



# SURPRISE Progress



# year in review 2013

## Inside:

**3** Fire Chief  
Retiring

**6** 2014  
Spring Training

**8** Revised City  
Council Districts



# SURPRISE ARIZONA

## City Council 623.222.1300

- Sharon Wolcott, Mayor
- Roland Winters, District 1
- Vacant, District 2
- John Williams, District 3
- Rachel Villanueva, District 4
- Skip Hall, District 5
- Todd Tande, District 6

## City Manager 623.222.1100

City Manager Chris Hillman

## Planning & Zoning Commission

623.222.3154

- Matthew Bieniek
- Jan Blair
- Ken Chapman
- John Hallin
- Jerry Hoyler
- Dennis W. Smith
- Steve Somers

TTY: 623.222.1002

## Arts & Cultural Advisory Commission

623.222.2205

## Tourism Advisory Commission

623.222.2000

## Community & Recreation Advisory Commission

623.222.2000

## Disability Advisory Commission

623.222.3531

## City Council meetings

Surprise City Hall, 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza  
Info: 623.222.1200. 6 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month, unless noted below

- **January** 14th and 28th  
Work Session 7th and 21st(4pm)
- **February** 11th and 25th  
Work Session 4th and 18th (4pm)
- **March** 11th and 25th  
Work Session 6th and 17th (4pm)

## Planning & Zoning Commission meetings

Surprise City Hall, 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza  
Info: 623.222.3154.

- 6 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month
- **January** 9th
- **February** 6th
- **March** 6th

# SURPRISE Progress

## Inside this issue...

4 Year in Review



10 False Alarm Ordinance

6 Spring Training 2014

14 Community Garden Expansion

8 Revised City Council Districts

15



City Events



Surprise Progress is published by the city of Surprise Communications Department and distributed to all city residents via mail. We hope you like our format and content. We'd like to hear from you about our magazine. Please call 623.222.1400 or email [ken.lynych@surpriseaz.gov](mailto:ken.lynych@surpriseaz.gov) with your comments and suggestions.

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Public Information Officer

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Graphic Designer

APEX Award of Excellence  
2007-2010

3CMA Silver Circle Award  
2003-2005, 2007

3CMA Award of Excellence  
2002, 2008



## Connect to your city... Your way!



**City Council, Planning and Zoning Commission and Disability Advisory Commission meetings are broadcast live on Surprise II**, available to Cox Cable subscribers in Surprise, Sun City and Sun City West. Council meetings are rebroadcast several times during the week following the meeting. Council meetings broadcast times are: 6 p.m. Tuesday, 8 a.m. Wednesday, 8 a.m. Friday, 3 p.m. Sunday. P&Z meetings broadcast times are 10:30 p.m. Monday, 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. Thursday, 3 p.m. Saturday. **NOW STREAMING LIVE ON THE WEB!**



# Chief White set to retire

## Fire chief retiring after decades of service; sees medical emphasis in future Fire Dept.

**S**urprise Fire Chief Michael White says rapidly improving technology and the need for the health care system to be more efficient point to a future where fire departments will be more involved in medical care than ever.

White announced in November that he will retire at the end of April 2014, after a career spanning 41 years, including more than a decade as Surprise Fire Chief.

He says the rise in medical services provided by firefighters will only increase. “The medical system will partner with us more and more to evaluate patients thoroughly at the scene, and consider the most appropriate options,” he said. “In the years ahead, technology will make it more and more feasible for doctors to evaluate data transmitted live from the scene. In some fire departments you are already seeing nurse practitioners going to medical calls with firefighters.”

White predicts this trend will continue and the fire service will continue to adapt. “We need to keep our people up to date and we need to be open to partnerships,” he says. “We will all work more closely together to be efficient and effective for the patient. It is going to be very exciting.”

“It has been a time of great change and rapid growth,” White says of his years at the helm in Surprise. “We have built and opened five fire stations since 2003 and developed an “all hazards” organization that can handle any emergency.”

White says Surprise also invested heavily in paramedics and developed a department culture that embraces the latest medical technologies quickly. “We’re in the right place and we have the right mindset to handle our changing role,” he

said. He points to achieving “Premier EMS Agency” status through the State of Arizona as additional evidence of the department’s capability.

White came to Surprise from a 31-year career with the Glendale Fire Department, where he rose to the rank of Division Chief. He arrived during a period of hyper growth, when Surprise was one of the nation’s fastest-growing communities.

“**We’re in the right place and we have the right mindset to handle our changing role.”**

**Michael White,  
Surprise Fire Chief**

“Technology, growth and the economy presented challenges for the fire service every day of Chief White’s career here,” said City Manager Chris Hillman. “He seized those challenges and made us better, while keeping a sense of compassion at the heart of what the department does.”

“He is everything you can ask for in a leader,” said Mayor Sharon Wolcott. “He’s a listener, he’s a respected innovator, he gets things done, he’s a great advocate for the Department, and a person who always thinks of others first. We will miss him very much.”

Recruitment for a new Fire Chief is underway. The City is aiming to have a new Chief named prior to White’s April 30 departure. 🌞

# year in review 2013



## City budget, finances, bond ratings improve

“The sun is rising in Surprise.” An aggressive plan to tackle the City’s financial uncertainties and institute better budget planning paid off in 2013.

- Special audits going back more than a decade cleared up uncertainties about past fiscal management.
- A tightly disciplined two-year budget plan produced a General Fund balance in the fiscal year ending in June, with another surplus forecast for the year ending in June 2014.
- The Council will be talking about addressing important needs put on hold during the lean years as budget talks heat up this spring. Watch for your chance to join the conversation!

## 2013 Milestone year for Surprise

It was a year we may look back on as a turning point in the city’s history. Since this time last year, Surprise voters approved a General Plan “road map” for our future, an inspired team effort set the city on firm financial footing, our biggest transportation challenges made visible progress, and we added even more new jobs. In every way, Surprise grew and changed for the better.

Here’s a quick review of 2013.



## Voters say YES to the General Plan

In another triumph of community engagement, more than 2,500 people helped form the General Plan that went to voters in November.

- With so many authentic voices having a say in its development, General Plan 2035 passed easily, with more than 73% of voters saying YES.
- The General Plan endorsed the Village concept for Surprise, encouraging intense development in identified centers which will be hubs of unique Surprise neighborhoods as our community grows.



## Bell and Grand

Almost 3,000 residents sounded off on options for Bell and Grand.

- The result: overwhelming support for the council’s endorsement of “Option A,” ADOT’s plan to build an adapted freeway-style interchange at the city’s busiest intersection.
- Option A calls for Bell to fly over Grand and the railroad tracks, with on/off ramps located in the center of the flyover.
- That means no stopping for through traffic on Grand, and easy on/off access for drivers on both roads.
- ADOT is scheduling a public hearing in Surprise this spring to hear more. Stay tuned!



## MORE new jobs

In November came the announcement that Cobalt Medical, a brain injury treatment facility, will bring 125 new high-quality jobs to the City.

- That means more than 1,000 new jobs have come to Surprise in the past two years, and more than 1,000,000 square feet of new developments has broken ground.
- Our incredible success in creating a job engine in Surprise was recognized with a regional “Best of the West” award in November.

## 303 runs through Surprise

303

For the first time, a full-service freeway extends through the city from border to border as ADOT completed the section south of Bell in September.

- Though the 303/Grand interchange is slated to come online in 2014, it is now possible to travel along a freeway-style roadway from the southern edge of the City at Peoria Avenue all the way to the I-17.
- Surprise is more connected than ever to the valley freeway system. The under construction interchange of the 303 and I-10 is also nearing completion, a critical final link to increasing our accessibility.

## City welcomes new elected, management officials

As new Council boundaries went into effect, voters sent Todd Tande and Roland Winters to City Hall in the primary election in August, Tande to represent District 6 and Winters District 1.

- Councilmember Skip Hall, who had served as the District 6 representative, easily won election to the District 5 seat under the new boundaries.
- Council is set to appoint a new District 2 Councilmember in January from the newly formed D2.
- The City Council appointed a former Phoenix City Court Judge Louis Dominguez as Presiding Judge to the Surprise City Court.
- City Manager Chris Hillman announced the hiring of new Chief Financial Officer and Assistant City Manager Bob Wingenroth in 2013. Wingenroth is formerly City Manager of Anaheim, California and previously served as the Phoenix Finance Director.
- City Manager Hillman welcomed new Public Works Director Dick McKinley in 2013. McKinley brings decades of Public Works management experience from the state of Washington.



## Where do we go from here? Here are three ways to find out!

- 1 Mayor Sharon Wolcott's State of the City address. Early in 2014, the mayor will set out a vision for where she and the City Council intend to take Surprise in the year ahead!
- 2 Join the conversation on Twitter and Facebook. A ramped up social media presence, including a more Twitter-ized city council, means social media is the place to find breaking information and conversation on what is happening in Surprise. 
- 3  Sign up for "Notify Me." Whenever the city has an important announcement, you will get it first with an official statement delivered directly to your email account at the same moment the news is broken to the press and the public. Just go to [www.surpriseaz.gov](http://www.surpriseaz.gov) and sign up!



## SECOND ANNUAL Surprise Fine Art and Wine Festival

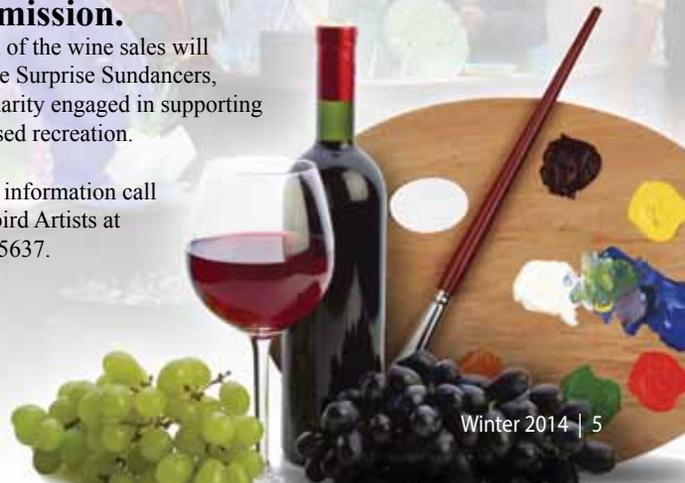
January 24 - 26, 2014  
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Surprise Recreation Campus

Enjoy fine art and selected fine crafts produced by **over 80 artists** working in mediums such as clay, glass, stone, wood, paper, copper, metal and bronze, and include fine jewelry.

### \$3 admission.

A portion of the wine sales will benefit the Surprise Sundancers, a local charity engaged in supporting youth-based recreation.

For more information call  
Thunderbird Artists at  
480-837-5637.





# Celebrating a dozen seasons of Spring Training in Surprise

The Rangers and Royals always make headlines in baseball circles, and 2014 will be no different as the Royals come off their best season in almost a quarter century and the Rangers bring popular slugger and recent roster addition Prince Fielder to town.

Perennial favorites such as the Dodgers, Cubs, Giants and White Sox are also set to play ball in Surprise Stadium. The first pitch in the traditional opening day game between the home teams is set for February 27!

With an enhanced scoreboard experience set to debut at the Stadium this year and additional night games, our annual baseball adventures will be more enjoyable than ever.

## High quality, affordable fun

There are a variety of high value ticket packages to choose from this season, ranging from just \$8 for lawn seating beyond the outfield to only \$28 near the team dugouts. As always, parking at the stadium is free. "I know the importance of good family entertainment value," says father of 3 and District 3 Councilmember John Williams. "Surprise Spring Training is a fun, affordable family adventure."

This year you can save even more and see more games with a package purchase. Choices include:

- Full Season
- Half Season
- 7-Packs and the 7-Pack Flex, where you pick any 7 games
- All tickets package include priority seat selection and VIP parking

See what works best for your family and budget at

[www.surprisespringtraining.com](http://www.surprisespringtraining.com), by calling 800.745.3000 or dropping by the Ticketmaster outlets at Fry's Marketplace and f.y.e.'s. You can also download the ticket request form at [surprisespringtraining.com](http://surprisespringtraining.com) and email or fax in your request.

The Surprise Stadium Box Office will be open for walk-up purchases starting January 4 at 7 a.m.

Matchups to watch for include the White Sox at the Rangers on March 2 and the Giants at the Royals March 7. The Dodgers are in town to play the Rangers the Dodgers are in town (March 8) and the Royals (March 11). The Cubs also visit twice; versus the Royals (March 15) and the Rangers (March 18). 🌞

There are five night games at Surprise Stadium this season:

- Giants @ Rangers March 13, 6:05 p.m.
- Rangers @ Royals March 17, 6:05 p.m.
- Cubs @ Rangers March 18, 7:05 p.m.
- Reds @ Royals March 19, 6:05 p.m.
- Mariners @ Royals March 25, 6:05 p.m.



## Double play! College ball is back in Surprise... twice in February!

The Surprise Recreation Campus is pleased to host the **PAC 12/ BIG 10 Challenge, February 21 – 24!** This year's lineup includes PAC 12 teams Oregon State, Washington and the University of Utah. BIG 10 teams from Nebraska, Michigan State and Indiana will also compete.

Arizona State will host the **2014 Surprise Classic College Baseball** event, February 27 – March 2. Visiting teams include the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Manhattan College, Gonzaga and Santa Clara University.

For the most up to date information on tickets and scheduling please visit [www.surprisespringtraining.com](http://www.surprisespringtraining.com) or call 623.222.2222. 🌟



Hello fellow baseball fans, I look forward to another exciting season of Spring Training here in Surprise! I hope to see you February 18 when I have the honor to host the 12th Annual Mayor's Welcome Back Lunch for the Rangers and Royals. This is a unique event that offers some behind the scenes time with staff of the Texas Rangers and Kansas City Royals. See you then!

*Shawn R. Wolcott*

**Mayor's Welcome Back Lunch**  
Tuesday, February 18, 11 a.m.  
Surprise Recreation Campus -  
Surprise Stadium

Individual Tickets: \$30  
Corporate Tables of 8: \$210

For more information call 623.222.2000

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**

Michael Chang

Jim Courier

Tracy Austin

Todd Martin

**TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

*Professional tennis returns to Arizona!*

# March 21-22, 2014

Surprise Recreation Campus -  
Surprise Tennis & Racquet Complex

For ticket information call 623.222.2222  
[www.surpriseaz.gov/tennis](http://www.surpriseaz.gov/tennis)

Pete Sampras

Anna Kournikova

# SHARON WOLCOTT - MAYOR



## DISTRICT 1



**Roland Winters**  
roland.winters@surpriseaz.gov  
623.222.1321  
Population: 19,707

## DISTRICT 5



**Skip Hall**  
skip.hall@surpriseaz.gov  
623.222.1325  
Population: 19,633

## DISTRICT 3

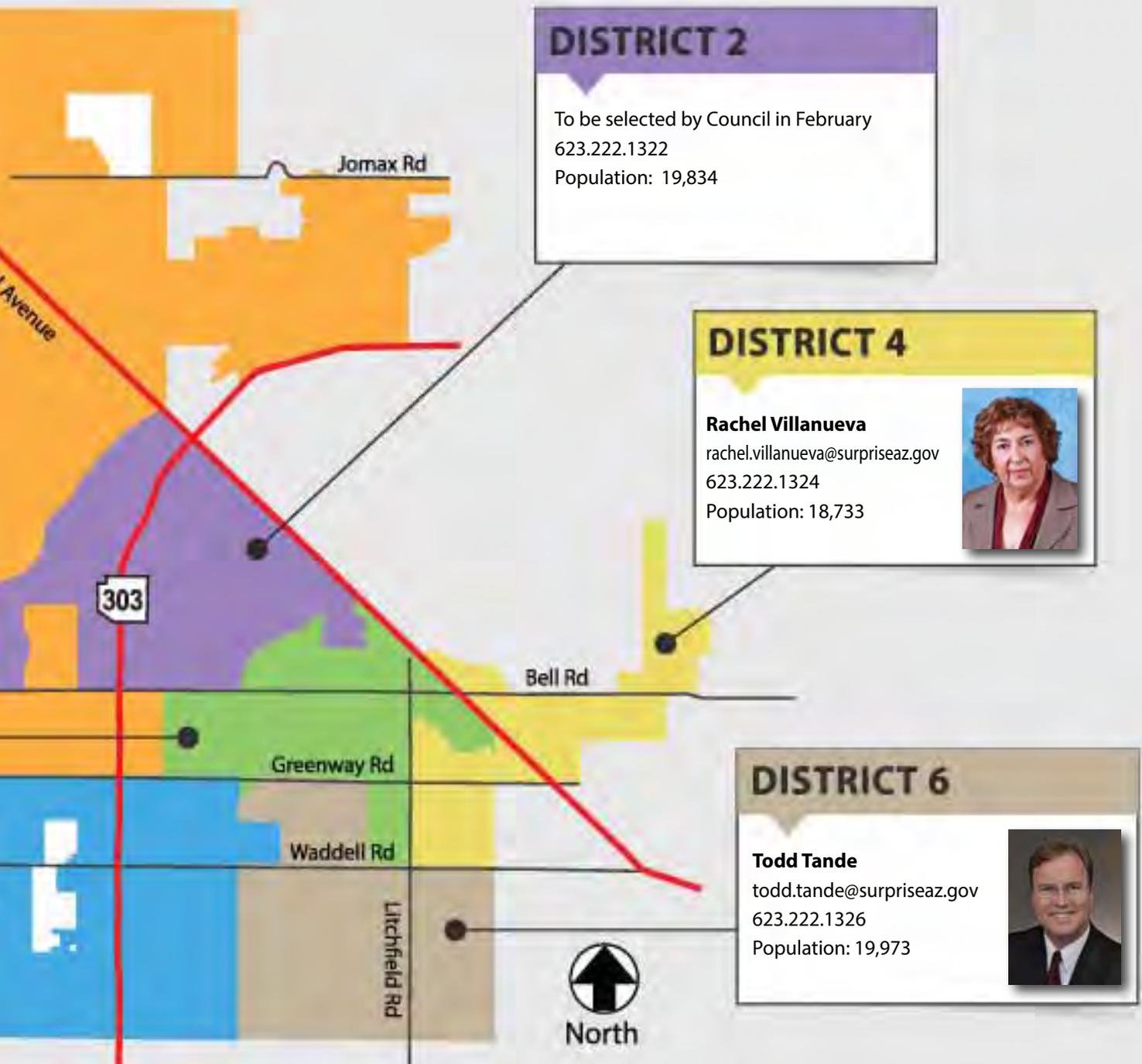


**John Williams**  
john.williams@surpriseaz.gov  
623.222.1323  
Population: 19,637

Population numbers: 2010 U.S. Census

# COUNCIL DISTRICT MAP

The revised City Council Districts proposed by the citizen-led Redistricting Committee and approved by the City Council and the US Department of Justice are in effect in January. Here is some basic information about each new district. For more precise boundaries, visit [www.surpriseaz.gov/redistricting](http://www.surpriseaz.gov/redistricting).



### DISTRICT 2

To be selected by Council in February  
623.222.1322  
Population: 19,834

### DISTRICT 4

**Rachel Villanueva**  
[rachel.villanueva@surpriseaz.gov](mailto:rachel.villanueva@surpriseaz.gov)  
623.222.1324  
Population: 18,733



### DISTRICT 6

**Todd Tande**  
[todd.tande@surpriseaz.gov](mailto:todd.tande@surpriseaz.gov)  
623.222.1326  
Population: 19,973



# Council to vote on False Alarm Ordinance in January

## Proposed ordinance will reduce demand on officers, keep Surprise safe

The Surprise City Council will vote in January on a proposed ordinance addressing the overwhelming number of false alarms that trigger police response, more than 4,000 per year. Police Chief Michael Frazier says of that number, an average of only four calls, or one in one thousand, are due to calls at which the officers find evidence of criminal activity.

“We are not only concerned that almost all of the calls are a major drain on our resources,” said Police Chief Michael Frazier. “We are also concerned about officer safety. It’s hard to keep your guard up when only one in a thousand calls is caused by a bad guy.”

The proposed ordinance, which was developed by Surprise Police in cooperation with residents during public input sessions and pursuant to City Council direction, would require alarm companies to have more comprehensive measures in place to verify criminal activity before contacting police, thus helping reduce the number of false alarm calls each year. “This is as simple as calling the alarm owner to verify criminal activity before calling us to respond,” said Chief Frazier. Verification



**ONLY ONE IN A THOUSAND CALLS ARE DUE TO CRIMINAL ACTIVITY**

can take the form of two alarm zones being activated and either the owner confirms it is not operator error or owner contact is unsuccessful, or could consist of audio or video surveillance, or a person on-site confirming possible criminal activity.

The proposed ordinance does allow for two unverified false alarm calls per residence during a 365-day period. After two unverified calls are made to the same location within a 365-day window, police will issue a written notice to the alarm owner and alarm company that if they fail to provide written or verified proof that one or both of the calls were in fact verified, within four weeks of receiving the notice, police will cease responding to alarm calls 20 days (four calendar weeks) after the postmarked date on the notice.

At a December Work Session, City Council indicated they did not want to implement monetary fines or fees for repeat offenders.

The false alarm ordinance would not apply to robbery, vehicular, and personal safety alarms, Frazier said. 🌞



# New Name, New Game: Fire adds “Medical” to its official handle

The Surprise Fire Department has a new name: the Surprise Fire and Medical Department.

“It’s time to officially recognize that our primary emergency medical responders are our firefighters,” says former Vice Mayor Jim Biundo. “They are always there, always ready.”

“It might seem relatively minor but it is very revealing of what’s happening in the fire service,” says Chief Michael White. “Approximately 80% of our calls are medical related. More and more of our training and new equipment is related to medical support.”

“Of course, we will always be firefighters,” he adds. “But in the next five years, I think the medical role of the fire service will increase in communities nationwide.”

As a possible example, Chief White says improvements in the quality and availability of live transmission of medical data from a scene means doctors and ER personnel could get involved in treatment before a patient is transported. “Fire Departments may be partnering with hospitals to have their medical personnel on calls, for example,” he says. “It certainly means the medical expertise among rank and file firefighters and paramedics will increase.”

White says in addition to enhancing patient care and survivability, such advances in on-scene medical service can help control health care costs. “It may be possible for a doctor to get enough quality information from the scene to make a better decision about treatment, such as advising that a patient be brought to the ER, taken to urgent care, or be treated on the scene and come to the doctors’ office for follow-up.”

Later this year, he says the Fire and Medical Department will unveil a new logo and over time, rebrand the City’s fire vehicles. 🌞



## Surprise brings home “economic engine” award

### Best of West award for Railplex recognizes potential, innovation

Adding new jobs and attracting new entertainment venues for residents were a winning combination as Surprise took the “Economic Engine” award in the annual “Best of the West” competition sponsored by Westmarc in November.

The City was recognized for the innovative Southwest Railplex development, located on two square miles west of Dysart Road between Cactus Road and Peoria Avenue.

Mostly vacant just a few years ago, the area is now home to resident-favorites Digiplex Theatre and the 60,000 square foot family entertainment center known as Uptown Alley. In addition, new businesses attracted by the City’s assertive recruitment efforts have generated more than 1,000 new jobs in the industrial space behind those bus facilities.

“Surprise partnered with Westmarc and other West Valley cities to achieve a foreign trade zone designation for the area, a huge first step in attracting top manufacturers,” explains Mayor Sharon Wolcott, who accepted the award on behalf of the city.

Shovel-ready sites with rail access and a municipal government dedicated to bringing jobs to Surprise also play a big part, Wolcott said. “Available land and access to transportation are critical, but so is a friendly city government and the availability of a ready work force in Surprise,” she added.

New business investment has produced more than one-million square feet of industrial space, according to Surprise Economic Development Department planners. Last year alone, 15% of the total new industrial development in Greater Phoenix occurred at the Southwest Railplex, “an amazing percentage,” Wolcott said. “Typically one site may be just a few percent of the Valley total, so 15% is a great accomplishment,” she added.

And we’re not done! Planners say there is much more available and good rail access at the site, and more conversations with prospective businesses are always underway. 🌞



## Planning for Surprise’s future

Mayor Sharon Wolcott and the Surprise City Council gathered for an informal retreat at the Surprise Community Saturday, November 9, to talk about long range council goals on issues such as land use and planning. Incoming Councilmembers Roland Winters of District 1 and Todd Tande of District 6, who were sworn into office January 1, 2014, joined the conversation.

The council took no formal action, but used the time to hear each other’s perspectives on long-term issues and get background information from City staff. 🌞

Mayor Wolcott and former Vice Mayor Jim Biundo share a light moment.



Leo Mankiewicz checks data on his tablet as District 4 Councilmember Rachel Villanueva, District 1 Councilmember Roland Winters and District 6 Councilmember Todd Tande listen to a speaker. City staff are in the background.

# Transportation Update



## The Results Are In Surprise votes yes on bridge for Bell and Grand

### We asked. You answered!

Nearly 3,000 Surprise residents got involved in a survey conducted online and in *Progress* magazine during October on ADOT options for improving the intersection of Bell and Grand.

The majority of Surprise residents voted overwhelmingly in favor of "Option A," the modified freeway-style interchange that was also endorsed by the Surprise City Council in September. More than 2,300 residents voted in favor of the bridge plan, while only 108 favored Option B's reconfiguration of existing streets, or opted for no-build, which would leave the city unable to respond to the challenges of steadily increasing traffic on the city's busiest thoroughfare.

The survey provided both an online and print response component, and received nearly 3,000 votes in one month's time. The enthusiastic response means Surprise is ready to share with ADOT the significant level of community support for Option A when ADOT hosts a public hearing in Surprise this spring. "Option A is considerate of the needs of the crucial business interests at the intersection while being responsive to the needs of our growing city," said District 5 Councilmember Skip Hall.

For more information about the Bell/Grand improvement project, and for the latest information in the months to come, visit [surpriseaz.gov/bellandgrand](http://surpriseaz.gov/bellandgrand). ●



## Attention residents and flying mammals: El Mirage/Bell improvements wrap up this spring

**A** project delayed by bats is well underway and soon to enhance the driving experience in Surprise.

The Maricopa County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) began widening El Mirage Road, from Picerne Drive to Bell Road, in November and it is on track for completion this March.

The project was originally slated to start summer 2013 but was delayed to accommodate a migrating bat colony roosting in a culvert under the Bell Road and El Mirage Road intersection.

The project includes new traffic signals, street lighting, curb/gutter and sidewalks, raised medians, three through travel

lanes and dual left-turn lanes in all four directions, right-turn-only lanes for west, south and eastbound travel and a "free-flow" right-turn lane on westbound Bell Road for northbound travel onto El Mirage Road.

The project also includes the widening of El Mirage Road between Bola Drive and Bell Road and drainage improvements on El Mirage Road from the Lizard Acres Wash crossing northward to just south of Bell Road.

No word on how migrating bats feel about the upgrades.

MCDOT 24-hour Construction Hotline: 480.350.9288. 🌞



# Going My Way?

**Surprise Express Offers Weekday Bus Service to Central Phoenix**

Heading to work? Tired of the commute? We've got you covered!

Express bus Route 571 departs four times each morning from the Surprise Park and Ride at Grand and Bell, and offers four after-work return trips, Monday through Friday. That's enough flexibility to find an option that works for almost everyone.

In a recent Council presentation, city staff said the route continues to be a popular choice for Surprise residents.

For more info, visit [routes.valleymetro.org](http://routes.valleymetro.org), and search for Route 571 Surprise Express.



## New digs for Fire Station 304

The temporary Fire Station 304 is moving up the road to more permanent facilities at 163rd Avenue and Happy Valley Road.

The station currently consists of a trailer and tarp-draped apparatus bay on leased property at 163rd Avenue and Jomax. The lease with the landowner is due to expire in March.

The city purchased three acres one mile to the north of the current station and is putting up an updated and sturdier temporary structure for the equipment and a modular temporary fire station to house a crew of four. The new location will be up and running by April.

"We are committed to serving our residents and our crews in that area put up with difficult conditions for many years to make that happen," says Fire Chief Mike White. "The improved structures will better handle summer storms and other weather events, and our crews will be housed in better facilities that include modern cooling and heating systems."

The site is set for construction of a permanent four-bay fire station once growth increases service demand in the area.

The \$300,000 relocation cost is programmed from the FY2014 General Capital Fund Budget.



### Recently Opened Businesses in Surprise! (September–November 2013)

NOTE: The following addresses are from business permit licenses, listing Surprise mailing addresses, and do not necessarily indicate the businesses store-front address.

- Trendy Shears**, 15142 W. Bell Rd • **8 Pretty Nails & Spa By TN**, 17031 W. Bell Rd #108 • **Genesis Salons**, 13065 NW Grand Ave • **Shear Joy Hair Studio**, 15142 W. Bell Rd #120 • **Rich's Painting Services**, 17342 W. Lundberg St • **Ideal Exercise**, 15270 W. Brookside Ln #121 • **Crypticode Inc**, 14268 W. Poinsettia Dr • **Mobwee LLC**, 17624 W. Tasha Dr • **Elderly Care Placement**, 14520 W. Shaw Butte Dr • **Concrete Treat**, 14939 W. Redfield Rd • **Safesteps**, 16930 W. Saguario Ln • **Full Circle Artistry and Home Décor**, 17320 W. Woodrow Ln • **Sunlight Insurance Group**, 14979 W. Bloomfield Rd • **Bullseye Residential Services**, 14562 W. Mandalay Ln • **Egunbags.com**, 13561 W. Ironwood St • **Sole Sisters Running**, 15733 W. Yucatan Dr • **Pampered Home AZ**, 14939 N. 174 Ave • **Aqua Werx Pure Water**, 15898 N. 172 Ln • **Venge Technologies**, 15883 W. Rancho Vista Way • **Wrap and Dazzle**, 15612 N. 172 Dr • **Budget Blinds of Surprise**, 17776 W. Tasha Dr • **Hotocracy**, 16056 N. 182 Ln • **GJ's Landscaping & Home Services**, 12620 W. Rimrock St • **AZ Shuttle LLC**, 18357 W. Weatherby Dr • **Luck of the Irish Pest Weed-IPW**, 13080 N. 147 Dr • **JoAnna Writes**, 17964 W. Lisbon Ln • **Surprise Vapors**, 16553 W. Central St • **Weighted Blankets Plus**, 11142 N. 165 Dr #321 • **KF Fabrics**, 11142 N. 165 Dr #321 • **Premier Irrigation**, 14211 W. Windrose Dr • **New Age Products**, 18481 W. Young St • **All the Rage Dezigns**, 15131 N. 181 Dr • **Our Unique Boutique**, 17826 W. Pershing St • **Chiquita Cleaning Service**, 16629 N. Greasewood St #118 • **The Lodge at Sun Ridge**, 12221 W. Bell Rd #100 • **Suds Laundromat**, 12751 W. Bell Rd #1 • **Palm and Psychic Readings**, 11340 W. Bell Rd • **St. Vincent De Paul Thrift Store**, 12851 W. Bell Rd #6-7 • **Gotta Run**, 15733 W. Yucatan Dr • **Arrowhead Coin & Jewelry**, 13732 W. Bell Rd #8 • **O'Keefe Real Estate**, 12221 W. Bell Rd #200 • **2 Knuckle Sports** 16630 W. Greenway Rd #307 • **We Come to You Auto**, 15339 W. Balancing Rock Rd • **Grubs-N-Scrubs**, 12133 W. Bell Rd #102 • **Billops Kady**, 17200 W. Bell Rd #1357 • **Sweet Deelites by Niki**, 15815 W. Caribbean Ln. • **A Taste of Tanzania**, 13740 W. Banff Ln. • **Charis & Company**, 14676 W. Banff Ln • **Milan Beauty Supply**, 16551 N. Dysart Rd #119 • **Explore the Outdoors**, 12610 N. 148 Ct • **Bell Mar Plaza Promoter**, 11340 W. Bell Rd #114 • **TTM Travel/Sand and Flip Flop Getaways**, 11340 W. Bell Rd #128

#### Restaurant/Bar

- Jersey Mike's Subs**, 14071 W. Bell Rd. #104  
**West End Bar and Grill**, 14051 W. Grand Ave.

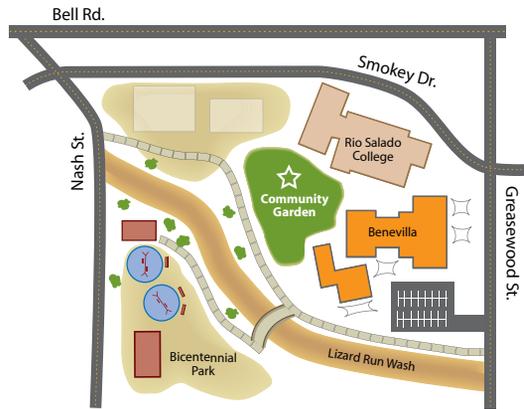
#### Office/Medical/Dental

- Bestcare Internal Medicine PLLC**,  
 13945 W. Grand Ave. #105  
**Sheitelman Chiropractic**,  
 13757 W. Bell Rd #101

#### Assisted Living

- Surprise Assisted Living**, 14439 W. Banff Ln  
**Advantage Adult Healthcare**, 12415 N. 149 Dr  
**Marybela's Loyal Care**, 17575 W. Evans Dr  
**AA Love Care Home**,  
 13401 W. Saguario Ln  
**Royal Caribbean Assisted Living Home**, 15844 W. Caribbean Ln

## Where is the Community Garden?



# Growing more than produce...

## Community Garden expanding; connecting generations



**H**ow does the garden grow? A little faster than you might think! After just a year, the popular Community Garden at Benevilla is expanding, giving more people a place to plant and grow their own produce in raised 4x8 beds.

Thanks in part to a Council-approved grant to support the Community for All Ages partnership with Benevilla, the one-year old Community Garden is growing, adding 20 beds to the original 14.

About 30 gardeners are growing potatoes, pumpkins, radishes, carrots and more along with beautiful seasonal flowers.

The new 4X8 raised garden beds will be able to grow enough fresh produce to feed a family of four.

“The Community Garden defines a Community for All Ages,” says District 4 Councilmember Rachel Villanueva. “Families with young children are here, as is a 90-year-old gardener. All are enjoying this gathering place, growing and sharing healthy food.”

While some gardeners keep the produce they grow, others share it with those in need.

“The garden is educational, too,” added Villanueva. “Young gardeners learning how to grow fresh produce is a really satisfying experience. They also come to realize how important it is to eat healthy.”

Gardeners relaxing at the tables and chairs in the garden enjoy a unique locally designed mosaic. Created by the local art group WHAM, everyone enjoys studying the mural to look for the many lizards hidden in the design (think you will find all 41?)

### Volunteer anyone?

Volunteers help build the planting beds and assist with general garden upkeep. A local Eagle Scout even volunteered his time to build vine stakes to enhance the look of the garden.

There is a nominal fee to lease a garden space, to cover the cost of water and garden upkeep. People can also donate a garden space to someone in need. To learn more, contact Benevilla at 623.584.4999. 🌈

“Young gardeners learning how to grow fresh produce is a really satisfying experience. They also come to realize how important it is to eat healthy.”

*Rachel Villanueva,  
District 4 Councilmember*

## Follow the leaders

### Get connected to breaking news and important info from your Mayor, Council and your city

Want instant access to important news, announcements, and insight into how things are getting done in Surprise? Some of our elected officials are energizing their social media sites to make that happen. From spring training tix to their take on important regional issues, follow the leaders and connect with everything you need to know. And while you are at it, be sure to follow the @AzSurprise for the latest news and developments from City Hall.

Mayor Sharon Wolcott

 @MayorWolcott

Councilman John Williams, Dist. 3

 @SurpriseD3

City of Surprise

 @AzSurprise

 facebook.com/  
CityofSurprise



# City Events

**JAN 4 Surprise Spring Training tickets** go on sale at Box Office. 7 a.m. 623.222.2000

**JAN 12 Second Sundays in the Park-** "Steppin into Tomorrow" performs live Contemporary Jazz and R&B, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m., Community Park, Free event. 623.222.2000, [www.surpriseaz.gov/specialevents](http://www.surpriseaz.gov/specialevents)

**JAN 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day,** *City Hall offices closed.* Holiday sanitation schedule in effect.

**JAN 23 Healthy Living Workshop,** Surprise Senior Center, 15832 N. Hollyhock St. 6-part free workshop meets Thursdays at 1 p.m. through Feb. 27. Free. 623.222.1500

**JAN 24-26 Surprise Fine Art & Wine Festival,** Surprise Recreation Campus. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. daily. Ticketed event. Call Thunderbird Artists at 480.837.5637 for more information

**FEB 9 Second Sundays in the Park-** "Over the Hill Gang" performs live Classic Rock, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m., Community Park, Free. 623.222.2000, [www.surpriseaz.gov/specialevents](http://www.surpriseaz.gov/specialevents)

**FEB 17 President's Day,** *City Hall offices closed.* Holiday sanitation schedule in effect.

**FEB 18 Mayor's Welcome Back Lunch-** Spring Training 2014. Surprise Stadium. 11 a.m. Register at 623.222.2000.

**FEB 21-24 PAC 12/BIG 10 Baseball Challenge,** Surprise Recreation Campus: Oregon St.; Nebraska; Indiana; Washington; Utah & Michigan St. Ticket info 623.222.2222 or [www.surprisespringtraining.com](http://www.surprisespringtraining.com)

**FEB 27 Spring Training Opening Day-** Texas Rangers @ Kansas City Royals, Surprise Sundancer's Charity Game at Surprise Stadium. 623.222.2222 or [www.surprisespringtraining.com](http://www.surprisespringtraining.com)

**FEB 27-MAR 2 Surprise Classic College Baseball-** ASU; Ok. State; Oklahoma; Manhattan, Santa Clara & Gonzaga. Surprise Recreation campus. Ticket info 623.222.2222 or [www.surprisespringtraining.com](http://www.surprisespringtraining.com)

**MAR 9 Second Sundays in the Park-** "Totters Wake" perform live Irish music, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m., Community Park, 15953 N. Bullard Avenue. Free event. 623.222.2000, [www.surpriseaz.gov/specialevents](http://www.surpriseaz.gov/specialevents)

**MAR 21 – 22 Surprise Tennis Championships,** Surprise Tennis and Racquet Complex. Get your tickets and catch Pete Sampras, Anna Kournakova, Jim Courier, and other tennis legends! 623.222.2222, [www.surpriseaz.gov/tennis](http://www.surpriseaz.gov/tennis).

**\*\*For up to the minute calendar of events visit [www.surpriseaz.gov](http://www.surpriseaz.gov).**



## Arts and Culture coming to Civic Center



City Hall is getting a new feature guaranteed to bring energy and excitement to the city's cultural life.

The West Valley Arts Council (WVAC) is ready to rejuvenate vacant space directly north of City Hall after getting the OK from the Surprise City Council in December. WVAC plans to show art from around the Valley and even host outdoor art-based weekend and evening events.

"Support for the arts is growing in Surprise," said former Vice Mayor Jim Biundo at a December meeting. "We have a talented group of artists in the West Valley, and I'm looking forward to what the West Valley Arts Council can do with this space."

The WVAC will program the space that previously housed the Heard Museum West, which closed three years ago. WVAC will maintain its presence at its current Marley Park offices.

WVAC Executive Director Bernadette Mills says the 2,500 square foot space can be used for regularly rotating exhibits, including traveling exhibits and juried exhibits. "We will definitely make sure people have a reason to come back regularly." Mills told the Council. "It's also a great chance to feature our local artists and incorporate the many art originations that exist in Surprise."

"It's such a beautiful campus and we want to use the outdoor space, too," she said. "We can arrange "First Friday" or "Third Thursday" events to showcase art in the open air, or host an Open Mic night for musical artists, or dance demos. The possibilities are incredible."

She mentioned Poetry Slams and book readings, artist demonstrations and holiday themed- art events as other possibilities.

The empty space is owned by the City and the City will refurbish the space as a gallery-like setting. City Manager Chris Hillmans says contingency funds already in the current budget will be used to pay the roughly \$74,000 cost. 🌟

## POSTAL PATRON



# 2 cans, 1 day Surprise to switch to same day pick up for trash/recycle

The City's award-winning sanitation service is about to get even better! Beginning May 5, the city will start "same-day service" for trash and recycling, meaning you can roll out your black and blue barrels on the same day each week.

"It's one less thing for busy people to think about," says District 5 Councilmember Skip Hall. "It's a customer service improvement we think people will really like. Instead of having to roll out your trash can on one day and your recycling on another day, you put them both out on your single collection day."

The Sanitation Services Division of Public Works is working on the schedule, so be on the lookout in the coming months for details on what your pick-up day will be. The City is committed to a comprehensive communications plan to be sure you know which day of the week will serve as your "same-day service" day.

Some areas of the city that have a private company collecting their trash and will NOT be affected by this change. Those unaffected areas include Arizona Traditions, Happy Trails and Sun City Grand.

For more information call 623.222.6000. 

## Christmas tree drop-off locations open through January 12

No decorations and  
place trees in  
designated  
areas only.  
Limit 2 trees per  
household.



### LOCATIONS

**Surprise Recreation Complex/  
Youth Baseball Complex**  
15795 N. Parkview  
Across from Valley Vista High School

**Surprise Farms Softball Park**  
17894 Westpark Blvd.  
NE parking lot on the corner of N. Willow  
Canyon Dr. and W. Surprise Farms Loop South

**Gaines Park**  
15837 N. Nash St.  
North End of Parking Lot

**Asante Community Park**  
16763 W. Vereda Solana Dr.  
Parking lot at the north end of the park

