



Greater Casa Grande
Chamber of Commerce

BUSINESS UPDATE

January 2021 | Vol. 38, Issue 1d

Annual Meeting

Friday, January 29th at Noon via Facebook Live

Due to the pandemic, we are dividing the Chamber's Annual Meeting (previously the Annual Dinner & Awards Program) into two parts this year.

The Annual Meeting will be held virtually, on Facebook Live, this Friday, January 29th at noon. Our 2020 Chairman of the Board, Jennifer Murrieta, will introduce last years' Board members, and share the Chamber's highlights for 2020. Ole Solberg, 2021 Chairman of the Board will officially induct this year's Board. We will also announce our 2021-2023 Strategic Plan, utilizing a balanced-scorecard outlining the Chamber's four areas of focus.

Attendees of the Facebook Livestream will be encouraged to comment on or share the video. Those who do will be entered to win a prize. You may access the [Facebook Livestream here](#).

The 2020 Business Awards presentation will be held later this spring, after awards recipients are determined (from the awards nominations submitted by YOU - our Chamber members). Nominations are encouraged and are still being accepted through February 28, 2021. The format of the presentation is being planned and will depend on safety protocols and social distancing. Details for these and other annual Chamber events and programs will be announced as events are formalized.

Our thanks to media partner, [Cactus Mine](#), for their generous support of our Annual Meeting.



**CACTUS
MINE**

Business of the Week



Congratulations to [United Way of Pinal County](#) this week's Business of the Week. United Way of Pinal County was founded in 1981 and this year will celebrate 40 years of service to Pinal County. United Way focuses on programs geared to improve the lives of residents.

In partnership with Dolly Parton Imagination Library, United Way is the largest provider of educational books in the county. They are the largest provider of training and resources to childcare providers in Pinal County. Recently, United Way established a scholarship for individuals needing assistance paying for the general education (GED) diploma tests. Helping to establish financial stability for Pinal County residents, United Way is the largest provider of free tax-preparation services to individuals making less than \$57,000 a year. This is in partnership with the IRS Volunteer Income-tax filing Assistance program (VITA). Among other things, United Way also provides rental/mortgage and utility assistance for those in need. They also partner with FamilyWize through which one can [save money on prescriptions](#).

The United Way of Pinal County would like to give a special thanks to SRP, APS, Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino, Hexcel and Pinal County for the generous contributions to the United Way's important causes and services.

Conveniently located at 1269 North Promenade Pkwy., Suite 104, business hours are Monday – Thursday from 8:00am – 4:00pm. Due to the pandemic, at this time United Way is providing all services online and by appointment only, no walk-ins. Your donation stays local! If you would like to help your neighbors by making a contribution to the United Way of Pinal County or if you know of anyone that needs assistance, please contact United Way of Pinal County, 520-836-0736 or visit the website, www.unitedwayofpc.org. Tell them the Greater Casa Grande Chamber of Commerce sent you.

Hot Off the Press!

CASA GRANDE



Get your copy of the 2021 Business Directory & Community Guide at the Chamber office, or [view the digital flipbook version HERE!](#) We can't thank the professionals at the [Casa Grande Dispatch](#) enough for their great work on this project with us.

Remembering David Snider



We were shocked and saddened to learn of the recent passing of longtime public official, civic leader and Chamber member, David Snider.

David served our community in many ways including but not limited to the library director for 26 years, two terms to the Pinal County Board of Supervisors, and the Casa Grande Elementary School District Governing Board for over 20 years, including 8 years as Board President. He was an advocate for education and community. David was a member of the Chamber's Government Affairs Committee, and a 2001 Hall of Fame inductee. Read his story [here](#).

He will be missed but not forgotten.

Business Briefs

The [Arizona Commerce Authority](#) has announced the following Boot Camp sessions. Please note the dates and time.

Tuesday, January 26, 9:00am - Yelp Communications and Reputation Management in 2021: Join in for an interactive session on best Yelp practices to help grow your business, featuring Yelp Senior Field Marketing Manager and Small Business Expert, Emily Washcovick. Learn how to organically build a strong online reputation, effectively engage your customer base and leverage positive customer reviews to increase brand awareness. [Register here](#).

Thursday, January 28, 9:00am - Updates on Paycheck Protection Program Loan Forgiveness. Receive an update on the Paycheck Protection Program and learn more about the forgiveness process for loans taken in 2020, featuring the experts at BeachFleischman. [Register here](#).

Synergisity Consulting, Training & Development is offering an Introductory AVERT (Active Violence Emergency Response Training) Class - Friday, JAN 29 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the Chamber office. \$20/person (a savings of over 50% off) exclusively to Casa Grande Chamber Members. AVERT training is designed to empower and educate workplace teams to make vital survival decisions during a violent situation. Learn how to recognize the signs of danger, make *rapid survival decisions and decide whether to Escape, Evade or Attack*. All participants will receive an AVERT certification card. [Sign up now](#), seats are limited. [View the event flyer](#).

SBDC - Restaurant Resilience Series – Regulation Changes for 2021 Tuesday, February 2nd @ 2:30 - 3:30 PM. Topic: Managing a Business The purpose of this series is to directly support the restaurant industry that has been dramatically impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. This program will offer relevant information and a forum to allow businesses to share best practices. This session will cover new changes to restaurant-related regulations, including details on the minimum wage increase and the Department of Labor's decision on the expansion of the tip pool, and limitations on the 80/20 rule. An update will also be given on the new PPP, EIDL, and available grants specific to the restaurant industry. [Register Now](#).

Alluvion Communications is pleased to announce Brand Marketing Specialist, Duncan Wiston! Duncan began his telecom career with Alluvion's parent company, Gila River Telecommunications, Inc., in 2013. He later joined Alluvion Communications in August of 2019 to build the company's marketing program. Learn more about Duncan, [read this blog](#).

According to the [Girls Scouts of Southern Arizona](#), on January 14, **Girl Scout Cookies** were distributed to Girl Scout troops across Pinal County at the annual Cookie Drop in Casa Grande. With safety measures in place, the Cookie Drop allowed troops to fill their cars, vans, trucks, and trailers with cookies. Girls started selling cookies on January 16. To locate Girl Scout cookies in your community, visit www.girlscoutcookies.org.

Selling cookies teaches important entrepreneurial skills and proceeds from each and every purchase stay local. Read the [entire announcement here](#).

[Salt River Project \(SRP\)](#) and Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center (Southwest Wildlife) recently teamed up to release a young family of bobcats to an SRP-managed habitat southeast of the Valley. The bobcats were previously living in a Scottsdale community, close to developed areas, and were in need of relocation to the wild. [Read the entire article and watch the release video here.](#)

City and County Stats for December 2020



[Pinal County Building Permits - December 2020](#)

[Pinal County Income and Labor Force Stats - YTD](#)

[Tax Collections by Municipality - Fiscal Year 2020-21](#)

[AZ Retail Tax Collections by County - YTD 2020](#)

[AZ Remote Seller Tax Collections by County - YTD 2020](#)

Membership has its benefits!

Did you know... The Greater Casa Grande Chamber of Commerce will provide **Certificates of Origin at no cost to chamber-member businesses?** This is a great benefit to our members who are manufacturers, processors, and distributors. For more information, contact the Chamber of Commerce, 520-836-2125, or [email our office.](#)

To learn more about other membership perks, contact Ken Saltzmann at the Chamber, 520-836-2125, or membership@casagrandechamber.org.

2021 Chamber Board of Directors

Your Greater 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. [Meet your Board of Directors](#)

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE GREATER CASA GRANDE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

