

# SURPRISE Progress



Surprise  
embracing  
**high tech**

**INSIDE:**

**Mayor, Council begin  
TV shows, blogs**

**Public art project beautifies  
library, builds friendships**

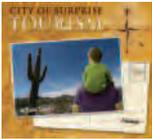
**Surprise traffic alerts  
sent to your cellphone**

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## SURPRISE Progress

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.lynch@surpriseaz.com](mailto:ken.lynch@surpriseaz.com) with your comments and suggestions.

**Ken Lynch**  
Communications Director

**Diane Arthur**  
Public Information Officer

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Graphic Designer

### SURPRISE PROGRESS AWARDS

APEX Award of Excellence 2007	3CMA Silver Circle Award 2003-2005, 2007	3CMA Award of Excellence 2002
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## SURPRISE ARIZONA

**City Council 623.222.1300**

Lyn Truitt, Mayor

John Longabaugh, District 1

Richard Alton, District 2

John Williams, District 3

Roy Villanueva, District 4

Joe Johnson, District 5

Skip Hall, District 6

**Interim City Manager 623.222.1100**

Prisila Ferreira

**Planning & Zoning Commission 623.222.3133**

Matthew Bieniek

John Hallin

Jan Blair

Robert Rein

Ken Chapman

Steve Somers

Fred Watts

**TTY: 623.222.1002/VP: 623.222.3802**

**Arts & Cultural Advisory Board**

623.222.1300

**Revitalization Advisory Board**

623.222.1551

**Economic Development**

**Advisory Board**

623.222.3300

**Transportation Committee**

623.222.3290

**Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**

623.222.2000

**Disability Advisory Commission**

623.222.3821

TTY: 623.222.3802

### City Council meetings

**Surprise City Hall, 12425 W. Bell Road** Info: 623.222.1200

6 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of the month

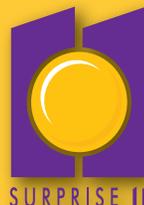
- April 10th and 24th
- May 8th and 22nd
- June 12th and 26th

### Planning & Zoning Commission meetings

**Surprise City Hall, 12425 W. Bell Road** Info: 623.222.3133

6 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of the month

- April 1st and 15th
- May 6th and 20th
- June 3rd and 17th



**City Council and Planning and Zoning Commission meetings are broadcast live on Surprise 11**, 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. Broadcast times are: 8 a.m. Friday, Noon Saturday, 7 p.m. Sunday, 7 p.m. Monday and 2 a.m. Wednesday.



# Surprise embracing high tech

**F**inding ways to get you the information you need is a challenge we constantly evaluate at the city of Surprise. This year, we are embracing technology in an aggressive move to offer you 24/7 access to quality information about your city and community life.

Inside, check out how we are livening up the web by bringing City Council and Planning/Zoning Commission meetings to our site as they happen, or where you can sign up for 24/7 traffic alerts via text message.

Learn how all of Surprise 11's expanded programs will be available live on the net and via a searchable video database, and you will discover how to check out the blogs from your Mayor and council members.

You can now use the net to offer your opinion on the future of the city's General Plan, get current information about transportation, find out what is happening with "Green Surprise" and update yourself on the information about disability programs on new web sites.

It is a new high-tech day in Surprise! Learn all about it in this edition of Progress.



# Mayor and Council Communication Upgrades

Surprise Mayor Lyn Truitt and several city council members are embracing new ways to communicate with residents: internet blog sites and cable TV programs.

Mayor Truitt began “The Mayor’s Notebook” on his city Web site almost immediately after taking office in January. “Residents have said openness is a quality they want from their mayor,” Truitt says. “The blog is a running commentary on what I am working on, who I am meeting with and generally how things are going. My commitment to use technology to advance our community communication also led me to this idea.”

District 1 council member John Longabaugh, District 2 council member Richard Alton and District 3 council member John Williams have also embraced the blog idea.

Residents are also getting updates directly from council members through Surprise 11, the city cable channel available on Cox and Qwest cable. Long known as the broadcast outlet for city council meetings, Surprise 11 is now producing “Council Conversations” twice per month. In January and February, District 5 city council member Joe Johnson and District 3 council member John Williams joined members Alton and Longabaugh in hosting their own Channel 11 programs.



“In my show we showcased all the activity at Surprise Center and talked about the importance of our Public Works and Economic Development Departments,” Johnson says.

“My program concentrated on one of our great District 3 neighborhoods, Marley Park,” Williams says. “It is a model of what a great neighborhood should be.”

“I highlighted Sun City Grand in my first show,” says Richard Alton. “We visited with key Sun City Grand officials and showed off a few of the great sites there.”

To visit the mayor and council blogs, visit [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com) and click on the “Mayor and Council” icon. The Surprise 11 schedule is available at “Communications” under the “City Department” icon.

**More on the web!**   
[www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com)

# Surprise II Expands Programming



**B**est selling authors, a tennis star and a baseball Hall of Famer are just a few people enlivening Surprise 11 as the award winning cable TV channel beefs up its Surprise-oriented programming.

“We strive to give the station a personality and deliver more community events.” Says Assistant City Manager Kathy Rice. “Now we are doing that, and it really shows!”

Surprise 11 is wrapping up its 4-edition coverage of “Literary Feasts,” a West Valley Art Museum program featuring well-known authors talking about their work over lunch and dinner. “It is a great way to share these interesting talks with residents who might not have been able to make it to the event,” says Surprise PIO Diane Arthur, who is also producing programs featuring presentations at the Heard Museum West at Surprise Center.

“We continue to look for innovative ways to bring newsmakers to our residents,” says Kathy Rice. Recently, Surprise 11 aired the news conference with tennis great Jim Courier regarding the USTA Outback Classic coming to Surprise in November with the multi-year sponsorship of the Cancer Treatment Centers of America. The channel also broadcast the annual Mayor’s Welcome luncheon to greet the Rangers and the Royals as they returned to their spring training home. That event featured Hall of Fame great Ferguson Jenkins.

“We are looking at other innovative ideas, too, such as high school graduations or other community-based events where we can work with other government agencies such as Dysart Schools,” Rice says.

“**We strive to give the station a personality and deliver more community events,”**

**Kathy Rice,  
Assistant City Manager**



**SURPRISE II**



# Find it fast!

New Web sites liven up  
surpriseaz.com



Right: Surprise Environmental Manager Christine Nuñez shows a sample of the synthetic turf that was installed at City Hall.  
Below: Surprise Water Services Department's mascot Aquabella practices her short game on the synthetic turf.

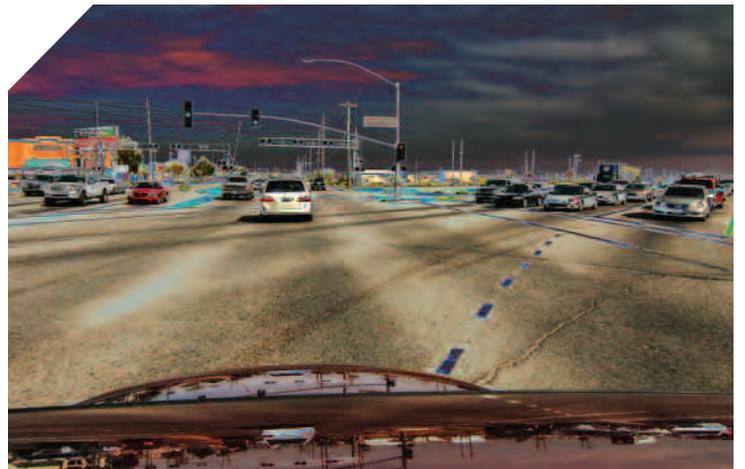


The city's popular Web site just got better looking and easier to use. "No matter what the topic or format, people expect to find it on the web," says Communications Director Ken Lynch. "We are working on it all the time."

Surprise residents say **Transportation** is a top issue, so [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com) now has a site tying together all city transportation information. Road closures, Bell Road construction updates, street maintenance schedules, even long-range transportation studies and useful links to other transportation sites are included.

"We use the web to bring information together so people can find it easily," says Lynch. "We aim to make it useful and simple to navigate."

High quality design makes a difference, too. "The links open right there on the page, so you don't get launched into the internet wilderness whenever



you click on a link,” Lynch says. “And our first rate graphics design team has created an interesting and pleasing site.”

Building a sustainable Surprise is featured on the new **Green Surprise** web page, with information on a synthetic turf demonstration at City Hall, which is saving millions of gallons of water. You can also find tips on reducing particulate pollution in our air, and how Surprise is collaborating with Maricopa County and other Valley cities to reduce this unhealthy situation.

The new **Tourism** site is creating excitement. “We have always known how much we have to offer and now we have it packaged on one site,” says Economic Development Director John Hagen. Visitors get information about White Tanks Regional Park, Spring Training, the Surprise Racquet and Tennis Center and much more.

The city also streamlined the web experience for people with disabilities on the new **Disability Information** web page. Special emergency preparation tips for the disabled community are featured, as is a “Useful Links” page, the Disability Advisory Commission’s 5-year Strategic Plan, and a link to a calendar hosted by the statewide Independent Living Council.

“You will find events happening all over the Valley for people with disabilities,” says Surprise Disability Advocate Nannette Bowles. “If you have an upcoming or ongoing event for people with disabilities, just let us know.”

“**We use the web to bring information together so people can find it easily.**”

**Ken Lynch,**  
**Communications Director**

**More on the web!**   
[www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com)



## Check out these new editions to surpriseaz.com



### Transportation

Check out the icon at the bottom of the page. Links to road closures, construction updates, even off-site links



### Engineering

Under “City Departments” this new site offers a clean look and easy access to the complex work this department does



### Tourism

Beautiful graphic design highlights this site promoting the beauty and wonder of Surprise



### Green Surprise

Links to the great work the city is doing in the environmental field: discover the good news about artificial turf, water conservation, hybrid vehicles, reduced air pollution and much more!



### Disability Information

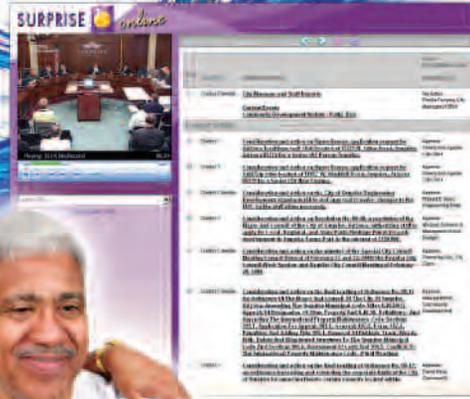
Easy to find information on transportation, adaptive sports, accommodations, emergency preparedness and more. Type “Disability” in the search engine on the home page, [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com).

# Channel 11 and City Council meetings available to all residents

Beginning in late April, the city of Surprise will utilize Granicus, a web-based product allowing residents to view public meetings, Surprise Channel 11 and other video programming over the internet, either live or on demand.

“Granicus means anyone with internet access can see our city council live,” says Assistant City Manager Kathy Rice. “Besides this important development, there is even more Granicus will do.”

City council meeting videos and associated agendas will be stored on the web and can be retrieved by web visitors. When users click on any agenda item, they will be brought immediately to that point in the meeting video. “No need to try to guess where in the



meeting the council or the Planning and Zoning Commission heard the item you are interested in,” Rice says.

Another fascinating feature is the ability to search for words or phrases uttered during the meeting. “Granicus will take you to each place in the meeting the phrase was spoken, then automatically back up seven seconds so you can hear the phrase in context,” Rice says.

Granicus will also allow live streaming of Surprise 11, the city of Surprise cable TV channel. “We are expanding our programming on Surprise 11,” Rice says (see separate story). “Now, we can make it available to anyone with an internet connection.” Currently, Surprise 11 is available to cable subscribers in Surprise, about half the population.

The easy-to-navigate site can be found at [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com). Click on “Council Meetings.”

## Let's do business Online system improves process for doing business with the city

SurprisePro, a web-based system dedicated to public sector eProcurement, is now up and running in Surprise at <https://vendors.surpriseaz.com>.

SurprisePro automates, streamlines and reduces the complexity of the procurement process for vendors wishing to do business with the city.

### ▶ The system will enable vendors to:

- Free online registration
- Make changes and updates to registration information
- Register demographics and commodity class/sub-class information
- Download solicitations
- Receive solicitation addendums via email and much more!



Only registered vendors will receive notices of bid solicitations and any associated addendums. However, vendor bid packets are still required to be turned into the Surprise Purchasing Office in person or via mail before the solicitation bid opening date and time.

For more information please contact the Purchasing Department at 623.222.3700 or email your questions to [purchasing@surpriseaz.com](mailto:purchasing@surpriseaz.com).

# the city of Surprise

# Welcomes



## Skip Hall

City Council  
District 6

**Skip Hall** was elected to represent Surprise District 6 in a March 11 recall election.

A resident of Surprise since 2003, Skip served on the Surprise Planning and Zoning Commission for three years and currently serves on the Sun Village Board of Directors as Treasurer.

Skip's goals for the city include additional east-west road crossings over the Aqua Fria River and attracting new businesses.

He grew up in Idaho and received a business degree from Seattle University. Skip is a Vietnam War Veteran and was awarded the Bronze Star for his outstanding service 1969-1970.

Skip worked in the restaurant and lodging business for decades, opening restaurants in several states and earning a certification in Hotel Administration. He also taught community college courses in this field. He has worked with Junior Achievement, Veterans of Foreign Wars and is working with the U.S. Department of Education on testing programs for Arizona students.

Skip and his wife Dale have been married for more than 36 years and have two daughters, a son and five grandchildren.

The Palo Verde District includes Coyote Lakes, Canyon Ridge West, Rose

Garden, Sunflower Resort, Sun Village, Fox Hill Run, and the eastern portion of the city's Original Townsite.

**Prisila Ferreira** is the city of Surprise Interim City Manager.

Ferreira has more than 20 years of senior-level government management experience, including service as Town Manager of Superior, Arizona and



## Prisila Ferreira

Interim City Manager

Assistant City Manager/Interim City Manager of Oxnard, California. She served as Deputy City Manager of Peoria, Arizona from 1998 to 2006. She was Avondale's Budget Director from 1987 to 1993.

Ferreira holds a B.S. in Speech Pathology/Audiology from Northern Arizona University and a Master's in Public Administration from Arizona State University.

The city council approved a six-month contract for Ferreira in February, after authorizing the executive search firm CPS of Sacramento, California to conduct recruitment for a long term City Manager.

**Jim Bowers** is the city of Surprise Human Resources Director.

Bowers, the Assistant City Manager and Human Resources

director for Huber Heights, Ohio, has over 15 years of human resources management experience.



## Jim Bowers

Human Resources Director

His resume includes serving as the Human Resources Director for Mansfield, Ohio and as a senior consultant and associate attorney for two law firms in Ohio.

"Jim is a great addition to the city of Surprise,"

says Assistant City Manager Doug Sandstrom. "His HR and legal background will serve him well as he continues to develop our employee benefits, compensation and performance management."

Bowers holds a Juris Doctorate from Ohio Northern University's Pettit College of Law and a B.S. in Pre-Law/Political Science from Ohio Northern University.



## City Memo

The Surprise Street Sweeping Schedule times have changed to the spring and summer hours- 6 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

On cleaning days, please do not park on the street and make sure your trash and recycle cans are off the street as well.

For the complete schedule of when your neighborhood streets will be cleaned visit the Street Maintenance section of the Public Works page at [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com) or call 623.222.6229.



These artists are just a few of the many that volunteered their time to help Niki Glen create the beautiful library mural for our city.

Front (l-r): Nan Adams, Ginny Schierscher, Danica Stephens, Niki Glen, Phyllis Bogucki.  
 Back (l-r): Marilyn Romaine, Will Sheppard, Roger Merritt, Jane Sugrue.

# library mural

## Public art project beautifies library, builds friendships

The western wall of the library on Bullard Avenue has been transformed into a masterpiece of public art thanks to the hard work of Valley artist Niki Glen and about 100 local volunteers and fellow artisans.

The Surprise City Council commissioned Glen to design a mural for the outside of the library and today, “Reflections of Surprise” is on display for all to enjoy.

“This was a true community project from start to finish,” says Glen. “The result is a beautiful piece of art for generations to enjoy.”

“The mural reflects the history and community of Surprise,” says Surprise resident and volunteer Nan Adams. “We shared our ideas with Niki and she incorporated them into a magnificent design.”

The 78-foot long, 12-foot high mural is composed of ceramic and glass tiles, metal sculptures and a vibrant painted sunset. The mosaic features a detailed Native American basket to honor the area’s tribal past, and because Surprise was once filled with farms, you will see agriculture elements including roses, citrus and cotton.

But the design also promotes the city’s present commitment to family life. Nature scenes such as local wildlife, Surprise Lake and the breathtaking White Tanks are also prominent features.

The \$50,000 project was paid for by a one percent for the arts program. All public-use buildings assign one percent of their cost for on-site public art.





## Fire Department's free smoke detector campaign underway

Smoke detectors are the most effective way to protect yourself and your family from fire injury or even death, and the Surprise Fire Department wants to be sure you have one working in your home.

Recently the department announced that any Surprise resident who does not have a functioning smoke detector will be provided one at no cost by the Surprise Fire Department.



"We will install it so you can be sure it is working correctly," says Surprise Fire Chief Michael White. "We don't want lives lost in Surprise that could be saved by this fairly simple device."

There is a limit of one smoke detector per home, and interested residents can call the Fire Department to schedule an installation at 623.222.5000. The smoke detector program is funded by the Surprise City Council through the council contingency fund.

## General Plan input continues

What's your village? That's a question you may be asking your friends after you visit [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com) to have your say on the Surprise General Plan Update, which proposes an urban village concept for Surprise.

"Urban villages are a way to focus neighborhood identity and provide easy, even walkable access to shopping, entertainment and employment," says Senior Community Development Planner Janice See. "In public hearings last summer, people really responded to the idea, and now we have worked it into the plan."

Check out the interactive maps and open-ended survey at [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com) by clicking on "General Plan." You will get a background briefing, an interactive map and a series of open-ended questions so you can have your say. Community input is important as staff prepares to present results to the city council this summer.

"We'd love to know what everyone in the city thinks," says See.

# What's your village?





## Small Business Mentors

The city of Surprise is the proud home to many home-based and small businesses and we are always eager to welcome more, but we can't do it alone.

The Surprise Economic Development Department is looking for business professionals to volunteer with its Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP). If you have business knowledge or a specialty such as finance, operations or sales and marketing, you are needed to help small Surprise business owners and entrepreneurs start or expand a business. Retirees and working business people are encouraged to participate.

Volunteer mentors offer one-on-one coaching to existing and would-be entrepreneurs, helping them plan, start and sustain a small business.

If you or someone you know would like to help, contact Megan Griego, Economic Development Coordinator at (623)222-3300 or [megan.griego@surpriseaz.com](mailto:megan.griego@surpriseaz.com).

*Volunteer mentors meet with Surprise Economic Development staff for breakfast at Paradise Bakery to discuss the Small Business Mentor project.*



# Now Open!

## Recently opened businesses in Surprise

### Retail/Auto/Service

**Red's Recovery & Towing**, 17856 W. Watson Ln., **A Little Surprise**, 14763 W. Cactus Rd. #114, **Snazzy Paws**, 25933 N. Sandstone Way, **Swimotion LLC**, 16682 N. West Point Pkwy, Apt 257, **Helen Poch Signature LLC**, 18528 W. Caribbean Ln., **Life is a Stitch**, 14222 W. Jenan Dr., **LLPOF LLC**, 17022 W. Cottonwood St., **The Backsplash Company LLC**, 16967 W. Weymouth Rd., **Holiday Inn**, 16540 N. Bullard Ave., **American General Financial Services Inc.**, 17058 W. Bell Rd. #102, **Irish Industries**, 15364 W. Dahlia Dr., **Board Shack LLC**, 15170 W. Bell Rd. #100, **Econo Lube N' Tune #4338**, 15494 W. Bell Rd., **Profit Control Services**, 18743 N. Summerbreeze Way, **Deliciously Homemade**, 13403 W. Maui Ln., **Westgate Homes & RVs**, 13437 W. Westgate Dr., **Baby Kountry LLC**, 15411 W. Waddell Rd., #A103, **William Kohl Ins Agency**, 18789 N. Reems Rd. #200, **Mile 57 Photography**, 16724 N. 160th Ave., **Carescape Inc.**, 13370 W. Foxfire Dr. #101, **Arizona Rental & Concierge Services**, 14245 W. Grand Avenue #2, **Commercial Sweeping Service LLC**, 14038 W. Cornerstone Trail, **Once Upon a Child**, 13757 W. Bell Road, Ste. 103 #225, **Almohajer Newspaper**, 14400 N. 136th Ln., **AA Maintenance LLC**, 17247 N. 185th Dr., **RLM Associates**, 14218 W. Kiowa Trail, **Loving Touch Pet Care**, 18060 W. Fairway Dr., **FN Aeroassociates**, 18441 W. Caribbean Ln., **Dysart & Santa Fe Food & Gas LLC**, 16551 N. Dysart Rd., #123, **Nomar Transportation**, 25741 N. Sandstone Way, **Fairy Tales**, 16818 W. Marshall Ln., **Trim & Tidy Lawn Care LLC**, 13564 W. Boca Baton Rd., **Complete Creative Construction**, 13951 W. Hope Dr., **BJJS LLC**, 16184 N. 159th Ave., **Keepers At Home**, 16707 W. Dove Valley Rd., **Adasane & Associates**, 16217 W. Sandia Pk Dr., **AZ Streamline Cleaning LLC**, 17058 W. Limestone Dr., **Let Bev Do It**, 16261 W. Tapatio Dr., **Treasured Sports Images**, 18401 N. 147th Dr., **Kiddie Academy**, 17092 W. Bell Rd., **Mother Hubbards Clothing Cupboard**, 17058 W. Bell Rd. #107 **Suncreek #2 @ Kenly Farms**, 14245 W. Poinsettia Dr., **Amuse Bouche LLC**, 17058 W. Bell Rd., #104, **Steel Agave Metal Art LLC**, 14507 W. Christy Dr., **Peaceful Healers**, 11325 W. Bell Rd. #250, **Dirty Jobs Someone's Got to Do It**, 18579 N. 167th Circle, **Chocolate Surprise**, 15170 W. Bell Rd. #106, **John Deere Landscapes**, 13415 W. Westgate Dr. #101, **Daniel Plumbing**, 18214 W. Port Au Prince Ln., **D&D Auto Detail**, 14787 W. Aster Dr., **Holiday Inn**, 16540 N. Bullard Ave., **Bett's Care & Retreat LLC**, 17628 W. Pershing St., **Bro Dan's Specialty Sauces**, 19101 N. Cathedral Point Court, **Air Design AZ & Heat LLC**, 14758 W. Laurel Ln, **Otto's Electric LLC**, 18972 N. Alameda Dr., **Grand Pool & Patio**, 14081 W. Grand Ave., **Desert Escapes**, 14036 N. 161st Crt., **Hi Line Nails & Spa**, 15170 W. Bell Rd., #110, **General Handyman Services**, 17898 N. Bell Pointe Blvd., **Gabu Clothing**, 17659 W. Ironwood St., **Noel Tillman Photography**, 14309 W. Mauna Loa Ln., **Broady's Yard Service**, 16134 W. Hope Dr., **Eagle Laser Engraving Services LLC**, 13065 NW Grand Ave. #2, **Lynn-Matthew Salon**, 15170 W. Bell Road #111, **The Computer Shop LLC**, 15423 W. Lea Ln., **Gilbert & Son Detail**, 17454 W. Watson Ln., **First Class Sedan Service**, 17579 W. Ironwood St., **EN4U** 17584 N. 114th Ave., **A1 Transmission and Auto Repair**, 11529 W. Bell Rd. #205 **Element 2 Landscaping**, 15787 W. Becker Ln., **Gilberto Gonzalez**, 12841 NW Grand, **Sal's Carpet Steam Cleaning**, 12552 N. 150th Ln., **Cooper Tax**, 13457 N. 153rd Ave., **AngryBrat Apparel**, 13230 W. Crocus Dr., **Lloyd Kugler**, 18021 N. Verde Roca Dr., **Jo Dudycha**, 18361 N. Shimmer Ln., **Annie's Mobile Hair Care**, 16126 N. 159th Crt., **Quicks R/C**, 15170 W. Bell Rd. #102, **Neovisions Enterprises**, 17912 W. Sammy Way, **Heart of the Cross Publishing**, 17173 W. Mahogany Way, **Jewelry Design by Grace**, 16438 W. Chuparosa Ln., **Wild About Staging**, 15151 W. Woodridge Dr., **Caribbean Cleaning Service**, 17955 W. Caribbean Ln., **Chacho's Shoes**, 16551 N. Dysart Rd. #117B, **Travel Buddies**, 17200 W. Bell Rd., #1172, **ZZT Sports**, 17200 W. Bell Rd. #1100



Be Surprised!  
Buy Surprise.

### Office/Medical/Dental

Northwest Urology Associates PLC, 14674 W. Mountain View Blvd. #210, Valley Kidney Institute, 14674 W. Mountain View Blvd. #204, Bleach Bright Maricopa, 15513 W. Ironwood St., Journey Family Counseling, 17475 W. Bell Rd., Advanced Care for Women, 14239 W. Bell Rd. #200

### Restaurant/Bar

Café on the Avenue, 17420 N. Avenue of the Arts, Bad Ass Coffee Co., 15643 N. Reems Rd. #100, Toshi's Roast LLC, 17058 W. Bell Rd. #100, Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar, 13882 W. Bell Rd., Golden Wei Restaurant, 17014 W. Bell Rd. #106, Big Buddha Restaurant, 16572 W. Greenway Rd. #115, My Favorite Martin's Restaurant, 17300 N. Sun Village Pkwy Ste. D, Charlie's Hot Dog, 25600 N. Desert Mesa Dr., Han Yang Sushi Bar, 17818 N. Marshall Ln., Vogue Bistro, 15411 W. Waddell Rd. #108, Pizza Hut, 14763 W. Cactus Road # 120, Denny's, 14799 W. Grand Ave., Chicago Willyz Dogs, 13363 W. Grand Ave., Florita Ice Cream, 14890 W. Jenan Dr.

### Adult Care

Mulberry Place Adult Care Home, 15533 N. 150th Dr., Desert Palms Adult Care Home, 13535 N. Canyon Creek Dr.

More on the web!



View Commercial Projects in progress:  
[www.surpriseaz.com/currentprojects](http://www.surpriseaz.com/currentprojects)

# Surprise Happenings

For more information visit [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com)

## APRIL 2008

- 3** Financial Fitness: Vehicle Buying Boot Camp - Surprise Community Center - FREE
- 5** Movie in the Park - "Bee Movie," rated PG, 7:30 p.m. @ Sierra Montana Park/Marley Park & Surprise Rec Campus- FREE
- 29** Financial Fitness: Understanding Your Credit Score - Surprise Community Center - FREE

## MAY 2008

- 8** Surprise City Academy begins
- 26** Memorial Day - All city offices closed
- 26** Memorial Day Parade - 7 p.m. Surprise Recreation Campus
- 30-31** Arizona High School All-Stars Baseball - Surprise Recreation Campus

## JUNE 2008

- 6-8** Arizona High School All-Stars Baseball - Surprise Recreation Campus
- 13-14** Arizona High School All-Stars Football - Surprise Recreation Campus
- 19** Financial Fitness: How to Create and Stick to a Budget - Community Initiatives Building - FREE
- 24** Surprise City Academy - Final class of the 2008 session

## JULY 2008

- 4** Independence Day - All city offices closed
- 4** 4th of July Celebration and Fireworks - Surprise Recreation Campus

*\*Surprise City Council meets second and fourth Thursdays of every month, 6:00 p.m., Surprise City Hall 12425 W. Bell Road*

*\*Surprise Planning & Zoning Commission meets first and third Tuesdays of every month, 6:00 p.m., Surprise City Hall 12425 W. Bell Road*

## Community Programs

**Financial Fitness Classes:** These courses are intended to address the financial needs of Surprise residents in various areas of interest and importance in their financial planning and future financial situation. Community Initiatives Building, 15832 N. Hollyhock St., 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Call to register at 623.222.1651 - FREE

**Surprise City Academy:** Learn how city government works for you in this class that meets every Tuesday through June 24 at the Surprise Community Center, 15832 N. Hollyhock St., from 5:45 p.m. – 9 p.m. (NOTE: one class will be held on Thursday May 8, at City Hall for a City Council Meeting) A light meal will be served before class. Call to register at 623.222.1653 or 623.222.1651. Space is limited. - \$

**Mediation Service:** Avoid costly court fees to settle a dispute - utilize the Surprise Mediation Assistance Program. This FREE service assists Surprise residents and businesses with various disputes, including animal complaints, noise disturbance, property damage and more. Issues involving threats/violence will not be addressed through the program. For more information call 623.222.1653.



## Surprise Senior Center

# What's Going On?



### Surprise Community Initiatives Senior Center

15832 N. Hollyhock St. 623.222.1500

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

For ages 60 and better

Cost: \$10 Annual membership

\*\* Non-resident rates apply for classes and trips

### Are you new to Surprise?

Stop by the Senior Center for a tour and you will receive an introductory copy of the menu, activities calendar, and newsletter. We can also mail these introductory items to those who call 623.222.1500 and provide their name and address. You can also request a city map.

### We're Online!

Visit [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com) – then click on Resident Information, then on Senior Services. From there, you can print the calendar and newsletter at home. You can also sign up to receive email notifications when the Senior Center menu, activities calendar, and newsletter have been updated on the city web site.

### Fitness Center

8:15 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. weekdays. Annual membership fee \$25 (\$30 non residents) Winter only, \$15 (\$20 non residents)

### Enjoy a Hot Lunch!

Hot lunches are available weekdays for a \$3 contribution, please call ahead for a lunch reservation.



You can also enjoy the mini Café, offering gourmet coffees and chai tea, plus light fare such as yogurt, smoothies, cottage cheese, fruit, and biscotti for very nominal prices. Also, browse the Thrift Counter to pick up some bargains, gifts or greeting cards.

### Other activities at the Senior Center

Enjoy a variety of card games, board games, BINGO, dance and exercise, crafts, movies, and Reader's Theatre group. For your health, blood pressure screening is available twice per month, plus Massage Therapy and Benefits Counseling.



## Work Training Program for age 55+

Surprise partners with the Senior Community Service Employment Program under Title V of the Older Americans Act. The program is designed to assist income-eligible older adults to transition into competitive employment once they have completed their paid training program of one year.

Title V Participants must be at least 55 years old, an Arizona resident and qualify as low income. Income guidelines currently are \$13,000 annual income for one person household, and \$17,500 for two person household. For more information call 623.222.1500.

## Recycle Your Old Cell Phone

The Senior Center is partnering with the National Council on Aging and Cellular Recycler in an effort to keep old cell phones out of the nation's landfills. The Senior Center will receive a small recycling rebate on each old phone collected and those funds will support Senior Center programs. Drop boxes are located in the lobby of the Senior Center, the City Store and at the city's fire stations.



## Surprise Yourself... Become a Volunteer

Opportunities are available in several City departments including Senior Center, Senior Van Drivers, Clericals, Office Support and Data Entry, Fire, Police or Community and Recreation Services. Info: 623.222-1500, or visit <http://www.surpriseaz.com/index.asp?NID=1514>.

## Surprise! Packages from Home

The Surprise Senior Center is a designated drop-off site for Packages from Home, a non-profit organization that sends care packages to our troops. For more information call 602.253.0284 or [www.packagesfromhome.org](http://www.packagesfromhome.org).



## Senior American Idol - Surprise Edition!

Can you sing, lip sync, dance, play an instrument or have a great comedy routine? Then sign up for the Surprise Senior Idol competition this June. Call 623.222.1500 for more information.

## Upcoming Classes & Programs

For class information and to register, please call 623.222.1500

**HIV/AIDS Health Info** – April 11, 10 a.m. Presented by Thomas Elliott, a native Arizonan, who has been involved with care giving and volunteering in the field for 20 years. This is a free class.

**A Matter of Balance** – Many seniors experience fear of falling and restrict their activities. "A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls" emphasizes practical strategies to reduce this fear and increase activity levels. The class includes eight, two-hour sessions for a small group. Begins in June. Free

**Medication Review** – Sponsored by Basha's- On April 30 you can bring your meds (prescription and over the counter) and talk with a Pharmacist privately about your medications.

**Computer Classes** – Basic, Email, Digital Photos and more. Call for dates and times. \$10. \*\*

**Beginners Art with Doug Ward** – drawing, acrylics, water colors. Tuesdays 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. \$6 per week. \*\*

**Healthy Aging in Spanish** – Tiempo de Oro conducts presentations and workshops in Spanish on Wednesdays & Thursdays at 1 p.m. Free

**ElderVention** – explore topics for health and senior well being. Fridays at 10 a.m.

**Spanish for Beginners** – meets Wednesday at 9 a.m. (free for Surprise Senior residents)

**Spanish for Intermediate Speakers** – meets Wednesdays at 10 a.m. (free for Surprise Senior residents)

**Spring Swap Meet** – Something for everyone! April 12, 8 a.m. -1p.m., at the Aquatic Center Parking Lot. Free admission and parking.

## SENIOR CENTER TRIPS

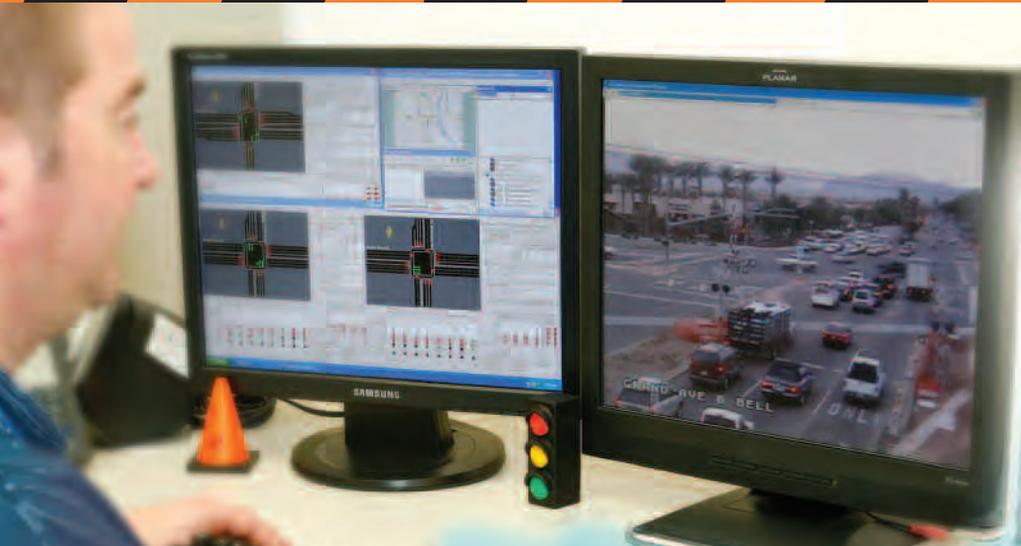
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leaves from  
Senior Center



- **Turf Paradise** - April 28, includes admission & lunch. \$20\*
- **Titanic Artifacts Exhibition, Arizona Science Center** - May 2, includes admission, bus and film. Lunch on your own at the café. \$22\*
- **Harras's Ak-Chin Casino** - June 10. \$3\*
- **Circus, US Airways Arena** - June 27 (ages 60+ can enter a drawing to win 1 or 2 tickets for trip to the show)
- **Arizona Mills & IMAX Theater** - July 15. \$10\*
- **IKEA Shopping** - Aug. 12. \$5\*

Call 623.222.1500 for more information.

(\*\*Non-resident rates apply for classes and trips)



## **BEEP! Traffic Alerts sent to your cellphone**

**T**raffic is a fact of life in our busy city, and the latest way Surprise helps you get around quicker is as convenient as your cell phone: up to the minute traffic alerts via text message whenever there is a significant traffic tie up in Surprise.

“It is always current information, since the message is dispatched by our traffic engineers and our REACT volunteers, who are actually on the scene,” says Surprise Chief Information Officer Randy Jackson. “This system will allow Surprise motorists to know about traffic tie-ups and to select alternative routes or notify others of delays.”

The system is operating 24/7, according to Engineering Director Dr. Bob Maki. “You can get alerts round the clock if you would like,” Maki says. “Or you can choose to get alerts only between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m.”

The new traffic alert system joins the Bell Road message board and other aspects of the Intelligent Traffic System such as video traffic monitoring and integrated traffic lights to aid drivers in moving around Surprise more smoothly.

You can opt in to the traffic alert system by going to [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com) and clicking on “Surprise Transportation” at the bottom of the page. Surprise Police Chief Dan Hughes says the department is also looking into joining the system to issue alerts regarding public safety impact on traffic, such as roadblocks or other police situations.



Defining **Vibrant** Southwest Living

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