



Greater Casa Grande  
Chamber of Commerce

## ***BUSINESS UPDATE***

*June 2021 | Vol. 38, Issue 6b*

### **A Message from our Executive Director**

Renée Louzon-Benn

As we recover from the effects of the pandemic on our business community, we are beginning to restore more of our traditional practices and processes, such as offering networking programs and re-working some of our larger events.

Like other businesses, during the last year and a half, we have had to adapt to our environment - such as conducting most meetings, planning, scheduling and communicating virtually. We experienced both the power and the pitfalls of "pivoting" (going to Plan B or C or D) to keep our business running as smoothly as possible, based on the safety and health mandates that were put in place throughout the year.

One of our major annual events that had to be reconfigured to fit the protocols, was the 2020 Chamber's Annual Awards Presentation, in January (traditionally held in January). While awards nominations were received and the awardees selected, we were unable to hold the in-person event due to health and safety restrictions on public gatherings.

Well, we pivoted. The 2020 awardees were notified, in-person, by our "prize patrol" and were very happy to have been selected for the honors. Our goal, as a Chamber, is to ensure that every awardee receives the same recognition and honor.

As we plan now for 2022, we are pleased to announce that the 2020 honorees will be included with the 2021 honorees at the Chamber's 2021 Annual Awards Presentation to be held in early 2022!

Thank all of you for understanding that the Chamber is a small business, like many of yours. We have all had to adapt and reconfigure "the way things have always been done," and we are certain that now, we can all proceed and find equal reasons for optimism now and in the future.



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## **Greater Casa Grande Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Recipients**

As mentioned in the Executive Director's update, our 2020 Awardees were

surprised with a "prize patrol" notification of being a recipient.

Receiving the 2020 Business Excellence Award for Small Business is [Pinal Council for CASA/Foster, Inc.](#) They are a 501C-3 non-profit organization whose mission is to support the abused, neglected, and abandoned children in the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program/Foster care system in Arizona and the CASA volunteers who serve them. The group was nominated by Donna McBride, who also helped conspire in the surprise presentation.



Receiving the 2020 Community Service Award is Bob Shogren, Executive Director of [Casa Grande Alliance](#). Bob retired from public service after nearly 34 years, and during that time he was actively involved in the Casa Grande community through personal volunteerism as well as his work at the Governor's office. Colleen Bechtel nominated Bob for the award, she summarized, "Bob has made and continues to make a difference in our community and in the lives of those he serves."



Our thanks to the team at [Blossom Digital Marketing](#), Video Sponsor, for their support of these surprise presentations and creating these fun and memorable videos.

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# Business of the Week



Congratulations to [Alluvion Communications](#), this week's Business of the Week. Alluvion is committed to becoming the premier provider of data and communications. They accomplish this by providing cost-effective communications with unsurpassed reliability that easily scale to meet the needs of each customer. They will configure a solution to meet those needs so customers can focus on achieving their goals today and tomorrow rather than focusing on managing their networks.

How can Alluvion help? Alluvion provides comprehensive telecommunication solutions for every business. Some of the more common industries include:

- K-12 to higher education: Despite dwindling budgets, institutions must acquire the bandwidth to drive modern applications; reliably connect and share data with other campuses; satisfy the increased use of the Internet in the classroom; and ensure reliable phone service.
- Financial Industry: Alluvion delivers high-performance connectivity with ultra-low latency so workers and clients can access critical information without worry of downtime or data loss.
- Healthcare organizations: Growing challenges to control costs while providing the highest-quality care. There's also the need to migrate to EMR (electronic medical records) to meet regulatory demands and improve patient care while satisfying HIPAA and HITECH Act requirements.
- Hospitality Industry: Alluvion helps you deliver with wired and wireless Internet access, and local and long distance telephone service. So, whether a budget hotel, large resort, or somewhere in between, Alluvion's advanced hospitality solutions easily scale to meet all business and guest requirements today.

If you or your business is ready to move into the future with Alluvion, Please call Duncan at (480) 639-1041, and tell him the Greater Casa Grande Chamber of Commerce sent you.

# June Networking Events

Please join us for the following in-person networking events:

## June Business After Hours Mixer

In-Person event, masks optional

Wednesday, June 23, 5:15pm - 7:00pm

Savior Hospice & Palliative Care

1640 N. Peart Road

~New Member Plaque Presentations~

~Win a Minute at the Mic - 50/50 CA\$H Drawing~

No charge for Chamber member representatives to attend!

## RSVP Required

Register prior to the event on our website [www.casagrandechamber.org](http://www.casagrandechamber.org)

Haven't set up your Rep login account yet to register for Chamber events online? It's quick and easy! Call Wendy with any questions at (520) 836-2125.

1. Your USERNAME is your first name or your email address.
2. Your PASSWORD can be set by clicking "forgot password" and following the reset instructions in the email you receive.
3. Once registered for the event, you will receive a confirmation email.



## June Business Before Hours

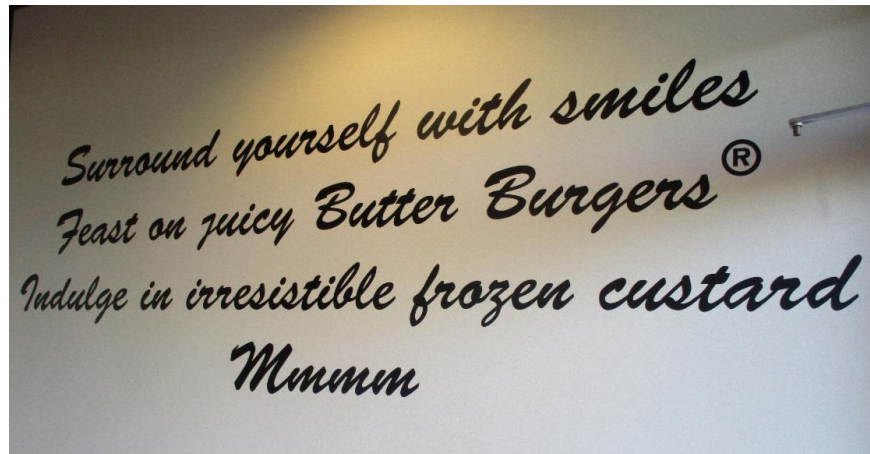
There was great energy at this past Friday's Business Before Hours, hosted by [Culvers of Casa Grande](#), 2453 East Florence Boulevard. Our thanks to owners, Joe and Jamie Wood for hosting this fun filled event.

Almost 30 attendees enjoyed a tasty breakfast, while networking and visiting with each other. We were excited to present these new Chamber members with their new member plaques: [Casa Grande Skate Shop](#) and [RE/MAX Solutions](#).

Congratulations to ☐Minute at the Mic☐ winners: Marcus Romero, Casa Grande Skate Shop; Kristin Gramando, [J. Warren Funeral Services](#); Julia Montoya, [First American Credit Union](#); Nikki Millsap, [Advanced Spray Foam](#), Bob Laukonis, [My Golden Era](#); Maggie Dooley, [Central Arizona College Foundation](#), and Norm Poole, [Military Officers Association of](#)

[America \(MOAA\)](#). Congratulations to our morning mixer 50/50 winner, Norm Poole, [Military Officers Association of America \(MOAA\)](#).

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



## CHAMBER RENEWALS

May 1-31, 2021

A great big **THANK YOU** to the following Chamber Members for renewing their memberships!

- [Arcadian Insurance Agency](#)
- [Arizona Complete Health](#)
- [Arizona Public Service](#)
- [AZ Paralegal Assist, LLC](#)
- [B & G Auto](#)
- [Banner Medical Group](#)
- [Batteries + Bulbs](#)
- [Big O Tires](#)
- [Blossom Digital Marketing](#)
- [Boys & Girls Clubs of the Sun Corridor](#)
- [Buffalo Wild Wings](#)
- [Casa Grande Trap & Skeet](#)
- [Casa Grande Union High School District](#)
- [Casita Verde RV Resort](#)
- [Clark's Septic Tank Service](#)
- [Edward Jones - Financial Advisor: Robert Miller](#)
- [First Presbyterian Church](#)
- [Foothills West RV Resort](#)
- [Gallo Construction, Inc.](#)
- [Hexcel Corporation](#)
- [Home of Hope - Teen Challenge](#)
- [Marge Jantz](#)
- [Keller Williams Legacy One Realty](#)
- [Land Advisors Organization](#)
- [NewLife Baptist Church](#)
- [Pinal County Assessor - Douglas Wolf](#)
- [Promenade at Casa Grande](#)
- [Silent Witness of Casa Grande](#)
- [Small Animal Clinic, P.C.](#)
- [Sommers Glass & Mirror](#)
- [Sommers Jewelers](#)
- [State Farm Insurance - Elvia Cota-Ramirez Agency](#)
- [Stewart Clinic of Chiropractic](#)
- [Tee Pee Sand & Gravel](#)
- [VFW Post 1677](#)
- [Western State Bank](#)

### Membership Information:

To learn more about benefits of membership contact Ken Saltzmann at the Chamber, 520-836-2125, email [membership@casagrandechamber.org](mailto:membership@casagrandechamber.org), or visit the [Member Benefits](#) page on our website.

# Business Briefs

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

**Wednesday, June 16 | 9:00am | Applying for Paycheck Protection Program** | Join for a special session on the Paycheck Protection Program Forgiveness, featuring subject matter experts from BeachFleischman and Chicanos Por La Causa. Learn about the forgiveness application process and why you need to apply for it if you received a PPP loan. [Register here.](#)

**Thursday, June 17 | 9:00am | How To Recover From Financial Loss |** Hear from subject matter expert Karen Russo on how to bounce back from financial losses. Learn how to identify when you're financially stuck and what steps to take in order to repair the loss and return stronger. [Register here.](#)

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[Academy Mortgage - Dawn Svoboda](#), invites you to learn more about mortgages and the best fit for you. Check out this [refi-for-reno info](#). Learn more, visit [their website](#) or call 520-316-1341.

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[Central Arizona College](#), in partnership with the GEO Group, Inc. will offer Correction Officer Training Academy (COTA) participants educational opportunities that will lead to a Corrections Certificate, with a pathway toward an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Justice Studies.

Through a cohort model, all COTA graduates and currently enrolled cadets may transfer in their COTA coursework to CAC as an 18 credit hour block. Additionally, Students will take CAC's Introduction to Administration of Justice (AJS101). Upon completion of AJS101, students will earn their Corrections Certificate. [Read the entire story here.](#)

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[Edward Jones - Robert Miller Financial Advisor](#) has announced relocating to a new office at 1609 East Florence Boulevard, Suite 12, with a new phone number (520) 426-9499.

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Do you have news to share? Email [president@casagrandechamber.org](mailto:president@casagrandechamber.org) by Friday for inclusion the following Monday.  
Formats: email, press release in word, and PDF documents.

## Meet your 2021 Board of Directors

**DID YOU KNOW** 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?

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LEARN MORE ABOUT THE GREATER CASA GRANDE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



