

# City Snapshot



A publication of the Employee Excellence Committee

May 2014 Volume 4 Issue 5



*I thought of my wife and children, I said a quick prayer for them and was ready to die.--Intelligence Specialist Chief (Air Warfare) Mark W. Bell Desert Storm*

## Help Design the Airport Terminal

Over the past two years the City of Casa Grande has been making much needed improvements and repairs to the Casa Grande Municipal Airport located at 3232 N. Lear Avenue. Improvements include new LED lights on the runway, new taxiway signs, new taxiway markings and the expansion of the south terminal apron to accommodate additional hangar units.



The most recent effort has been the Airport Enhancement Project, which aims to update and improve the terminal building and surrounding landscaping to promote the airport in a professional and welcoming manner. To accomplish this goal, the City held a design competition and invited Arizona universities and colleges with architectural and/or interior design programs to participate. Two groups submitted design concepts: Ashley Dolph & Marquessa Powers from the Art Institute of Phoenix, and Christina Kenny, Lindsay Duval, Brooke Erickson and Mitch Chernow from the American Institute of Interior Design. Participants were asked to incorporate elements of the community into their design concepts.

The Casa Grande Municipal Airport is used by many corporate business leaders and airplane aficionados who keep their aircraft at the airport. A number of community events are held every year at the airport, including the Copperstate Fly-In held in October and Cactus Fly-In held in March.

View design concepts online and vote for your favorite [here](#). Online voting will remain open until May 31.

The team members' names and school logo will be incorporated into the final design, which will be implemented at the municipal airport over the next six months. For more information about the Airport Enhancement Project, contact Airport Manager Richard Wilkie at (520) 421-8600 Ext. 1250 or [rwilkie@casagrandeaz.gov](mailto:rwilkie@casagrandeaz.gov).

Pictured are a few of the conceptual design features that would be located in the main terminal area as well as small meeting areas for pilots and others.

## Glad You're My Co-Worker



Terry McKeon surprised Edith Regan, Clerk's Office, with the May "Glad You're My Co-worker Balloon." Terry told Edith, "You are always extremely thorough and helpful in making sure that all the postings, RCAs, and contracts I do are as correct as possible and you are always thorough, responsive, and extremely pleasant in doing this -- even when I have 20 + items for you to deal with!" Congratulations to Edith!

## May Anniversaries

Name	Years	Name	Years
Pedro Apodaca	21	Tony LaFalce	11
Richard Cardenas	21	Julie Martinez	9
Clarence Edwards	20	Michael Sciortino	8
Linda Harris	20	Octavio Arenas	7
John Hill	20	Keith Newman	7
Lupe Reyes	20	Rose Roy	7
Jesus Valle	19	Daniel Allen	6
Mary Ann Solano	15	Norm Gumenik	6
Dyani Juarez	13	Tyler Miller	6
Fidel Torres	13	Kevin Fahey	5
Norma Villescraz	13	Lisa Hartwell	4
Jerry Hankins	12	Timothy Dunham, Jr.	3
Billy Hatton	12	Theresa Ellsworth	3
Jason Morales	12	Luis Sanchez	3
Larry Rains	12		

## May is National BBQ Month



## May Birthdays

Name	Date	Name	Date
Sheila Chavez	1	Christopher Fox	25
Martha Spelbring	1	Kelly McCoy	25
Carlos Reyes	2	Lauren Velcko	25
Rod Wood	3	Jeffery Cardita	26
Scott Christoffersen	5	James Stout	26
Jacob Davis	5	Gerald West	26
Erik Curtiss	7	Windy Campbell	27
Rebecca Curtis	8	John Tena	27
Mary Sanders	8	Brian Aguero	28
Reginald Winston	10	Melanie Podolak	28
David Beauchamp	13	Tony LaFalce	29
Leticia Luse	14	Debby Turner	29
Jacob Robinson	14	Andrew Hensley	30
Claudio Garcia	15	Caryl Chase	31
Bobby Costales	16	Adam Rodriguez	31
Russell Diggins	17	Steven Shanafelt	31
Jana Feil	17	Judy Skelly	31
Richard Rush	22	Greg Smith	31
Paul Tice	22		

## EEC Blood Drive Slated for May 15



The Employee Excellence Committee is sponsoring a blood drive on May 15 from 12-4 p.m. at the Bobcat-Coyote Room. Please click on the link below and make an appointment to save a life! There is always a need for blood and only volunteer donors can fulfill that need for patients in our community. Nationwide, someone needs a unit of blood every 2 to 3 seconds and most of us will need blood in our lifetime. To make an appointment contact Jim Gagliardi at Ext. 3020 or visit [BloodHero.com](http://BloodHero.com) (Sponsor Code: CGEEC).

## Shooting Star Nominations Due May 30

Do you work with someone who consistently goes above and beyond his/her duties to help others, not only with the public, but with fellow employees? Is there someone you think deserves to be nominated as a "Shooting Star?" If so, please fill out a nomination form and submit it by Friday, May 30 to your EEC representative or Caren Rausis, City Manager's Office. The Shooting Star Committee will then review nominations and, on a point scale, pick the next Shooting Star. Forms are available [here](#).

## Welcome to the City of Casa Grande



Joining our Waste Water division as a maintenance worker last month is Valentin Acosta. Welcome to the city!

## Wacky Days in May

### Date

- 1 Mother Goose Day
- 2 Brothers & Sisters Day
- 3 Lumpy Rug Day
- 4 Bird Day
- 4 Star Wars Day
- 6 No Diet Day
- 8 No Socks Day
- 10 Clean-up Your Room Day
- 11 Twilight Zone Day
- 13 Frog Jumping Day
- 17 Pack Rat Day
- 23 Lucky Penny Day
- 25 Tap Dance Day
- 29 Learn About Composting Day

## Summer Activity Registration Begins May 5



If you've been planning to register those youngsters around your house for summer activities be sure to keep Monday, May 5 marked on your calendar. That's the day registration begins online or in person through our

Community Services department. The most popular sessions fill up fast. There are many wonderful programs designed to keep all ages busy throughout the summer. Week-long "camps" abound from Itty Bitty Adventureland (ages 3-6) to Weird Science (ages 5-12). Be sure to sign up early for the swimming sessions which tend to fill up first. For more information and registration help, please visit the Community Services department in person or visit them [online](#).



## Pool Opens May 24

The constant shouts of "can we go swimming?" will soon be resonating in many households and on May 24 you can say "yes." The Palm Island Family Aquatic Center will awake from its winter hiatus to begin hosting familiar summer activities. There are a number of special events to shorten those heated days of summer for all ages. Please be sure to pick up a Summer Activities guide from Parks & Recreation for all cool summer activities and camps for your kids.

### *Pool Hours*

May 24 - August 3  
Tuesday-Sunday, 12:30 PM-4:30PM  
August 9-September 1  
Open weekends only 12:30 PM - 4:30 PM.

### *Admission*

Children (under 17).....\$1  
Adults.....\$2  
Season Family Pass.....\$75  
(up to 4 members, \$15 each additional)

### *Summer Pool Pass (20 visits)*

Children.....\$18  
Adults.....\$28

Watch the city website for more information about swimming lessons and special events.

## Coming Soon: Open Enrollment

Be sure to keep your eyes open for open enrollment and benefit information for FY 2015. This information will be distributed to all employees mid-May. Be sure to read the information carefully and contact Administrative Services with any questions you may have.

## New Police Recruits



After graduating on May 1, we will have four new officers beginning their Field Training Program. From left to right: Jonathan Campa-Molina, Scott McNutt, Spencer Hirshfeld, and Scott Christoffersen. Welcome!

## Employee Awards & Recognition

Employees who have been continuously employed for 5, 10, 15, 20 years (5 year intervals) with an anniversary date on or before June 30, will be invited to attend the Summer Employee Awards & Recognition Luncheon hosted by the City Council. The invitations will be sent out mid-May for the June 11 event to be held at the Parks & Recreation building. The Shooting Star winner will also be announced at the luncheon.

## The Memorial Day Poppy

Ever wonder why the red poppy is a symbol used specifically for Memorial Day remembrances?

In 1915, inspired by the poem "In Flanders Field," Moina Michael replied with her own poem:

We cherish too, the Poppy red  
That grows on fields where valor led,  
It seems to signal to the skies  
That blood of heroes never dies.

She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers with the money going to benefit servicemen in need. Later a Madam Guerin from France was visiting the United States and learned of this new custom started by Ms. Michael and when she returned to France, made artificial red poppies to raise money for war orphaned children and widowed women. This tradition spread to other countries. In 1921, the Franco-American Children's League sold poppies nationally to benefit war orphans of France and Belgium. The League disbanded a year later and Madam Guerin approached the VFW for help. Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922 the VFW became the first veterans' organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their "Buddy" Poppy program was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans. In 1948 the US Post Office honored Ms. Michael for her role in founding the National Poppy movement by issuing a red 3 cent postage stamp with her likeness on it.

source: [www.usmemorialday.org](http://www.usmemorialday.org)