



# SURPRISE Progress



**What a year 2008 has been...  
and it's only half over!**

**INSIDE:**

**New city parks for Surprise  
Farms and Original Town Site**

**Stay cool in Surprise**

**Bell Road  
Reconstruction**

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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.

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### 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

**City Manager 623.222.1100**

Charles R. Oliver

**Planning & Zoning Commission 623.222.3133**

Matthew Bieniek

John Hallin

Jan Blair

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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

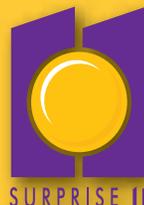
- July 10th and 24th
- August 14th and 28th
- September 11th and 25th

### 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

- July 1st and 15th
- August 5th and 19th
- September 2nd and 16th



**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. Tuesday, 4:30 p.m. Thursday, 8 a.m. Friday, 3 p.m. Sunday, NOW STREAMING LIVE ON THE WEB!

# What a Year 2008 has been... and it's only half over!

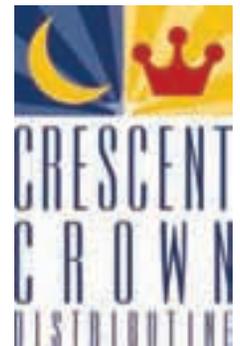


The groundbreaking at Surprise Farms Parks (see story on page 6) capped six months of important developments for Surprise.

Hundreds of happy residents attended the May grand opening of **Ultra Star Cinema**, the city's first theater complex at Litchfield and Waddell roads at Surprise Pointe.



In April, **Crescent Crown Distributing** broke ground at its 270,000 square foot warehouse facility, also at Surprise Pointe. Crescent Crown is a major beverage distributor and the company could add as many as 600 jobs to the Surprise economy.



In May, Sands Chevrolet broke ground to become the first car dealer at the Prasada Auto Show, expected to open late this year or early next. As many as ten dealerships are planned to eventually open at Prasada.



**Spring Training 2008** was a record breaker for Surprise. More than 186,000 tickets were snapped up by eager baseball fans, 20,000 more than a year ago. Total revenues topped \$4 million for the first time. The Web site, [www.surprisespringtraining.com](http://www.surprisespringtraining.com), also saw a record number of visitors and received a national Communicator "Award of Distinction" for its interactive design.



The city council approved an innovative concept in February that will see a **Rio**



The council began televised "workshop"

**sessions** where council members meet in an informal roundtable manner to hear reports from staff and openly discuss approaches and solutions to issues and challenges. The council has had more than a dozen workshop sessions in the first six months of 2008.

The Council approved **Community Pride Day**, a community-based response to the foreclosure issues affecting Surprise. People gathered at Surprise Stadium on June 21st to team up and go after weedy lots and other neighborhood blight.



**Salado College campus** at the new City Hall complex when it opens next spring. The "City of Surprise Community-Center for Higher Educational

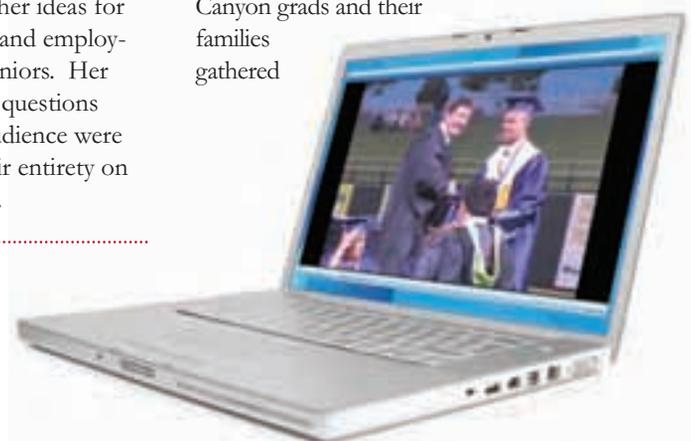
Excellence" will feature classes for all ages in a single-story, 26,000 square foot building next to the four-story City Hall. Check out the webcam at [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com) to follow construction!

Council approved an **FY2009 budget** of more than \$358,000,000, a lean budget appropriate for tighter economic times. The budget maintains the high levels of city services residents expect and adds some new employees to Police and Fire.

The city council approved a Bell Road phasing plan that will see **Phases 2 and 3 of Bell Road** reconstruction start in July and be completed by the holiday season, six months ahead of schedule (see story on page 11).

More programs and better availability brought open government to more people via **Surprise 11** in the first half of 2008. Now streaming on the web, Surprise 11 broadcasts the new city council workshops and important community events such as the Surprise Farms groundbreaking and the Mayor Joan Shafer memorial service. Surprise11 was there as Dysart and Willow Canyon grads and their families gathered

**Governor Janet Napolitano** spoke to an overflow crowd at the Surprise Senior Center in May about her ideas for health care and employment for seniors. Her speech and questions from the audience were aired in their entirety on Surprise 11.



at Surprise Stadium for commencement ceremonies. The graduation drew more than 1,500 views to a new city Web site feature, an online video library.



The new Surprise Tennis and Racquet Complex will host the **CTCA Outback Classic** in November, an exciting announcement made by the Community and Recreation Services Department in February. This United States Tennis Association-sanctioned tournament will attract well known players to Surprise, such as long-time star Jim Courier (above), who was here for the announcement.

Hundreds of residents offered ideas on the future of Surprise at **General Plan hearings** around the city and even outside the city limits. The innovative “urban village”



concept received a thorough public airing, and people unable to attend offered input via a special interactive city Web site.

Residents are also offering ideas to an ad hoc **Foreclosure Committee** formed this spring to study the foreclosure issue in

Surprise. The council-appointed group of residents will make recommendations to the council later this year. Check the online calendar for meeting dates and times.

What’s new and innovative right now? How about the **artificial turf demonstration** project at City Hall on Bell Road, where you can see the beauty and durability of the newest artificial turf, and conserve water in the process?



You can also get online and sign up for **text messages or e-mails about traffic tie ups** in the city. The Information Technology, Engineering and Communications Departments work together to provide real time information from workers on the scene of accidents and tie ups. Hundreds have already subscribed at [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com). Click “Traffic Alert” at the bottom of the page.

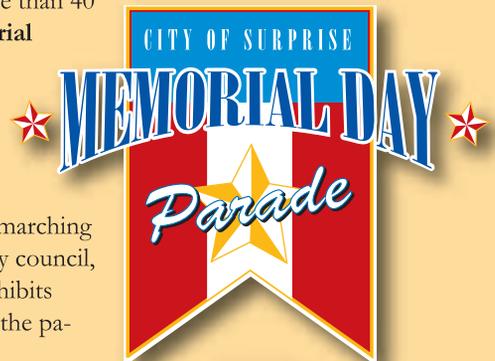
It has been a great year in Surprise as innovation, openness and the energy of our residents accomplished great things. Keep up with us at [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com) or by visiting Surprise11 on TV or the web.

**More on the web!** 

[www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com)



Hundreds of residents enjoyed more than 40 entries in the second annual **Memorial Day Parade** May 24, 2008. Hosted by Mark Coronado and Tara Combs of the Community and Recreation Services Department, the parade down Bullard Avenue in front of Surprise Stadium featured marching bands, Mayor Lyn Truitt and the city council, Surprise veterans, fire and police exhibits and much more. For the first time, the parade was broadcast on Surprise 11.



Construction is set for Surprise Farms Park as residents continue to celebrate the big improvements to Bicentennial Park and adjacent Lizard Run.

On June 3, City council members shared the groundbreaking duties with neighborhood leaders at Surprise Farms Park. The 17-acre linear park section will see \$1.6 million in improvements approved by the Surprise City Council in May. The work includes grading the area, installing grass throughout the park and building a sidewalk path that will circle it.

“This turns the linear park into a beautiful community asset almost immediately,” says Public Works Director Robert Beckley. “We expect to have the grading and drainage completed and the grass and sidewalk installed this year.”

“People will be able to enjoy the linear area for picnicking, kite flying, all the things that make large grassy features so attractive,” says Community and Recreation Services Director Mark Coronado. “The sidewalk feature is a kind of “heartscape” that will follow a circular route around the park. It will make an excellent exercise path.”

The \$5 million phase one will also begin construction immediately. The four-field softball complex will be open by spring of 2009, “taking our youth and adult softball programs to a new level,” says Coronado. Adult Coed, men’s and women’s softball, city softball tournaments and girl’s softball

# New/improved city parks for Surprise Farms and Original Town Site

Bicentennial Park on Nash Street in the Original Town Site is looking better than ever after crews installed new picnic ramadas, a basketball court, a new restroom building and play structure. “This increases the range of uses residents can enjoy at the park,” says Coronado. “It is one of our real heritage sites, and we are very pleased to have it looking so good.”

Adjacent to the park is Lizard Run, where the city has installed a new pedestrian walkway connecting the area to Greasewood Street. The new construction creates connectivity with the new Interfaith

Community of Care multi generational complex set to open in the fall, which in turn is adjacent to the Rio Salado Lifelong Learning Center.

The city, Rio and Interfaith are discussing partnerships to create a community garden at the Lizard Run site and build a bridge over the wash to connect the park with the walkway, Interfaith and Rio Salado. “All the pieces are in place for a unique dynamism,” says Coronado. “Connectivity among these assets enhances the value of all of them.”



Lizard Run

will all be featured at the park, making it a magnet for the neighborhood and the community.



Bicentennial Park

\$750,000 of the approximately \$1 million cost of the Bicentennial/Lizard Run project is covered by the Arizona Park Heritage Fund.



Groundbreaking at Surprise Farms park

# Stay Cool in Surprise

It's time for those triple digit summer temperatures, but in Surprise there are plenty of "cool" things to do to beat the heat!



## Aquatic Facilities (serious water fun!)

Surprise operates two city pools.



**Aquatic Center** 15831 N. Bullard Ave.  
Features a zero depth area with water play features, two slides, a vortex whirlpool, competition pool and diving boards.  
For pricing and hours: 623.222.2500



**Hollyhock Pool** 15808 N. Hollyhock St.  
Features a zero depth area with water play features, a water spray pad, water slide and a three-lane lap pool  
For pricing and hours: 623.222.2530

**\*The city of Surprise reminds you to always watch your children around water!**

## Museums

Surprise is fortunate to be the home of two top-notch museums, each representing a specific art niche.



**Heard Museum West**  
16126 N. Civic Center Plaza. Showcasing more than 400 works of Native American art, as well as a changing exhibition space. Gifts from the Community runs through October 12, and features works donated to the museum from individuals in the West Valley.  
Enjoy programs such as documentary movie showings and workshops. Admission is free every Saturday in July. Enjoy a unique gift shop, too.  
623.344.2200



**West Valley Art Museum**  
17420 N. Avenue of the Arts. See a collection of more than 4,000 items including ethnic dress from more than 90 countries. About 250 Arizona artists are featured yearly.  
Check out classes and presentations throughout the year and the Young Masters Summer Art program for children ages 7 - 13.  
The Café on the Avenue serves lunch; enjoy the gift shop, too.  
623.972.0635

## Recreation Center

Lots of indoor activities for the family



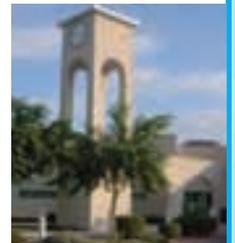
**Sierra Montana Recreation Center**  
14861 N. Spring Lane.  
Board, trivia & video games, ping pong, bumper pool, bowling, indoor soccer and floor hockey opportunities at no charge.

Summer art classes, karaoke time, dances and movie nights are also planned. Sierra Montana features a recording studio, teen lounge and computer lab.

Residents of all ages can enjoy a variety of free activities on Mondays and Wednesdays (5 p.m. - 8 p.m.) and Saturdays (noon - 5 p.m.)

Teens from 13-17 can sign up for Teen Summer Nights. From June 2 - August 21, teens will have a cool, safe place to hang out from 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.  
Registration information: 623.222.2000

## Libraries



**Hollyhock Branch Library**  
15844 N. Hollyhock  
**Surprise Regional Library**  
16089 N. Bullard Ave.

A trip to one of the city's public libraries is fun for the whole family. Plus, keeping your children reading over the summer will help prepare them for the next school year.

The **Hollyhock Branch Library** has a variety of summer activities, including a teen book club, movies, Spanish classes and storytime events.

The **Surprise Regional Library** houses a 40,000-item collection and offers more than 60 Internet-accessible computers. Over the summer the library will offer storytelling, movies and arts & crafts events. For gardening lovers, you can meet with Master Gardeners, the first Saturday of each month, to ask a variety of gardening questions.

# City taking over water operations

In moves that are designed to save millions of dollars and thousands of gallons, the Surprise Water Services Department is bringing water operations and maintenance in house while urging residents to continue conserving.

“It just makes sense,” says Water Services Director Rich Williams of the move to take over operations and maintenance from contractor Arizona American Water. “We contracted those services in the past because our presence is small compared to Arizona American Water,” Williams says.

Williams says analysis now shows this is no longer economical. “We can now look at the long term and we realize we can save millions. We have adopted an approach to do just that.”

The city will add 21 positions in this fiscal year to prepare to take over maintenance and operations by July 2009, saving from \$5 to \$7 million, by 2014.

“Over five years, we think it would have cost about \$25 to \$27 million to continue to contract it out,” Williams says. “Operating the system ourselves means costs will be more in the area of \$20 million.”

Williams says the cost of providing water services is recovered in billing. “Always has been and always will be,” he says. “But we have been paying a contractor to provide the service. Now we will do it ourselves and reduce costs, which directly impacts water rates.”

**“We also feel we can be more responsive than a private provider since people can talk with us right here at City Hall,”**

**Rich Williams,  
Water Services Director**



“We also feel we can be more responsive than a private provider since people can talk with us right here at City Hall,” he adds. The move affects the city’s 12-square mile service area south of Bell Road from roughly Sarival to Dysart roads.

Most residents rely on private companies for water service. Arizona American Water is the largest of the dozen or more private companies operating in the area.

The city is also moving toward full compliance with revised federal arsenic standards. Arsenic occurs naturally in water and is monitored and regulated by the federal government. The Desert Oasis water treatment facility will have its improved arsenic treatment operations on line this summer. Mountain Vista will have a temporary solution in place by December and its permanent facility operating by July 2009. In the meantime, the Environmental Protection Agency says the city’s drinking water does not present an “unreasonable health risk.”

The city continues to urge residents to save water. “We are encouraging people to look at replacing turf lawns with beautiful desert landscaping, called xeriscaping,” says Christine Nunez, Environmental Division Manager. “We also have a turf demonstration project here at City Hall, which shows how beautiful and functional artificial turf is these days.” The installation of the artificial turf is saving thousands of gallons of irrigation water per year, Nunez says. “You will be amazed how much water you can save by switching to xeriscaping,” she adds.

Other resources can be found at [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com). Visit “Water Services” under “City Departments.” You will find links to “Water Use it Wisely” and other useful information on our water resources and how to conserve.

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



City of Surprise Water Treatment Facility



## Helping you breathe a little easier

In Surprise, we are getting busy reducing the dust in our air. Surprise has joined other cities in Maricopa County to reduce dust pollution, otherwise known as PM-10.

PM-10 describes very fine airborne particles (particulate matter or PM) that cause health problems. The elderly, people exercising outdoors and those with heart or lung disease or asthma are especially at risk.

Dust is a significant PM-10 pollutant, kicked up when we drive off-road vehicles or drive on unpaved roads. Agriculture, construction, vacant lands and mining are also significant dust producers.

The Surprise City Council recently passed a PM-10 Dust Control Ordinance, in accordance with Arizona law, that aims to reduce PM-10 levels by 5% per year.

### So what does the ordinance do?

- Bans off-road vehicle use in high activity areas & closed property
- Increases enforcement of vehicle trespass on private property
- Makes property owners responsible for securing their property against trespass by off-road vehicles
- Bans off-road vehicle use on unpaved surfaces other than roadways during high pollution advisory days
- Requires owners to dust-proof unpaved parking areas through paving, gravel overlays or other methods. Residential properties with parking & driveway areas of less than 3,000 s.f. are exempt.
- Prohibits using leaf blowers to blow debris into public roadways
- Prohibits city employees and city

contractors from using leaf blowers during high pollution days

- Requires the city to use PM-10 certified street sweepers only (already in compliance)
- Requires the city to pave or stabilize public unimproved roads/alleys
- Requires the city to pave or stabilize unpaved shoulders on roads carrying more than 150 vehicles per day
- Requires the city to provide semiannual reports to the state and the Maricopa Association of Governments describing control measures and enforcement activity

To report a violation of the PM-10 Ordinance please contact Surprise Code Enforcement at 623.222.3244.



**Ozone pollution** is another air pollution source we all should be aware of. It is more likely during the summer months because sunlight and hot temperatures combine with pollutants to cook up the harmful concentration of nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds that comprise ozone. Repeated exposure to high levels of ozone can reduce lung function and may cause permanent scarring of lung tissue.

Since vehicle emissions are the single largest contributor to ground-level ozone, there are things you can do to keep ozone levels under control.

- reduce single driving, carpool or take the bus instead
- avoid idling your vehicle
- refuel after dark
- don't use gas-powered lawn equipment

Government agencies monitor air quality and issue alerts on those bad days. Look for:

**Health Watches:** Active children/adults and people with lung disease should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.

**High Pollution Advisory:** Weather conditions may generate ozone levels that may exceed federal health standards. Active children/ adults and people with lung disease should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors and everyone else should reduce their time spent outdoors.

When a Health Watch or High Pollution Advisory goes out, you will see it on the city of Surprise Web site, [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com).

For more information on ozone: [www.azdeq.gov](http://www.azdeq.gov).



## Surprise Fire history-captured in art

**A**lways There, Always Ready,” the motto of the Surprise Fire Department, will be embodied in a steel obelisk set to rise at Fire Station 301 in the city’s Original Town Site.

Local artist Joe Tyler recently presented a scaled down version of the obelisk to the Surprise City Council. Tyler was selected by the Council to design and install the art at the recommendation of the Surprise Arts and Cultural Advisory Board.

The steel obelisk will rise between 16 and 18 feet and will have word and image cutouts on all four sides that represent the history of the fire department and its early days in the Original Town Site.

“The piece will include images of fire trucks, the city logo and a variety of firefighting imagery,” says Tyler. “The inside of the obelisk is hollow and a light will be placed at the base, so at night the cutout images will glow.”

“The Surprise Fire Department has a very deep, rich history that began in the city’s original square mile,” says Fire Chief Michael White. “It is very fitting that this art piece, which details the fire department’s history, will be at the fire station located in the Original Town Site.”



Artist Joe Tyler displaying his model of the obelisk.

Tyler met with Surprise Firefighters to get their input during the design stage. “This piece belongs to them and the public, so I wanted to include them from the very beginning,” says Tyler.

You may be familiar with some of Tyler’s other art pieces, including the Learning Tree at the library on Bullard Avenue and the steel agave plants that adorn the entry to

Surprise Marketplace at Grand Avenue and Bell Road.

The obelisk at Fire Station 301 is expected to be finished by the end of the year.

Tyler will be paid \$23,000 for his work. The project is funded through the Surprise Arts and Cultural Advisory Board.

## Progress

## Driving Police Recruitment



**“S**tand Up! Stand Out! Stand Proud!” That’s the recruitment message of the Surprise Police Department. Now officers have a new way to “drive” that message to possible recruits.

A Ford F-150 crew-cab truck, seized in a drug raid by the department and the Drug Enforcement Administration, is playing a new role as a police recruitment tool.

“Thanks to \$8,000 from the Council Contingency Fund, we were able to modify it into a first-class recruitment vehicle,” says Police Chief Dan Hughes.

Sergeant Randy Rody with the recruitment truck

The truck is wrapped with an eye-catching design that promotes employment with the Surprise Police Department. Inside the vehicle two amplifiers, two 15-inch subwoofers, and a touchscreen DVD/CD player and stereo get the attention of people at job fairs or other public events.

“This truck sounds great on the outside and the inside,” says Recruiting Sergeant Randy Rody. “The big sound generates lots of attention and that’s what we want as we look to grow our police department.”

“We have great men and women working in our police department,” says Chief Hughes. “We are looking to expand our police family as the city grows, and this truck, used as a moving billboard, will help us attract more quality recruits.”

The Surprise Police Department will also soon be in possession of a new Special Assignment Unit vehicle, thanks to \$69,792 in U.S. Homeland Security grants.

The current Special Assignment Unit vehicle is 14 years old, too small, and is in need of costly repairs. Hughes says. The new vehicle will transport 16 fully-outfitted officers and has external compartments to store additional equipment. The cargo area will be air conditioned and contains an onboard generator to power lights and other equipment.

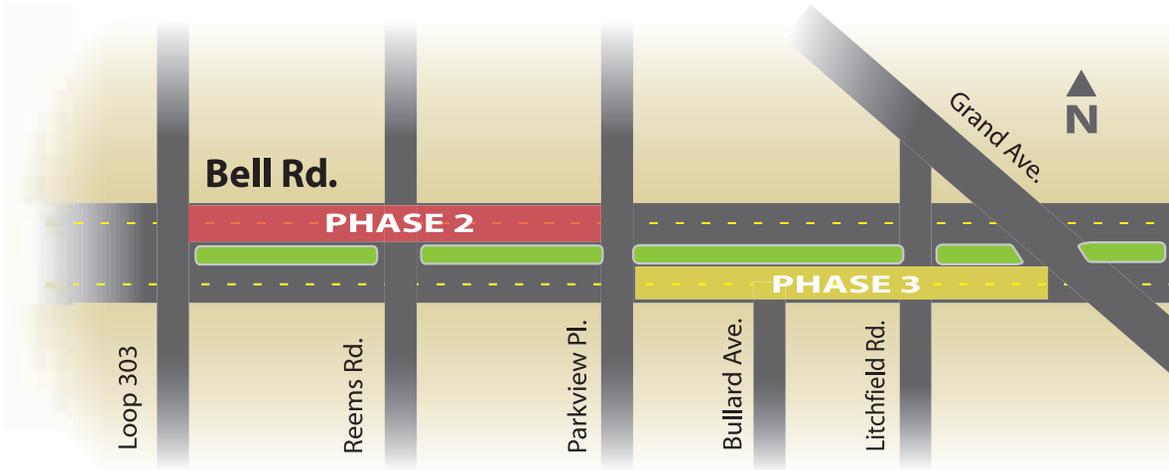


For police recruitment information call 623.222.4100 or visit [surpriseaz.com](http://surpriseaz.com) and click on Police under City Departments)



By combining Phases 2 and 3 we are minimizing the disruption to our residents.”

*Dr. Robert Maki,  
Engineering Director*



## Bell Road Reconstruction Drives Ahead

The Surprise City Council has approved a plan that advances the reconstruction of Bell Road by 6 months. Phases 2 and 3 will begin in July and are scheduled for completion by the winter holiday season.

Starting in mid-July, crews will resurface the westbound lanes of Bell from Parkview to just east of the Loop 303. In late summer or early fall, crews will begin work on the eastbound lanes of Bell from Parkview to Grand. Phases 2 and 3 are scheduled for completion by mid-November, just in time for the holiday shopping season to kickoff for the many great retailers along Bell Road.

The improvements will extend the pavement’s life by 20 years, according to the Surprise Public Works and Engineering Departments. As part of this project, the city is evaluating the use of rubberized asphalt, which may help reduce road noise and lengthen the life of the pavement.

“Phase 1, which included resurfacing the westbound lanes of Bell from Grand to Parkview, went so smoothly that we finished four weeks ahead of schedule,” says Surprise Engineering Director Dr. Robert Maki. “We hope the next two phases go just as smoothly.”

This year’s work will include new turn lanes at Reems Road and improvements at Litchfield Road.

“We will be adding two left turn lanes off Bell onto southbound Reems, two right turn lanes from Bell onto northbound Reems and also making drainage



improvements to the intersection,” says Maki. Drainage improvements are also planned at Litchfield.

“By combining Phases 2 and 3 we are minimizing the disruption to our residents, as this allows the contractor to coordinate the workload,” adds Maki.

Other improvements include installing underground conduit for the Intelligent Traffic System on Bell from Parkview to the Loop 303. Separate from the Bell Road Reconstruction Project, but going on at the same time, Arizona Public Service will install underground power lines along Bell from Grand Avenue to Civic Center Drive.

In other transportation news, drivers will see major improvements begin along the Loop 303 as the Arizona Department of Transportation begins work on a partial interchange at Bell and the 303 and overpass exchanges on the 303 at Cactus and Waddell.

In July, Maricopa County is expected to begin a project to widen and extend El Mirage Road between Bell Road and the Loop 303.

For the very latest news and information on transportation in Surprise, visit the “Surprise Transportation” page at [www.surpriseaz.com/transportation](http://www.surpriseaz.com/transportation).

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



# What's new inside surpriseaz.com

Checked out the city Web site lately? Chances are you have. The site gets about 300,000 visits per month and the number keeps on rising. So what's new at [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com)?

**Are you a safe driver?** Find out with the new Road Safety page at the Surprise Police Department site.

"People need to be aware of their habits rather than just assume they are driving safely," says Surprise Police Chief Dan Hughes. "It is a good idea to take a look at yourself and see if there are things you should change. This site and this quiz can help you do that."

To visit the new "Road Safety Begins with You" site, go to [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com) and click on "Police" under "City Departments."

**Go Green in Surprise** Learn what you can do and what your city is already doing to preserve the environmental character of our community at the "Green Surprise" Web site.

At Green Surprise you can get easy-to-read details about the Surprise Water Conservation Ordinance, learn more about the water-saving synthetic turf project at City Hall, or read about the city's first "green" building at Cactus and Litchfield Roads.

The Web site also includes Green Tips for saving water or improving air quality. The Green Links feature includes a variety of county, state, federal and private group links dedicated to improving the environment. Go to [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com) and click on the Green Surprise icon at the bottom of the page.

**Surprise 11 live** Beefed up local programming includes tons of Surprise-oriented events, such as the recent groundbreaking of Surprise Farms Park, the Memorial Day Parade, graduation ceremonies at Surprise Stadium for Willow Canyon and Dysart High Schools, programs for the Heard Museum West and West Valley Art Museum, and more.

Now you don't have to be a cable subscriber to catch what's new in your town. Visit

[www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com) and click on "Surprise 11 live" on the right hand side. You will get a live streaming feed of the channel. For program information, visit "Communications" under "City Departments."

## Your Photos on "My Surprise"

Send us your photos of living life in the city defining vibrant southwest living, and see what your neighbors are sending. At "My Surprise Photos" on the bottom right of [www.surpriseaz.com](http://www.surpriseaz.com), you will see albums of submitted pictures on topics such as Governor Napolitano's visit to Surprise Seniors, the Memorial Day parade, or just pictures of people enjoying life in your home city.



## Retail/Auto/Service

**A Little Surprise**, 14763 W. Cactus Rd. #114, **Shauna's Paw Spa & Pet Boutique**, 15459 W. Bell Rd. #105, **Gold Rush Kettle Korn**, 15218 W. Desert Mirage Dr., **Los Padres Bank FSB**, 17061 N. Avenue of the Arts #102, **Pharm Taxi**, 14998 W. Bottle Tree Ave., **Nelson & Associates Private Investigations**, 15704 N. 172nd Ln., **A R C Property Asset Protection**, 15717 W. Post Dr., **GT Service**, 17135 N. Larkspur Ln., **BSB Ventures 1 & 2**, 13671 N. 151st Ln., **Taste the Distinction**, 18407 W. Hayden Dr., **Left Coast Enterprises**, 14003 N. 183rd Ave., **Joe's Ice Cream**, 13645 W. Port Royale Ln., **Arizona Listing Services**, 14839 W. Hearn Rd., **The Maintenance Connection**, 18211 W. Maui Ln., **Eternity Gifts and Poems**, 13449 N. 151st Dr., **Albrite Cleaning Service**, 15331 W. Lundberg St., **Help Others**, 15024 W. Cameron Dr., **DL Window Cleaning** 16542 N. 178th Ave., **Swim Lessons with Lisa**, 14512 N. 176th Ln., **Blue Cat Crafts**, 12133 W. Bell Rd. #103, **Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market**, 15431 W. Greenway Rd., **Leslie's Swimming Pool Supplies**, 17067 W. Bell Rd. #100, **Pooper Trooper**, 15234 N. 173rd Ln., **West Valley Tutoring**, 15311 W. Watson Ln., **Kohl's #1231**, 15357 W. Cactus Rd., **Art Handyman**, 14714 N. 176th Ln., **Weight Watchers**, 14537 W. Grand Ave. #100, **AAA Electronic Construction**, 13232 W. Desert Rock Dr., **Cinderella's**, 12221 W. Bell Rd. #284, **Get Jacked Customs**, 13365 W. Foxfire Dr. #1, **Germzappa**, 15619 W. Vista Grande Ln., **Desert Alive Landscaping**, 12531 W. Cottonwood St., **Creators Touch Landscaping**, 13242 W. Banff Ln., **Straight Line Flooring**, 13756 W. Banff Ln., **Jack's Delivery Service**, 18084 W. Rimrock St., **Graphic Design**, 18188 W. Smokey Dr., **This is Sandi**, 14065 W. Rosewood Dr., **Bounce King Inflatables**, 18222 W. Port Royale Ln., **Bootstrap America**, 15390 W. Old Oak Ln., **Sun Valley Home Watch**, 15809 W. Goldenrod Dr., **AAA Sun Cities Locksmith**, 17073 W. Aberdeen Dr., **The Paper Cutters**, 16755 W. Wellingborough Rd., **Hopkins Enterprise**, 16245 W. Lisbon Ln., **Sun City Grand Home Improvement**, 20413 N. Fountain Crest Crt., **Langstrom Security & Integration**, 16418 W. Monte Cristo Ave., **AJ Fine Nails Spa**, 14231 W. Grand Ave. #104, **Reliable House Maintenance**, 15311 W. Watson Ln., **Montessori of Surprise**, 18540 N. Parkview Pl., **JW's Pool Service**, 14239 Rosewood Dr., **Water Safe Kids LLC**, 13510 N. 153rd Ave., **The Loan Doctor**, 15546 W. Port Au Prince Ln., **AAA Cleaning & Maintenance**, 18187 W. Paradise Ln., **9MM Clothing USA LLC**, 15959 N. Basl Ln., **Perfect Pool Service &**

# Now Open!

## Recently opened businesses in Surprise

(March - May 2008)



NOTE: The addresses are provided by the business owner on the city license application and do not necessarily indicate the store-front location.

Repair, 15268 W. Eureka Trail, Scoop Doggie Dog, 17590 N. 114th Ln., Agile Constructors LLC, 14359 W. Port Royale Ln., Simply Dogs n' More, 16242 N. 160th Ln., El Mirage Development Group LLC, 15627 N. Greasewood St., Healthy Environment Cleaning Services, 14645 W. Crocus Dr., Cathy's Closeouts, 18328 W. Banff Ln., My Fit K9, 15387 W. Pershing St., C&J Mobile Car Wash, 15348 W. Dreyfus St., Washington Mutual Bank, 13864 W. Bell Rd., Ultrastar Cinemas, 13649 N. Litchfield Rd., Geoff's Custom Interior Painting, 20209 N. Cactus Forest Dr., DJ Aces, 14554 W. Hope Dr., Global Academy, 12332 W. Tami Ln., Premier Carstar Surprise, 13370 W. Foxfire Dr. #102, AV Gear, 15945 W. Marconi Ave., Get Out of the Kitchen, 14085 W. Fieldings Fry, High Desert Glass, 17054 W. Post Dr., Icon Landesign, 15029 W. Mercer Ln., Dynamic Repairs and Renovations, 18257 W. Continental Pkwy., Grand Solutions, 16186 W. Silver Falls Dr., Lilly's Little Lovelies, 15866 W. Tara Ln.

### Office/Medical/Dental

Sun Valley Orthopedic Surgeons, 12361 W. Bola Dr. #100, James T. Cooper MD PC, 12361 W. Bola Dr. #109, Digestive & Liver Diseases PC, 12361 W. Bola Dr. #108, Sun Valley Colon & Rectal Surgery Ltd, 12361 W. Bola Dr. #107, West Valley Home Health LLC, 17106 N. Elko Dr.

### Restaurant/Bar

Denny's Restaurant, 14799 W. Grand Ave., Dragon's Brew Coffee, 14227 W. Windrose Dr., Native New Yorker, 14051 Grand Ave.

### Adult Care

Family Circle Adult Care Home, 15467 W. Cortez St.  
Sterling Love Home Care, 18426 W. Marconi Ave.  
Compassionate Home Care, 15873 W. Central St.

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)

## JULY 2008

# July

- 3** City Council Special Work Session cancelled
- 4** Independence Day - All city offices closed
- 4** 4th of July Celebration and Fireworks - Surprise Recreation Campus
- 7-13** Cal Ripken 12 year old/60 and 70 Division State Baseball Tournament - Surprise Recreation Campus - 623.222.2240 - \$
- 11-13** Don Mattingly & Sandy Koufax State Baseball Tournaments - Surprise Recreation Campus - 623.222.2240- \$
- 18-20** Connie Mack & Mickey Mantle State Baseball Tournaments - Surprise Rec Campus- 623.222.2240- \$
- 19** USTA Central AZ Adult Superset Tournament - Tennis & Racquet Complex
- 25-31** American Legion State Baseball Tournament - Surprise Recreation Campus - 623.222.2240 - \$
- 29-8/3** Sandy Koufax World Series - Surprise Stadium -623.222.2240 - \$
- 30-8/2** Surprise City Lights JR USTA Tournament - Tennis & Racquet Complex

## AUGUST 2008

# August

- 8-10** USTA Southwest JR Team Tennis Section Championships - Tennis & Racquet Complex
- 11** Dysart USD schools open
- 13-18** American Legion Western Regional Baseball Tournament Surprise Stadium- 623.222.2240- \$
- 24** USTA Central AZ JR Superset Tournament - Tennis & Racquet Complex
- 28** City Council Meeting cancelled for League of AZ Cities & Towns Conference

## SEPTEMBER 2008

# September

- 1** Labor Day - All city offices closed

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

*\*Surprise City Council Special Work Sessions, every first Thursday of the month, 4 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*

### Summer tennis hours at Tennis and Racquet Complex

(June 1st - September 30th)

**Monday thru Friday:**

6:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
and 4:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.

**Saturday:** 6:30 a.m. - 11:30  
a.m. and 4:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

**Sunday (limited hours):**  
6:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

For more information call  
623.222.2400



# 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

At the Senior Center you can enjoy a variety of card and board games, BINGO, dance, crafts, movies, Reader's Theatre group, Ukulele Group and Mahjongg

## For your health

Blood Pressure Screenings are available twice per month, plus yoga and exercise classes, massage therapy and benefits counseling.



## 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).

### 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.

### 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. Info: 623.222.1500.



# Upcoming Classes & Programs

For class information and to register, please call 623.222.1500

**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 led by a trained facilitator. July classes are full, but you can sign up for August classes by calling 623-222-1500.

**Chronic Disease Management** – this 6-week course begins Aug. 4 at 1 p.m. If you live with a chronic condition, this class will guide you in your daily life. Please sign up at the Senior Center Front Desk.

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

**Wii Play** – come to the Senior Center and try your hand at video bowling or golf; it's fun and free! Please call for dates and times.

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

**Spare a Square** – if you have yarn, please help us make blankets for our non-profit community partners who assist the homeless and victims of domestic violence. Knit or crochet an 8-inch square or two in your spare time and when we have collected enough squares, the needlecraft class will assemble them into a blanket. Please visit the Needlecraft Social on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. to pick up materials if you need them.

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

## SENIOR CENTER TRIPS

Provided transportation  
leaves from  
Senior Center



- **Arizona Mills & IMAX Theater** - July 15. \$10\*
- **IKEA Shopping** - August 12. \$5\*
- **Brass Armadillo** - September 23rd, (antiques megastore, with a stop for lunch on your own) \$5\*
- **Arizona State Fair** - October 29th, \$6

Call 623.222.1500 for more information.

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

# Joan Shafer

## Memorial Service

Former Surprise mayor Joan Shafer was remembered by hundreds of people from around the valley at a special service May 9, 2008 at Surprise Stadium. The former mayor, who died in April just months after retiring as Surprise's first elected mayor and first woman mayor, was honored with speeches, a video of her life, Fire Department Pipe and Drum bands from around the Valley and the release of white doves by family members. Many more people expressed their grief and their memories of Mayor Shafer at city-sponsored and other internet sites.

Mayor Shafer, 80, served from 1994 until the end of 2007, making her the city's longest serving mayor. She was first elected mayor by fellow city council members, as was the practice at the time, and went on to win the first city-wide mayoral contest. She was reelected to four-year terms until her retirement.

Her time in office was highlighted by the city's growth to more than 100,000 residents, the construction of Surprise Stadium and the arrival of major league baseball spring training.

Her greatest passion was DreamCatcher Park, an athletic field for physically challenged children, which opened in 2007. The Surprise City Council has voted to name the field at the park after her, and her family has requested that in her memory, residents support the Park by sending contributions to "Surprise Sundancers/DreamCatcher Park" at Community & Recreation Services, 15960 N. Bullard Avenue, Surprise, AZ 85374.



Defining **Vibrant** Southwest Living

12425 W. Bell Road  
Surprise, AZ 85374

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