

December 27, 2018

Community Update
by Charlie McClendon, City Manager



As we all prepare to begin a new year let me take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. The start of a new year gives us the chance to look back on accomplishments during 2018 as we look ahead to 2019. Here are some of the highlights of the past year:

December saw the installation of a new Mayor, Greg Pettis, a new Mayor Pro Tem, Mark Carnevale and two new Councilmembers. Ernesto Gutierrez was sworn-in as a new Councilmember elected from District 4 and Raymond Gregory was sworn-in as the new Councilmember elected from District 5. Also, in December the City held the Snow Fest event, which offered great fun for children of all ages and we broke ground on the new, grant-funded amphitheater at Cathedral Canyon and Avenida Lalo Guerrero. Construction will begin in early January 2019.

In **November** the first district elections were held. District Councilmembers were elected from Districts 3, 4 and 5. The City honored outgoing Mayor Stan Henry, Councilmember Shelley Kaplan and City Clerk Gary Howell during a special reception. The fifth annual Cathedral City Balloon Festival was held, and record crowds attended and enjoyed a new feature, the Food Truck Mash-up during which the Town Square was host to 25 food trucks from across Southern California.

During **October** motorists enjoyed the substantial completion of the new Date Palm bridge which now provides three lanes of traffic in each direction, a center median, sidewalks and bike lanes. Also completed in October were improvements to the intersection of Date Palm and Dinah Shore and a repaving of Dinah Shore from Date Palm west to the Dinah Shore bridge. This project was partially funded by the City share of the new SB1 gas tax revenues. Children donned their Halloween costumes and enjoyed the Spooktacular event, featuring trick or treating and a costume contest where the winners won new bikes.

September saw the second annual Tejano Music Festival where a great line-up of musical performers entertained a large crowd of people who dance throughout the evening in downtown

Cathedral City. The Mary Pickford Theater, with a sponsorship from the Public Arts Commission, hosted the Hola Mexico film festival in September and the new median on East Palm Canyon east of Date Palm was constructed.

In **August**, the City Council approved the purchase of a new piece of public art, *Protector*, which subsequently became the center piece of a memorial garden honoring Police officers who gave their lives in the line of duty. Council also approved a contract authorizing the Police dispatch center to continue providing dispatch services to the City of Desert Hot Springs. DHS pays approximately \$1.3 million annually for those services.

July marked the start of a new fiscal year for the City. The fiscal year that ended on June 30 (FY17-18) saw fund reserves increase by about \$800,000 so that the City reserves, or savings account, now equals 50% of the general fund budget. Reserves play a critical role in making the City financially secure by providing emergency funds and as a hedge against the next economic downturn. The reserves grew because City departments managed their resources effectively, spending less than their budgeted amounts, and revenues performed above anticipated levels.

During **June** the City Council reviewed plans for the new Fire Station, which will replace the existing Station 411 located at Date Palm and Buddy Rogers and which will be constructed beginning in 2019. The new station is partially funded through the sale of property to the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians for their proposed casino project at Date Palm and East Palm Canyon.

May brought Council approval of an ordinance strengthening the penalties for the possession and use of illegal fireworks. This was in response to increasing calls for action from the community. Council also approved an ordinance allowing alternative fencing materials to be used in the City subject to Planning department review.

During **April** children from across the community enjoyed the Easter Kidapalooza event, featuring 20,000 Easter eggs and four lucky kids won a new bike. Council approved the removal of the red-light camera system during an April Council meeting opting instead to focus on enforcement by Police officers. Council also awarded a design contract for the HAWK pedestrian crossing signals to be installed at two locations on Dinah Shore, one near Cathedral City High School and the other just west of the Food 4 Less center. The signals are being funded through a pedestrian safety grant received from CVAG, which will also fund the construction of in-fill sidewalks on Date Palm Drive. Both projects will be completed early in 2019.

In **March** Cathedral City hosted the fourth annual LGBT Days event, welcoming record crowds to downtown. Council approved a recommendation from the Arts Commission to fund the installation of a mural honoring local athletes Tim Bradley and Cub Swanson. The mural, paid for using arts fees paid by new development was painted on a wall on East Palm Canyon across from City Hall during the summer and dedicated in the fall of 2018. Council also approved a specific plan amendment for the Rio Vista Village subdivision, now known as Verano, in north Cathedral City, paving the way for new home construction, which will likely begin in January 2019. The grand opening of the first section of the CV Link also occurred in March. The CV Link, when completed, will provide a pedestrian and bike route across much of the Coachella Valley.

February saw the annual Taste of Jalisco event. The event brought huge crowds to the Festival Lawn and surrounding area and featured the food, fashion, arts and music of the region near our sister city of Tequila, Jalisco. The evening brought the headline musical groups and an amazing firework show. Also, in February Council authorized the right of way phase for the Ramon bridge expansion project. This project, which will be managed by the City of Palm Springs, will bring improved traffic flow to the area by expanding the bridge to accommodate three lanes of traffic in each direction. It will also provide bike lanes and sidewalks improving bike and pedestrian safety. Six new firefighter/paramedics joined the Fire Department in February. The positions

received a majority of the necessary funding through a federal SAFER grant and, combined with positions added in 2017, allow the Fire Department to offer improved levels of service to the community.

In **January** the Council held their annual planning retreat, which resulted in the adoption of goals for the year. The Council adopted goals then serve as the starting point for City departments to develop their departmental work plans and guide staff efforts throughout the year. The goals, including a progress update presented to Council in July, can be found here:

<http://www.cathedralcity.gov/government/city-council-goals-2018>.

News



The next City Council Meeting is on January 9, 2019

Yianni's Taverna & Wine Bar – New Greek Restaurant in Cathedral City

With over 45 years in the restaurant business, Owner and Chef Yianni Psalios has opened another Greek restaurant in the Coachella Valley, and this time, in Cathedral City. Called “Yianni’s Taverna and Wine Bar” this fresh and fantastic Greek, full-service restaurant and market is a must on your taste test list! They serve Psitaris and traditional casseroles, appetizers, Mezes, seafood, ...[Read more](#).



Notice of Vacancies: Planning Commission and the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control Board of Trustees

The City of Cathedral City announces one vacancy on the Planning Commission and one vacancy on the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control Board of Trustees with terms beginning immediately upon appointment. PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION NO LATER THAN THURSDAY DECEMBER 27, 2018, to the Office of the City Clerk, 68-700 Avenida Lalo Guerrero, Cathedral City, CA 92234. Applications are ...[Read more](#).

Events

Cathedral City Artists' Exhibit

The Cathedral City Public Arts Commission is proud to announce the inaugural Cathedral City Artists' Exhibit that will commence on



Inaugural Cathedral City Artists' Exhibit
December 1, 2018—
February 2, 2019
 Museum open Saturdays & Sundays 1:00-4:00 pm
Opening Reception
Monday, November 26 @ 5:00 pm

Cultural Arts Museum (at City Hall)

The Public Arts Commission (PAC) has been fortunate to feature several exhibits since it was tasked with managing the museum. PAC is pleased to present its first exhibit featuring Cathedral City artists.

The Cathedral City Historical Society showcases an ongoing exhibit featuring images and memorabilia of our early years inside the Museum.



Saturday, December 1st through February 2, 2019. The exhibit featuring only Cathedral City artists will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Cathedral City Arts Museum at City Hall (nearest to the Mary ...

[Read more.](#)

Movies in the Park

Gather the family, blankets and/or chairs for "Movies in the Park" located this season at the Downtown Festival Lawn, 68600 East Palm Canyon Drive (HWY 111) in Cathedral City.

The free event, hosted by the Cathedral City Evening Rotary and sponsored by the City of Cathedral City, happens once a month on a Saturday evening between November and May, at 7:00 pm, except for the month of May, which begins at 8:30 pm due to daylight savings time. [Read more.](#)

FREE CATHEDRAL CITY MOVIES IN THE PARK

Presented By: Cathedral City Evening Rotary

Nov. 24th LEAVING THE NEON Ya Gotta Believe! ANGELS OUTFIELD	Dec. 29th MERMAID COCO	Jan. 26th THE INCREDIBLES 2 THE LORAX
Feb. 23rd Come For The: Special Events, Rainies, And So Much More	Mar. 16th THE SOUND OF MUSIC	Apr. 20th Bring Your: Chairs Blankets Family & Friends
May 25th		

Bring the Whole Family!
 For more information [Like us on facebook.](#)
 CathedralCityMoviesInThePark
 *Movies subject to change due to availability

Meet Us At:
Festival Lawn Cathedral City
 Spread The Word!

Two for Tuesday

Cathedral City residents can ice skate for half-price on the first Tuesday of every month (excluding holidays) at Desert Ice Castle. Just bring proof of being a Cathedral City resident, such as an Driver's license, copy of a utility bill, or any other form of residential

Two for Tuesday at DESERT ICE CASTLE 1st Tuesday of Every Month



Cathedral City residents can ice skate for half-price on the first Tuesday of every month (excluding holidays) at Desert Ice Castle. Just bring proof of being a Cathedral City resident, such as an Driver's

proof. Ages 3 years and up. The Time for Public Skate Available for "Two ...

[Read more.](#)



Palm Springs International Film Festival

The Palm Springs International Film Festival is a portal for the very best in world cinema, welcoming more than 136,000 enthusiastic filmgoers. For the fourth year in a row, the film festival will utilize the Mary Pickford Theatre in Downtown Cathedral City to showcase many of the films on multiple screens.

For tickets and all information about the festival, go to www.PSFilmFest.org

[Read more.](#)

Stop Identity Theft

Program

To help STOP identity theft and as a service to its residents, the City of Cathedral City is hosting FREE Document Shredding Events. The Shredding Events are the first Saturday of the month October thru May each year.

[Read more.](#)

The City of Cathedral City

Stop Identity Theft Program

To help STOP identity theft and as a service to its residents, the City of Cathedral City is hosting FREE Document Shredding Events. The Shredding Events are the first Saturday of the month October thru May each year.

WHEN: 2018 **Saturday, October 6, November 3 and December 1**
2019 **Saturday, January 5, February 2, March 2, April 6 and May 4**

TIME: 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Arrive early – once the shredding truck is filled to capacity the event will end.

LOCATION: 68-510 East Palm Canyon Drive

EXAMPLES OF DOCUMENTS:

- Legal documents
- Medical records
- Financial statements
- Accounting files/records
- Personnel files
- Payroll records
- Bank statements
- Tax records
- Contracts
- Receipts/invoices
- Cancelled checks
- Photographs
- Credit card documents

TIPS:

- You do not need to remove paper clips, staples, file folders, report covers, envelopes or binder clips from your documents.
- You can bring your documents in boxes or plastic bags.

RESTRICTIONS:

- Limited to Cathedral City RESIDENTS only.
- Be prepared to show proof of residency or bring this postcard to the event.
- Limit 5 banker sized boxes per resident or household.
- No Businesses allowed.**
- Remove all trash items from your boxes or bags!
- Items like pens, pencils or regular household trash cannot be shredded.

FOR MORE INFORMATION



You're not limited to the items listed – bring all your sensitive documents.



MORE:

- Your documents will be shredded on site – you will be able to witness the entire process.
- Arrive early – once the shredding truck is filled to capacity the event will end.
- This is a free event – there is no charge to shred your documents.



Coachella Valley, Show Us Your Talent

OPEN AUDITIONS!

Saturday, January 12, 2019
1:00-4:00 p.m.
at Cathedral City Library

Pick up Performance Guidelines and Entry Forms
at the Cathedral City Library

CASH PRIZES!!

Sponsored by the Cathedral City Library in
partnership with the Cathedral City Public Arts
Commission



Open Auditions for "Coachella Valley, Show Us Your Talent!"

Do you have a special talent? Is there something you're asked to do at every get together? Sing? Dance? Tell jokes? Maybe you think—or have been told—that you have no talent but you've always had a secret desire to be onstage. Here's your chance! The first annual Coachella Valley, Show Us Your Talent competition is coming to Cathedral City in ...

[Read more.](#)

Speakers Series - Friends of the Cathedral City Library

New Speakers Series Comes to the Cathedral City Library The Friends of the Cathedral City Library invite you to join them for a new Speakers Series featuring bestselling authors, writers, and producers. This free event will host the following: Catherine Svehla, "Grandfather Coyote: How Trickster Makes the World" Wednesday, January 23, 2019 from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm Cathedral City ...

[Read more.](#)



Friends of the
Cathedral City Library
present:

Speakers Series

Free to the public

January 23 6-7:30pm	Dr. Catherine Svehla on "Grandfather Coyote: How Trickster Makes The World"
February 20 6-7:30pm	Bestselling author Andrew Kaplan on "James Bond, Homeland, the CIA, the KGB and Other Spies & Terrorists I Have Known"
March 16 10-11:30am	Maggie Downs and Tod Goldberg on "Tales From the Open Book Radio Show & Podcast"

Cathedral City Branch Library
33520 Date Palm Drive
Cathedral City, CA 92234

Free Admission / Donations Welcome



Presents

Taste of Jalisco

A Celebration of Our Sister City
TEQUILA, JALISCO - MEXICO



Cathedral City, CA
February 9, 2019
Downtown Festival Lawn
www.TasteofJalisco.com

4th Annual Taste of Jalisco Festival

LIVE MUSIC, FOOD, TEQUILA/BEER, FIREWORKS SHOW, KID ZONE AND OUTDOOR MARKET!

For Sponsorship or Booth Rental Opportunities, contact:

Eric Davis, City of Cathedral City
(760) 770-0340, Ext. 134
SponsorshipSpecialist@cathedralcity.gov

[Read more.](#)

Mary Nutter Collegiate Classic

According to the organizers, the Mary Nutter Collegiate Classic is the nation's largest and most prestigious preseason college softball tourney, featuring more than 25 top Division I teams. Celebrating its 16th year, the Cathedral City,

California event will occur on February 21-24, 2019.

The lineup of teams includes UCLA, Stanford, Cal-Berkeley, North Carolina, Texas A&M, Oklahoma, Oregon, plus many more...[Read more.](#)



Agnes Pelton House Museum Day

Within a five block radius walking area , the centerpiece of the event is Chuperosa Lane and the Pelton House, that the posthumously celebrated Transcendental American painter, Agnes Pelton designed and had built in 1939. The Pelton House is located in the heart of the fabled neighborhood, the Historic Cathedral City Cove artists' colony of the 30's through the 60's. This is where she painted for over twenty years– her notable desert landscape “plein air” works and her abstract master works, her Transcendental paintings that established her reputation at the mid-century in the art world. Throughout the 30's-50's, the ...[Read more.](#)

Food Truck Mash-Up

If you came to the 5th Annual Cathedral City Hot Air Balloon Festival and enjoyed the Food Truck Mash-Up, then you are going to LOVE the Food Truck Mash-Up on Saturday, March 16, 2018 from 12:30 pm to 9:00 pm. More than 25 of the best food trucks from SoCal will be here for your enjoyment as well as musical ...

[Read more.](#)





5th Annual Cathedral City LGBT Days

March 29 - 31, 2019

[Read more.](#)

For Questions or Comments, Contact Chris Parman, Communications and Events Manager
cparman@cathedralcity.gov

