

September 23, 2021

National Teal Talk Day

## Community Update

By John Muhr, Fire Chief



One of the most asked questions we hear from people regularly is, "Why do we send the big red engines to medical calls?" Well, the simple answer is, serious medical emergencies require more than two medical personnel and we do not want to waste precious time waiting for the added fire crew to respond.

The Fire Department responds to nearly 6,400 calls for service annually, responding from three strategically located fire stations throughout the city. The majority of our 911 calls (76%) are for Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Currently, we respond to all emergency medical calls with two fire units, an ambulance and a fire engine. Two personnel manage the ambulance while three firefighters staff the engine as an engine company.

Most of the fire department personnel at CCFD are Paramedics. This allows us to have five highly trained fire personnel to manage the critical calls we come across. In the event of a non-life-threatening type medical call, the fire engine crew can be returned to service to respond to other calls while the ambulance crew treats the patient. If it is a serious medical emergency, then time is critical for the person's survival. Such serious emergency medical calls include heart attacks, chokings, child births, drownings, and strokes.

Serious medical emergency calls necessitate the five personnel, and then some. If we had to wait for the added engine and additional medical personnel to respond, it would waste precious time that is critical if the patient's heart stops. In addition, because medical emergencies sometimes occur in hazardous environments such as on a freeway or in busy intersections, having a two-unit response in hazardous environments provides for increased safety of patients, fire department personnel, and bystanders. Most cities in California incorporate this same response model.

When Cathedral City Fire Department units are not available due to other calls for service, the next closest fire department unit will be dispatched. The assisting units are either an available Cathedral City Fire Department unit, or one from the other regional fire agencies like Palm Springs or Cal Fire, regardless of jurisdictional boundaries. This automatic aid practice in Riverside County has been in place for decades and puts our community members' health and safety as our top priority.

Fire engines and trucks are vital tools we use to combat fires, but they also carry large amount of other medically necessary equipment that can be deployed independent from having an ambulance on scene.

So, the next time you see or hear your Cathedral City Fire Dept. engines and ambulances rushing to an emergency, you can rest assured that the emergency will be handled timely, efficiently, and with the wellbeing of those involved as our priority.

## COVID-19 Information

### Vaccine & COVID-19 Info

Get the latest on Coronavirus Disease 2019



### Business Support

Cathedral City Economic Development



## News

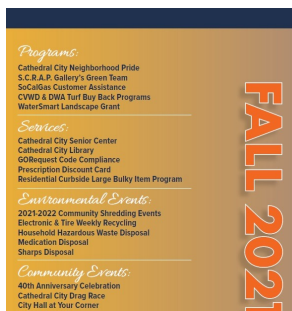
### FDA and CDC Scientific Review Panel Recommends Vaccine Booster Shot for Certain Groups

On Wednesday, September 22, 2021, the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) recommended a booster shot of the Pfizer- BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine to be administered at least six months after the second shot for the following groups: individuals 65 years of age and older; individuals 18 through 64 years of age at high risk of severe COVID-19; and individuals 18 through 64 ... [Read more.](#)



## Fall Mailer to Hit Mailboxes Starting Monday

Twice a year, the City of Cathedral City sends out to its residents, via the United States Postal Service, a resource booklet letting them



know of activities, events, programs, and financial incentives for conservation practices. It's a wealth of information. The Fall 2021 mailer should hit mailboxes throughout the city starting Monday. However, you can read it online NOW at ... [Read more.](#)

## “Dinner with Patsi” Raises \$1,512 for S.C.R.A.P. Gallery

The September “Dinner with Patsi” held at Southern Belle Restaurant (best beignets – go try them) in Cathedral City raised \$1,512.00 for S.C.R.A.P. Gallery of Cathedral City. Karen Riley, Executive Director, accepted the funds raised by the community who simply throw their loose change into Patsi’s red hat to support wonderful programs in Cathedral City. This month’s funds will go ... [Read more.](#)



## 3.7 Magnitude Earthquake Warns Us to Be Prepared for the Big One

Many people in the Coachella Valley felt the 3.7 magnitude earthquake with an epicenter near Anza, California. Although considered a small earthquake, it is a reminder to familiarize yourself with the three responses to reduce your injuries and save your life in case of a much greater, dangerous earthquake. DROP where you are onto your hands and knees. This ... [Read more.](#)

## Meatball Festival Goes Virtual for 2021

The 9th Annual Sammy’s International Meatball Festival benefiting the Boys and Girls Club of Cathedral City will hold its annual event virtually this year as they successfully did in 2020. From Sunday, October 3 through Sunday, October 17, 2021, each team will compete through a “Virtual Meatball Video Competition.” You will have an opportunity to view the videos and chose ... [Read more.](#)





**Newly Installed Pizza Oven, Digital Menu Boards, and Express Lane**  
Awaiting You at the Mary Pickford Theatre



## Events

### First Fridays Art Walk on Perez Road

Looking for an opportunity to walk and view some amazing art at the same time? Then come wearing your face mask and social distance at the First Fridays Art Walk on Perez Road from 5 pm to 8 pm. The nine art galleries are located at 68845 & 68895 Perez Road in the “H” and “I” buildings. [Read more.](#)



### Fun-O-Rama

Councilmember Nancy Ross, City's Environmental Conservation Division, SCRAP Gallery, the Cathedral City Boys and Girls Club, Cathedral City Arts Commissioners and the Cathedral City Parks and Community Events Commission have teamed up to provide a family fun day event at Ocotillo Park on Saturday, October 2, 2021 from 9 am to 1 pm. Fun-O-Rama encapsulates the ... [Read more.](#)



### Coachella Valley Battle in the Desert

Come watch the sport of amateur boxing on the Festival Lawn in Downtown Cathedral City. Doors open at 5:30 pm 1st boxing match starts at approximately 6:00 pm COVID-19 restrictions: Temperature checks will be required for

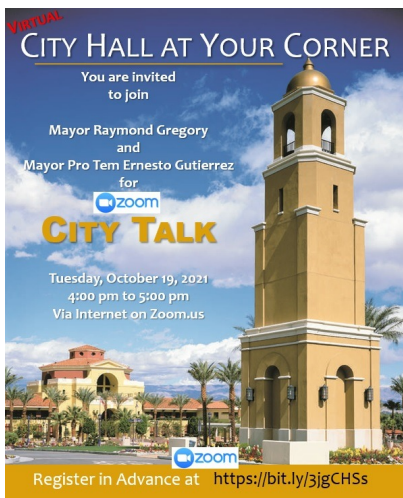


entry. If social distancing is not possible, attendees will need to wear a face covering when not eating or drinking. Hand sanitizer stations will ... [Read more.](#)



## Cat City Drag Race

The Cathedral City Gay Business Association is conducting the Cat City Drag Race where one contestant will win the title of “Royal Highness of Cat City” and win some amazing prizes, such as: \$500 cash Tiara Sash Schwinn bicycles for two Photo and announcement on the Festival Lawn Billboard for one month Up to 10 contestants will compete for the ... [Read more.](#)



## “City Hall at Your Corner” Happens October 19 – Register Now

Register now for September’s virtual “City Hall at Your Corner” as Mayor Raymond Gregory and Mayor Pro Tem Ernesto Gutierrez host the event for an informal discussion of issues in Cathedral City. This virtual event will take place on Tuesday, October 19, 2021 from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm on Zoom.us. You must register for the event in ... [Read more.](#)

## Halloween Spooktacular

Cathedral City’s Halloween Spooktacular features trick or treating with over 40,000 pieces of candy! Join friends, neighbors, and family for a Spooktacular time including activities such as Halloween costume contests (two bikes given away each hour), police and fire exhibitions, music, and family games. Presented by Crockett Law Group and



sponsored by the City of Cathedral City, Cathedral City Police ... [Read more.](#)



## 7th Annual Cathedral City Hot Air Balloon Festival and Food Truck Fiesta

Get the cameras ready for the festival that offers the best selfies. Agua Caliente Casinos present the 7th Annual Cathedral City Hot Air Balloon Festival and Food Truck Fiesta on November 19-21, 2021 featuring nearly 30 hot air balloons, balloon rides, two balloon glows, and three morning balloon launches seen throughout the Coachella Valley. Attendees will capture the beauty of ... [Read more.](#)



## Mayor's Tree Lighting Ceremony & North Pole Village

Bring the entire family to the "Mayor's Tree Lighting Ceremony" and "North Pole Village" presented by Agua Caliente Casinos in Downtown Cathedral City on Wednesday, December 8, 2018 from 5 pm to 7 pm to celebrate the "most wonderful time of the year!" The annual event includes a lit Hollywood-style movie set themed as Main Street at Santa's North Pole. ... [Read more.](#)

## Tejano Music Festival

Tejano PowerHouse Entertainment, City of Cathedral City and Diaz Enterprises invites you to the 4th annual Tejano Music Fest in Cathedral City featuring the best Tejano



music, fiesta food and spirits on Saturday, March 5, 2022 from 5 pm to 11 pm at our new location, the Cathedral City Community Amphitheater, 68526 Avenida Lalo Guerrero, in Cathedral City, California. You ... [Read more.](#)

For Questions or Comments, Contact Chris Parman, Communications and Events Manager  
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