Arizona that holds the distinction of being a "Tree City USA" community. The parks division maintains over 2,000 trees located in parks and rights of way in Casa Grande.

## 19 Citizens Graduate from Leadership Academy



Nineteen local citizens recently graduated from the 2014 Leadership Academy, joining 179 alumni from previous Academy sessions. This unique program is a focused, in-depth look at the City and its operations in eight sessions spread over 8 weeks. The goal of the program is to connect citizens with their government and encourage participation in city-related activities.

Leadership Academy sessions are held once a year from February through April. If you would like to participate in the 2015 Leadership Academy, contact Public Information Officer Agustin Avalos at (520) 421-8627 or [aavalos@casagrandeaz.gov](mailto:aavalos@casagrandeaz.gov)

- |                 |                   |                      |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Dennis Doherty  | Matthew Jaworski  | Tamera Williams      |
| John Ellsworth  | Joe Rodriguez     | <b>Not pictured:</b> |
| Terry Filson    | Orlanda Rojas     | Dee Dee Davis        |
| Larry Freeborg  | Hector Savala     | Sherry Eberhardt     |
| Sanjay Govind   | Debra Shaw-Rhodes | Arlen Eberhardt      |
| Karen Henson    | JoAnne Simms      | Pam Hall             |
| Louis Hernandez | Dezirae Williams  |                      |

## City Seeks Public Input on FY 2015 Budget

Casa Grande is preparing its Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2015 and wants residents to know their input is an important part of the process. The budget is an ongoing process combining citizen input, Council vision and direction, and staff recommendations to meet community needs.

Department directors have been analyzing all costs in their budgets and evaluating services and programs. As part of the budget process, the City Council reviews changes to the City's consolidated fee schedule, which includes rates for sewer and trash collection.

### Public Meetings Scheduled

**Public Hearing & Council Adoption of Tentative Budget & Fee Resolution**  
Monday, June 2 @ 7 p.m. - Council Chambers (510 E. Florence Blvd.)

**Public Hearing on Budget & Property Tax Levy  
Final Budget & Property Tax Levy Adoption**  
Monday, June 16 @ 7 p.m. - Council Chambers (510 E. Florence Blvd.)

Residents can also write, call or email the Mayor and Council with their comments and suggestions. For contact information, visit [www.casagrandeaz.gov](http://www.casagrandeaz.gov) and look under the City Council tab.

To learn more about the budget process, visit the City website and look under the [Items of Interest](#) tab and click on [FY 2015 Budget Information](#).

## Market on the Move Offers Fresh Produce



The Greater Casa Grande Chamber of Commerce and Phoenix Mart have entered into an exciting partnership with "Market on the Move," a project of The 3000 Club, a service/charitable organization to offer up to 60 pounds of fresh produce to the public for \$10.00 per person.

"Market on the Move" will be in Casa Grande on Saturday, May 31 from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Outlets at Casa Grande (HomeCenter Factory Direct) at Jimmie Kerr Blvd. and I-10 Exit 198. There is no need to pre-register or pre-pay online. The \$10 per person fee can be made that day.

The 3000 Club for "Market on the Move" provides 23 million nutritious meals of fresh fruits and vegetables and serves more than 480,000 families in need. The 3000 Club has developed relationships with produce brokers in Nogales and Phoenix, rescuing 30 million pounds of excess fresh fruits and vegetables.

To volunteer or for more information, please call the Greater Casa Grande Chamber of Commerce at (520) 836-2125.

## Do I Need A Permit For That?

### Code Corner



As summer time approaches we prefer our vehicles be parked under some sort of shade, whether it's the largest tree in the parking lot or a nice covered space at our home. Many of you have seen the free standing carport shades sold at various department stores.

Did you know that any structure over 200 square feet requires a building permit? Yes, these carport type shades require a building permit when over the permitted square footage (10 ft. x 12 ft.) and are required to meet Planning and Development setback requirements.

The Building Division will also verify the structure is set per manufacturer's installation instructions.

For more information on permit process and fees, please contact us at (520) 421-8630.

## Palm Island Family Aquatics Park Opens Memorial Day Weekend

Warm weather is here, which means time for outdoor water fun for the entire family. The Palm Island Family Aquatic Park opens on May 24 and has a variety of aquatic programs for all ages.



**Palm Island Family Aquatic Park**  
1115 N. Brown Ave - (520) 421-8678

**OPEN SWIM (May 24 - Aug. 3)**  
Tuesday-Sunday - 12:30-4:30 p.m.  
**OPEN SWIM (Aug. 9 - Sept. 1)**  
Saturday & Sunday - 12:30-4:30 p.m.

### Price of Admission

Children (17 and under).....\$1

Adults.....\$2

### Family Pass

(Immediate family only).....\$75

4 family members, \$15 for each additional family member

### Summer Pool Pass (20 visits)

Children (17 and under).....\$18

Adults.....\$28

## Pool Safety Tips

- Assign an adult to supervise children in and around the swimming pool and spa. This is needed whether there is one parent or guardian present or numerous adults present such as during a family event or party.
- Have a fence enclosure that isolates your swimming pool and spa from the home, play areas, front and side yards and the neighbor's yard.
- Learn how to perform Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). The Casa Grande Fire Department offers 1st Aid and CPR classes once a month for the public. To register for classes, call the Fire Department, (520) 421-8777

## Cox Channel 11 Programs

### City Scene: Your Inside Look at Casa Grande

Monthly program that features different projects/events happening in Casa Grande. The show offers giveaways to lucky viewers.

Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Sunday  
7:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

### May Topics:

Main Library Renovations  
Arts and Humanities Commission

### Parade of Paws

Program that features pets available for adoption.

Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Sunday  
7:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

### Council Meetings

Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Sunday  
12:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.



## City Offices Closed May 26 for Memorial Day

### Trash & Recycling Schedule

Trash normally collected on Monday, May 26 will be collected on Tuesday, May 27. Trash collection normally made on Tuesday, May 27 will be collected on Wednesday, May 28.

Recycling collection normally made on Monday, May 26 will be collected on Tuesday, May 27 along with normal Tuesday pickup.

The Casa Grande Landfill will be closed on Monday, May 26. The landfill will return to normal operating hours (7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.) on Tuesday, May 27. Questions? Call (520) 421-8625

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS/MEETINGS For more events/meetings, visit [www.casagrandeaz.gov](http://www.casagrandeaz.gov)

| EVENT                        | DATE/TIME        | LOCATION                  | CONTACT                      | Area Code 520 |
|------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| City Council Meeting         | 5/5, 7pm         | Council Chambers          | City Clerk, 421-8608         |               |
| Downtown Street Scene        | 5/6, 5:30pm      | 2nd and Florence Streets  | Main Street, 836-8744        |               |
| Arts & Humanities Commission | 5/7, 4:30pm      | Council Chambers          | Planning, 421-8637           |               |
| City Council Meeting         | 5/19, 7pm        | Council Chambers          | City Clerk, 421-8608         |               |
| Pool Opens for the Season    | 5/24, 12:30pm    | Palm Island Aquatics Park | Parks & Recreation, 421-8677 | \$            |
| Market on the Move           | 5/31, 7am - 10am | Outlets at Casa Grande    | Chamber, 836-2125            | \$            |
| City Council Meeting         | 6/2, 7pm         | Council Chambers          | City Clerk, 421-8608         |               |
| Planning/Zoning Commission   | 6/5, 6pm         | Council Chambers          | Planning, 421-8637           |               |
| City Council Meeting         | 6/16, 7pm        | Council Chambers          | City Clerk, 421-8608         |               |
| Fourth of July Celebration   | 7/4, 7pm         | Paul Mason Sportsplex     | Parks & Recreation, 421-8677 |               |

\$ Requires a Fee or Admission

## City Contacts

Area Code is 520

|                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| Animal Control     | 426-9300 |
| Building           | 421-8630 |
| City Attorney      | 421-8600 |
| City Clerk         | 421-8608 |
| City Court         | 421-8675 |
| City Manager       | 421-8600 |
| Finance            | 421-8601 |
| Fire Department    | 421-8777 |
| Golf Course        | 836-9216 |
| Housing            | 421-8670 |
| Human Resources    | 421-8600 |
| Landfill           | 421-8628 |
| Library            | 421-8710 |
| Parks & Recreation | 421-8677 |
| Police Department  | 421-8711 |
| Planning/Zoning    | 421-8637 |
| Public Works       | 421-8625 |
| Senior Center      | 421-8760 |

### City Council

Robert Jackson, Mayor  
Lisa Fitzgibbons, Mayor Pro Tempore  
Mary Kortsen, Councilmember  
Karl Montoya, Councilmember  
Matt Herman, Councilmember  
Dick Powell, Councilmember  
Ralph Varela, Councilmember

**Dave White Municipal Golf Course**  
**2014 Summer Passes**  
**Now on Sale!**  
**\$385**  
Golf, Cart & Taxes included  
50% off of range balls  
Valid May 1 - October 31  
(520) 836-9216 2121 N. Thornton Road, Casa Grande