



Greater Casa Grande
Chamber of Commerce

BUSINESS UPDATE

May 2020 | Vol. 37, Issue 5a

Greetings from the Chamber

Jennifer Murrieta - *Casa Grande Elementary School District*
Chairman of the Board



As each state determines its own business re-opening date, businesses are looking at the ways they will be able to implement safety and social-distancing precautions in compliance with the mandates set forth by the Governor.

A few weeks ago, we were talking about the "new normal" for businesses. Each business will now determine the best practices for meeting with their clients and customers. Some of the safeguards that have been in use during the quarantine can continue to be used - or modified, as restrictions are lifted incrementally.

Perhaps the biggest change for businesses (and customers) is that we are all much more aware of our

environment accepting responsibility for our own safety as well as that of our customers, clients, co-workers and students. Business owners and administrators can continue to make hand sanitizer readily available and maybe even having disposable face masks available for customers at the door. Signs can be posted at the place-of-business, asking customers to stand at least six feet apart, and all pens, counters, keyboards and shared surfaces should be wiped down after each use.

I am sure there will be many other helpful suggestions provided by the City and County, as we move toward the re-opening of businesses. The Chamber will share all pertinent business and public health information it receives, as well. If you have any questions about the status of the business community, please contact the Chamber at 520-836-2125 or email president@casagrandechamber.org.

As we continue to navigate the COVID-19 crisis, here are a few items that The ACA recommends you have on your radar:

Governor Doug Ducey announced new guidance for Arizona during his press briefings last week and Monday, May 4th. The Stay at Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected order will be extended to May 15, with modifications that begin to re-energize the economy. Under the order, retail businesses currently not operating can begin curbside pick-up on May 4, followed by expanded in-person operations by May 8 as long as businesses implement social distancing and sanitation measures established by the United States Department of Labor or the Arizona Department of Health Services. Updated guidelines and Executive Orders are available on the governor's website.

The ACA launched its Small Business Boot Camp & Resource Collective last week, with daily webinars focused on funding resources available for businesses across Arizona. Register for this week's sessions.

Two new financial relief programs available for Arizona small businesses with less than 50 employees launched this week. The BBB Pacific Southwest's microgrant program offers \$500 to \$1,000 to recipients and Salesforce offers \$10,000 grants. **Additionally, the Federal Reserve announced it will expand the scope and eligibility for the Main Street Lending Program.** This includes creating a third loan option, lowering the minimum loan size and expanding the pool of businesses eligible to borrow.

In addition, **The Arizona Commerce Authority Business Resources Guide** provides information on funding opportunities, workforce navigation services, manufacturing support and ways the community has come together.

Welcome
New Chamber Members

Alluvion Communications

Duncan Wiston
7065 W. Allison Road
Chandler, AZ 85226
(480) 639-1990
info@alluvion.net
www.alluvion.net
Category: Telecommunications

First Tee Villas

Leroy Day
Arizona City, AZ 85123
(509) 859-2473
Category: Condominiums

Title Security Agency

Eric Snider
421 E. Cottonwood Lane
Casa Grande, AZ 85122
(520) 610-4735
eric.snider@titlesecurity.com
www.titlesecurity.com
Category: Mortgages & Contracts

**Veterans of Foreign Wars
Post 1677**

Hugues Byrne
111 E. 2nd Street
Casa Grande, AZ 85122
cgvfw1677@gmail.com
www.vfw1677.org
Category: Non-Profit Organization

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

[Join Us for Networking!](#)

We encourage you to attend our upcoming morning and evening events to meet potential customers and shamelessly promote your business.



[VIRTUAL Business Before Hours](#)

Friday, May 8th

New Time: 8:00am - 9:00am

[Hosted by Old Town Club](#)

RSVP to events@casagrandechamber.org

We will send you the Zoom invitation Thursday afternoon

[Business Briefs](#)



Thank you to everyone who donated to help [Casa Grande Alliance](#) get \$2600 worth of learning materials for the youth in the [Casa Grande Elementary School District](#).

First thing Monday morning, supplemental educational materials that were purchased with all of the donated funds over the last couple of weeks, were to be given out along with the school's At Home Learning Packets. Schools received materials based on what was

requested divided into primary (K-2) and intermediate (3-5), as well as some items set aside for middle school students. Additionally, everyone received a good amount of T-Mobile gift bags!

County Looking for Business Assistance Center Volunteers: In response to the growing need for the "next step" in addressing COVID-19 related concerns of the business community, [Pinal County](#) is in the process of

developing what is being referred to as a "Business Assistance Center." Volunteers are sought with expertise in Business Finance, Marketing, Human Resources, Accounting, CARES Act Navigation, Organization Management, Business Law, and any other skill sets that may be valuable to small businesses during these challenging times to provide remote assistance. If you can help, please complete the form located [here](#).

As a part of National Travel & Tourism Week, **The [Arizona Office of Tourism](#) is launching the first in a series of AOT Tourism Industry webinars** on Thursday, May 7 at 10 a.m. Arizona Restaurant Association President & CEO Steve Chucri and AOT Director Debbie Johnson will provide updates on what's being done to support tourism-related businesses, plans for Arizona's restaurant dine-in opening, AOT's Tourism Recovery Plan and, most importantly, a couple of stories from some incredible Arizonans who are making a difference in the industry. You are asked to please register and submit questions in advance for this one hour webinar.

- [Register here](#)
- [Submit webinar questions here](#)

May 6 Virtual Workshop: Selling to the Federal Government: Small business contractors continue to play an important role in helping Federal agencies to respond during the COVID-19 pandemic. Opportunities remain available for small businesses to bid on contracts and contribute to the mission of agencies. Learn about [SBA](#) resources and certification programs to help your small business successfully identify and compete for federal contract opportunities. [Join the waitlist to register for this free webinar here](#).

Can rural Arizona stave off Coronavirus, save local economies? Read the latest article by Victoria Harker in the Chamber Business News [here](#).

Beware of Scams and Fraud Schemes: The Office of Inspector General recognizes that we are facing unprecedented times and is alerting the public about potential fraud schemes related to economic stimulus programs offered by the U.S. Small Business Administration in response to the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19). The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the largest financial assistance bill to date, includes provisions to help small businesses. Fraudsters have already begun targeting small business owners during these economically difficult times. Be on the lookout for grant fraud, loan fraud, and phishing. [Learn more](#)

Do you have a business update?

Send an email to media@casagrandechamber.org to be included in the Business Briefs.

Meet your 2020 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.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE GREATER CASA GRANDE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

