CASA GRANDE

Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Office

BUSINESS UPDATE

December 2025 | Vol. 42, Issue 12a

Greetings from the Chamber

Travis Snider, VP Sustainability and External Relations

Cactus Mine

2025 Chairperson, Board of Directors

Thank you to all who submitted nominations for the Annual Chamber Business Awards. We had many excellent nominations and the Awards Selection Committee (previous award winners), are pleased to announce the following honorees:
Community Service: Matt Herman - Norris RV
Business Excellence - Small Business: Cook E Jar
Business Excellence - Large Business: Al & Riley's Air Conditioning & Sheet Metal
Hall of Fame: Regis Sommers

The awards will be presented at one of our favorite events, the 2026 Annual Dinner, at The Property Conference Center on Friday, January 23, beginning with a no-host social hour from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm, followed by a plated dinner, Chamber update and wrapping up with the presentation of awards. The event is open to all to attend, Chamber members and non-members. Reservations are required.

The Chamber encourages shopping and doing business locally throughout the year and especially during the gift-giving holiday season. Some of you who may not have visited all of our local stores, should take a look at the many unique Casa Grande shops and businesses, enjoy the more leisurely pace, convenience and manageable traffic that our city offers. After all, if the tourists and visitors tell us how much they enjoy the friendly reception they receive at the businesses and services here - we should too.

Our local stores and services are owned by and employ our friends and neighbors, who choose Casa Grande as the best place to live, work and play. Living here and working here connects us to the community and our fellow residents and business people, in a unique symmetry. So, re-discover our community, get to know your business colleagues and neighbors and Shop It! this holiday season. A extra plus is that more than 68% of the dollars spent in Casa Grande stay here, helping to maintain our infrastructure and enviable quality-of-life. Have a safe and happy shopping experience and happy holidays!

Business of the Week
CG Tactical Firearms, LLC

Congratulations to Business of the Week, **CG Tactical Firearms, LLC**, located at 2461 E. Florence Blvd., Suite 1 in Casa Grande. A locally owned, neighborhood gun store that prioritizes education, safety and responsible ownership above all else, means that whether customers are brand-new to firearms or if they've spent a lifetime on the range, they will be able to walk through the door and feel comfortable, informed and confident every step of the way. Once inside the welcoming showroom, customers will find demonstration models from many of the nation's premier tactical-gear manufacturers. These sample firearms, holsters, optics and safes exist to illustrate best practices: how to choose the right fit, how to store equipment securely and how to integrate dependable safety accessories into a daily routine.

Since CG Tactical Firearms, LLC is a fully licensed operation, every tip they share follows Arizona and federal regulations to the letter—giving you peace of mind that the information is both accurate and up to date. The certified staff hosts free safety workshops, run small-group clinics on cleaning and storage and offers one-on-one consultations to help customers navigate local gun laws, concealed-carry requirements and home-defense planning. Each session is tailored to the customer's experience level, ensuring that first-time owners, seasoned hunters, competitive shooters and everyday enthusiasts, all receive practical advice they can trust.

CG Tactical Firearms is rooted in service. Owners Sean Dugan and Derek Meier grew up in Casa Grande and are active in local charities, youth programs and community events. When you visit, you're not just another customer—you're a neighbor and are welcomed to drop by any time to ask a question, explore safe-handling demos or simply chat about the latest gear developments. For more information, call 520-423-6945 and tell them that you were referred by the Casa Grande Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Office.

Casa Grande - Shop It!

The holiday season is upon us! When you shop, dine and celebrate locally, you're helping locally operated businesses thrive. From family-owned restaurants to local shops, Casa Grande has everything you need to make the season bright. The character of the community is displayed in the historic downtown shops from products made by local artists and artisans to the

many gifts and services that are unique to Casa Grande. Shoppers can explore stores located throughout the city, in stand-alone shops, shopping centers or the Promenade Mall. **#CasaGrandeShopIt! #ShopLocal**

Upcoming Chamber Events

December Business After Hours

Wednesday, December 17, 5:15pm - 7:00pm

Hosted by

J. Warren
FUNERAL SERVICES
A Dignity Memorial® Provider

J. Warren Funeral Services - Dignity Memorial
525 N. Peart Rd.

~ Make business connections!
~ Food, drinks, networking and fun!
~ 50/50 (**tickets are CA$H only**)
~ **6th Annual Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest!**

NO CHARGE
for Chamber Member Representatives to attend
($20 for Prospective Members)

The Casa Grande Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Office cordially invites you to attend the

Annual Dinner & Awards Celebration

Friday, January 23, 2026

2025 Honorees
Community Service: Matt Herman - Norris RV
Business Excellence - Small Business: Cook E Jar
Business Excellence - Large Business: Al & Riley's Air Conditioning & Sheet Metal
Hall of Fame: Regis Sommers

The Property Conference Center
1251 West Gila Bend Highway, Casa Grande

6:00 pm ~ No-Host Reception and Silent Auction
7:00 pm ~ Plated Dinner
Awards Presentation to Follow

REGISTRATION OPENING SOON!

~ Semi-formal/Business Attire ~

Thank you to our Sponsors:

Gold Sponsor

Silver Sponsor

Media Sponsor

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Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings

Angels Care Home Health
1821 N. Trekell Rd., Ste. 1
Thursday, December 11, 4:00 PM

Industrial Hose
1784 N. Pinal Ave.
Thursday, January 8, 4:00 PM

Upcoming Chamber Groups & Meetings

Government Affairs Committee
Wednesday, December 3, 7:30am - 8:30am - Hybrid Meeting

Healthcare Roundtable
Wednesday, December 10, 4:00pm - 5:00pm - Hybrid Meeting

Business Ambassadors Committee
Thursday, December 11, 7:30am - 8:30am

Business - Community - Connections - Opportunity
These are the Chamber's areas of focus...and also a great way to promote our member businesses and Casa Grande Community.

Central Arizona Diesel
Chris Jimenez
312 W. 2nd St.
Casa Grande, AZ 85122
(520) 858-2692
chrisjimenez@centralazdiesel.com
Category: Automobile Parts, Repair & Service

Ellison-Mills Contracting
Aubrie Creager
3152 N. Lear Ave., #2
Casa Grande, AZ 85122
(520) 876-4004
info@ellison-mills.com
Category: Construction & Contractors

Fairfield Inn - TownePlace Suites Casa Grande
Esther Knight
742 N. Mission Pkwy
Casa Grande, AZ 85194
(520) 350-9000
EstherK@swhm.com
Category: Hotels, Lodging & Travel

Frank Lee the Best Heating and Cooling
Frank McDermott
Casa Grande, AZ
(520) 252-1966
frankleethebestac@gmail.com
Category: Air Conditioning &

Ignite HR Solutions
Kate McDonald
Casa Grande, AZ
(520) 240-7858
kate@ignitehrsolutions.com
Category: Consulting - HR & Safety

***Membership Information**:*
*To learn more about **benefits of your membership**, contact Ken Saltzmann at the Chamber, call 520-836-2125, or email:* **membership@casagrandechamber.org.**

Heating

Membership has its benefits!

Did you know... Chamber members have access to the Chamber's conference room at no cost to Chamber-member businesses?

If you need meeting space for an in-person or hybrid meeting, contact the Chamber at 520-836-2125, or **email our office** to check availability. **To learn more about other membership perks**, contact Ken Saltzmann at the Chamber, 520-836-2125, or **membership@casagrandechamber.org**.

Business Briefs

RE/MAX Casa Grande - Yost Realty Group is partnering with the Casa Grande Elementary School District in **Merry & Bright Holiday Meal Baskets** to bring warmth and kindness in homes this holiday season. All food donations must be dropped off at RE/MAX Casa Grande - Yost Realty Group by Thursday, December 4. For more information, contact **Melissa Yost Fuentes**.

HomeSmart Premier has private offices available to rent for only $500 per month. Do you need a professional space to meet with your customers or clients? Is working from home too hard because of the distractions and noise? You can have a quiet space to lease with 24/7 access and all utilities included for a very low price. There is also a conference room available for no extra charge. Centrally located at Cottonwood Rd/Trekell Rd. Call Dayv Morgan at 480-251-4231 for more information.

Casa Grande Union High School District is looking for Community Interviewers. Help prepare students for their future by volunteering as an interviewer at the **Annual CGUHS Community Interviews**. The event will take place on Tuesday, January 13 from 8:00 am - 3:00 pm in the main gym. For more information, contact **Vanessa Stephens** or call (520) 836-8500 Ext 3123.

Hot Spot Gymnastics invites you to **A Time to Shine Cirque De Gymnastics**, Saturday, January 10 through Sunday, January 11 at the Community Recreation Center. Join them in a fun-filled competition weekend with contests, prizes and lots of awards.

The City of Casa Grande is pleased to announce the following:

The City of Casa Grande Arts & Culture Commission is delighted to announce the opening of the **2026 Education Mini-Grant** application period. This program provides funding to support arts education projects that promote creativity, cultural awareness and student engagement within local educational institutions. Eligible institutions may apply for up to $500 to assist with project materials, supplies or related expenses. Applications open on November 14, 2025 and must be submitted no later than December 15, 2025.

Are you passionate about creativity, culture and community in Casa Grande? The City is currently seeking an engaged resident to **fill a vacancy** on the Arts & Culture Commission; a volunteer board that helps champion public art, cultural events, arts education and creative opportunities for all Casa Grande residents. This partial term runs through September 30, 2026, with meetings held on the first Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. If you're ready to support a vibrant and diverse arts community, we encourage you to apply by Friday, December 5, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

The Casa Grande Arts & Culture Commission invites artists to submit proposals for a new wall mural at Palm Island Family Aquatic Park. We're seeking a fun, festive, family-friendly mural with an 1980s-inspired design that captures energy, color and community spirit. The submission deadline is Monday, December 15 at 12:00 pm and all submissions must be a hard copy. For more information, contact **Evonne Aldana** or call (520) 421-8600 ext. 1100

Central Arizona College has partnered with **BetterMynd**, an online therapy platform, to offer students access to free teletherapy sessions from a diverse network of licensed mental health counselors. Statistics show that one out of three college students seek therapy from a professional for their mental or emotional well-being. The common issues a student may discuss with a counselor include anxiety and how to cope, assistance during the loss of a loved one or breakup, experiences of trauma or abuse, academic pressures, housing issues and more.

The Garnet of Casa Grande invites you to an afternoon full of holiday cheer for the **Winter Wonderland Holiday Bazaar** on Wednesday, December 17 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. There will be crafting, vendors and baked goods. RSVP by Wednesday, December 10 to **Ricki Nader** or call (520) 876-4200.

Achieve Pinal and AARP Experience Corps Reading Program are looking for volunteer tutors. Volunteers must be 50 years or older and be able to pass a background check - no experience needed! This is a **volunteer-based tutoring program** that is proven to help children who aren't reading at grade level become great readers by the end of third grade. If you are interested in becoming a part of this valuable program, contact Patti King at (520) 836-6868.

MainStay Suites is offering an **exclusive offer** for Chamber members and visitors! Whether you are here for a quick visit or a longer stay, MainStay Suites offers spacious accommodations. Click **here** to scan QR code for a discounted stay.

Join **Yoga Recovery Healing Arts Project**, Saturday, December 13, for the next Open Mic & More! All Arts Community Stage at The Museum of Casa Grande! Come enjoy the show and share your music, dance, poetry, skills, stories and more. All arts, all ages welcome. See you there! Volunteers RSVP to **Info@yrhap.org**.

Participate in the **1st Annual Kettle Kick-Off** on Thursday, December 4 between the Casa Grande Police Department and the Casa Grande Fire Department. It kicks off at 6:00 pm at Su Casa Grande. All money raised at

the Kettle Kick-Off helps local people here in Casa Grande, Arizona City and Eloy. Tickets start at $25 to participate.

Meet Your 2025 Chamber Board of Directors

Your Casa Grande Chamber of Commerce is served by a Board of Directors that represents our business members and advocates on behalf of our business community.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CASA GRANDE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Renée Louzon-Benn | 575 N. Marshall Street | Casa Grande, AZ 85122 US

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