

Features



Holidays Bring Comfort & Cheer

Enjoy new spins on some favorite holiday traditions, to include a drive-thru edition of the City's holiday tree lighting event in Veterans Memorial Park on Friday, December 4.



Firefighters Host Christmas Toy Drive

Support Sierra Vista firefighters as they bring the joy of Christmas to local families in need for the 49th year.



Fry Pioneer Cemetery Reopens

More than a century old, the Fry Pioneer Cemetery has never looked better thanks to a recently completed project to improve and preserve this National Historic Landmark.



Explore Out of this World Exhibit 7 Reasons to Love #SVLibrary

The national traveling exhibition Discover Exoplanets: The Search for Alien Worlds is now on display at the Henry F. Hauser Museum and Sierra Vista Public Library.



Heed Hands-Free Arizona Law

Under a recent Arizona law, drivers holding a cell phone or other electronic device while on the road can be cited starting January 1, 2021.



Software Enhances Medical, Fire Dispatching

Thanks to the implementation of Emergency Medical Dispatch software, Southeastern Arizona Communications (SEACOM) dispatchers can do more to help callers and responders.



As if there were not already plenty of reasons to love the Sierra Vista Public Library, our librarians have found new ways to serve our community despite the challenges posed by COVID-19.

Contents

Inside City Hall	. 3
Christmas in Sierra Vista	. 4
Moving Forward: Fry Pioneer Cemetery	. 6
Henry F. Hauser Museum	. 7
Public Safety	. 8
Sierra Vista Public Library	10
Sports & Leisure	11
Join Engage Sierra Vista!	12



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'Tis the Season to Shop Local

by Chuck Potucek, City Manager

EGEND HAS IT THAT SANTA HAS A WORKSHOP at the North Pole. While that may be true, you can bet he sources wood, wheels, paint, and nails from local businesses. You should, too.

Whether you're gifting homemade goodies or hand-crafted items, shop local. If you're buying readyto-give presents to support those in need, shop local. And when you're ready to replace a big-ticket item, shop local then, too.

One of the surprises we've seen amid COVID-19 is higher than expected sales tax revenue over the past several months. We figure that more people are forgoing the trips out of town for goods like groceries and clothing and buying from local retailers instead. On behalf of all Sierra Vista merchants, I thank you.

I hope that by shopping at Sierra Vista businesses, residents are starting to become better acquainted with our local stores, their staff, and the small business owners—because these people are your neighbors, your kids' coaches, and the people you stand next to in the checkout line—at a safe social distance, of course!

Sierra Vista's businesses shape our city, inject a sense of vitality into the community, and help create a hometown feeling. Collectively, these things help attract new businesses and residents, helping make Sierra Vista a vibrant place to live and work.

Nationwide, retailers are feeling the pinch from declining shoppers. Some national chains are either permanently closing underperforming stores or going out of business altogether. Let's do our part to keep

Sierra Vista businesses going—even the chains and big box stores—by buying local.

This year, Black Friday is being reprogramed as a season, not a day. And Black Friday isn't the only



holiday tradition that is being re-envisioned. Locally, the traditional holiday parade hosted by the Sierra Vista Area Chamber of Commerce has been shifted to a self-guided tour of light displays to help families (and Santa) maintain social distance. And the City's annual tree lighting in Veterans Memorial Park is a drive-through event this year. See page 4 for more information.

One thing that has not changed is that the holidays are hard on some families. When you are out shopping for the holidays and hear the familiar sound of bellringers, please remember the greatest joy comes from giving, not receiving. Foodbanks face high demand, and the need for toy donations is greater than normal. Many families have experienced layoffs, decreased hours, and the resulting financial setbacks due to COVID-19 lockdowns and the slowing economy.

Thank you all for supporting our community by buying and giving local, while doing your part to limit the spread of COVID-19. I know you will continue to show the kindness and generosity that has helped us all navigate 2020. Now more than ever, I am grateful to be home in Sierra Vista for the holidays.



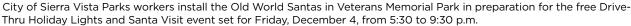
Serve on a Citizen Commission

Local residents are invited to serve on one of the City's boards, commissions, and committees that provide citizen input and advice in particular areas of focus. Many currently have vacant seats.

Learn more by heading to www.SierraVistaAZ.gov and go to "Commissions, Boards, & Committees" under the "Your Government" tab. For assistance or further information, email Jill.Adams@SierraVistaAZ.gov.

Holidays Bring Comfort & Cheer





N A YEAR FULL OF SURPRISES, the 2020 holiday season brings some familiar and much-needed cheer in the form of long-standing traditions that help bring us together as a community.

While we must celebrate these traditions a little differently due to COVID-19, the City and local organizations have found ways to ensure we can continue to enjoy them even in these unusual times. And one such tradition is the City's annual tree lighting in Veterans Memorial Park and the Old World Santas that take center stage there each year.

Many residents have likely already seen some of these jolly giants in the park as they take their posts alongside the road, instead of encircling the trees as they usually do. This is to prepare for the City's Drive-Thru Holiday Lights and Santa Visit on Friday, December 4, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

A socially distanced spin on our annual tree lighting, this free drive-thru event offers residents the

chance to stop by anytime from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. for a feeling of that familiar holiday magic. Our elves will offer free cookies and take-home packets of cocoa, while children can play games from inside their vehicles, all to the tune of holiday music.

And don't forget to drop off your letters to the North Pole. Santa will be here too, so children can still see and wave to him before heading home, even if they must wait until next year to sit on his lap.

"Seeing the Old World Santas and the holiday lights in the park each year has become a hallmark of the holiday season for many Sierra Vista families," Director of Leisure & Library Services Laura Wilson says. "We feel it's especially important to continue this tradition to bring joy and comfort amid a difficult year."

The Drive-Thru Holiday Lights and Santa Visit is sponsored by Liberty Utilities and Best Western Plus.





Old World Santa Ornaments

Attendees can purchase this year's limited-edition Old World Santa ornaments for \$10 each (cash only) at the event. The Cookie Break Santa and All American Santa are featured this year. Proceeds support maintenance of the Old World Santas.

Residents can also vote on their favorite Santa to be featured next year. To vote, or to pre-pay with credit or debit card, head to www.SierraVistaAZ.gov/Santas. For assistance, call (520) 458-3315.



A Sulphur Springs Valley Electric crew adorn the trees in Veterans Memorial Park with holiday lights. SSVEC assists with

Chamber Lights Up Sierra Vista

nother one of Sierra Vista's longest-running traditions has been reinvented for 2020, as the ▲ Sierra Vista Area Chamber of Commerce invites residents and businesses to Light Up Sierra Vista.

Instead of lining up alongside Fry Boulevard to see the chamber's annual holiday parade, residents will be able to follow a map to enjoy holiday light displays created by local residents and businesses located throughout Sierra Vista, Huachuca City, and Hereford. The map will be printed in the Herald/Review and hosted online by the chamber of commerce. Residents and business owners interested in signing up to be on the map, must do so by November 29.

The chamber will also host a virtual edition of its annual Santa Fly-In on Saturday, December 5. Kids will be able to talk to Santa, Mrs. Claus, and the Coca-Cola Bear through an online videoconference.

And don't forget to see the trees on display in the Mall at Sierra Vista for the 21st Annual Festival of Trees and vote or bid on your favorites. The trees are on display through December 1 and both voting and bidding can be done online. This year the event supports Cochise Family Advocacy Center—Lori's Place.

Learn more at www.SierraVistaAreaChamber.com, on the "Sierra Vista Area Chamber of Commerce" Facebook page, or by calling (520) 458-6940.



Firefighters Host 49th Annual **Christmas Toy Drive**

or 49 years, Sierra Vista Fire & Medical Services firefighters have brought joy to local homes by ensuring families in need have something to unwrap for Christmas. And 2020 is no exception.

The department's Christmas Toy Drive is getting ready to serve 250-300 area families once again. Here's how to help and how to apply for assistance.

How to Help

Donations of new, unwrapped toys and monetary contributions can be dropped off at any Sierra Vista fire station until Sunday, December 20.

The department will bag and tag the toys on Saturday, December 19, starting at 1:00 p.m. at Sierra Vista Fire Station 1. Gifts will be delivered on Sunday, December 20, starting at about 8:00 a.m.

For information on how to volunteer to assist this year, contact Paul Cimino at (520) 417-4400.

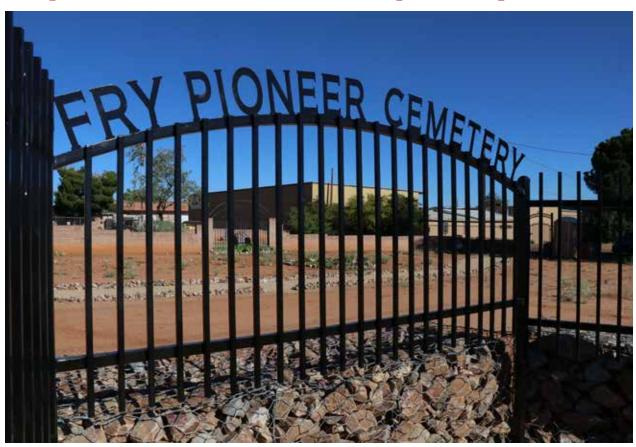
Apply for Assistance

Parents can apply for assistance from 8:00 a.m. to noon on Friday and Saturday, December 4 and 5, at Fire Station 3, located at 675 Giulio Cesare Avenue. Children from newborn to 12 years old living in the Sierra Vista area are eligible to receive assistance.

APPLICANTS MUST:

- Apply in person, not on someone else's behalf
- Present a photo ID and proof of local residency
- Present a utility bill indicating applicant's name and address
- Present documentation for parental or legal guardianship

Fry Pioneer Cemetery Reopens



embers of the Sierra Vista Historical Society, City officials, volunteers, and even some members of the Fry family celebrated All Souls' Day with the reopening of the Fry Pioneer Cemetery on November 2.

The reopening was held in conjunction with Fr. Greg Adolf's annual blessing of the cemetery and marked the conclusion of a long-sought project to improve and preserve this National Historic Landmark. Now more than a century old, the Fry Pioneer Cemetery has never looked better.

"It's been a long time coming," Sierra Vista Historical Society President Tim Doyle says.

The project was decades in the making and took off two years ago when the City acquired two vacant lots adjacent to the Fry family burial plot in late 2018, in partnership with the Sierra Vista Historical Society and Pioneer Title. This enabled the historical society and many dedicated volunteers to mark about 200 unmarked graves located adjacent to the family plot. With support from Butterfly Gardens Inc. they also

established a memorial garden honoring infants who were laid to rest there.

Gabion walls and iron fencing were also constructed around the perimeter of the cemetery. The Sierra Vista Historical Society recently received a grant from Arizona Humanities to fund the production and installation of a service gate. Funding for the grant was provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act.

"During the blessing last year, we said that we hoped to have the cemetery open by this time in 2020," says Marta Messmer, co-chairperson of the Fry Pioneer Cemetery Restoration Committee. "Despite obstacles presented by COVID-19, we are happy that we've met that goal."

The Fry Pioneer Cemetery is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and garnered a 2020 Governor's Heritage Preservation Honor Award through the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office and the Arizona Preservation Foundation.



If You Go

The Fry Pioneer Cemetery is now open Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday. The cemetery is located at 112 N. 7th Street, about one block north of Frv Boulevard.

Patrons are welcome to schedule visits to the cemetery outside of normal operating hours by calling the Henry F. Hauser Museum at (520) 439-2306.



LISTEN IN

Sierra Vista Historical Society President Tim Doyle and Fry Preservation Committee Co-Chair Marta Messmer recently joined us on the City's podcast, Let's Talk Sierra Vista.

Listen to the conversation about the Fry Pioneer Cemetery by heading to SierraVistaAZ. gov/city-departments/public-affairs/lets-talk/ or Engage.SierraVistaAZ.gov. You can also search for the podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Podcast Addict, or PodBean.

Out of This World Exhibit Now on Display



This artist's concept depicts Kepler-186f, the first validated Earth-size planet to orbit a distant star in the habitable zone. Image courtesy of NASA/Ames/SETI Institute/JPL-Caltech.

THE NATIONAL TRAVELING EXHIBITION, Discover Exoplanets: The Search for Alien Worlds, is now open at the Henry F. Hauser Museum and Sierra Vista Public Library.

The exhibit explores the fascinating world of space and astronomy. Using hands-on multimedia activities and static displays, the exhibit delves into the search for habitable worlds beyond our solar system, how NASA scientists are searching for these worlds, and how they may be like our own.

"At a time when many in-person learning opportunities are limited, this is a great chance for local youth and families to access an interactive learning program from national leaders in space education," Henry F. Hauser Museum Curator Elizabeth Wrozek says. "We're thrilled to offer this extraordinary resource to our community."

City staff are limiting the number of people inside the exhibit at any one time to ensure safe social distancing may be practiced. All components of the exhibit are sanitized often as part of an enhanced cleaning plan for the exhibit put in place due to

Wrozek is also partnered with the Patterson Observatory and Huachuca Astronomy Club to highlight the history of local astronomy in companion displays that are part of the exhibit. The local items include meteorites, telescopes, and original observatory blueprints.

If You Go

The Discover Exoplanets exhibit is on display at the Henry F. Hauser Museum and the Sierra Vista Public Library until December 23.

The museum is open on Monday through Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Thursday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



THE LIBRARY'S EXHIBIT HOURS ARE:

Tuesday & Thursday 11:00 AM -	– 1:00 рм & 3:00 – 5:00 рм
Wednesday	3:00 – 5:00 рм
Friday & Saturday	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

ABOUT THE EXHIBIT

Discover Exoplanets was developed by the Space Science Institute's National Center for Interactive Learning in partnership with NASA's Universe of Learning. This project was made possible through support from NASA, under cooperative agreement number NNXI6AC65A.



Explore Sierra Vista Sports Through the Ages

THE HENRY F. HAUSER MUSEUM off-site exhibit Sierra Vista Sports Through the Ages is now open at the City of Sierra Vista Sports Division.

The exhibit explores Sierra Vista's sports history through artifacts and images ranging from the 1940s to present day. It highlights early recreation activities and the growth and expansion of programs that have served our community throughout the years.



Visitors can explore the exhibit inside the Sports Division, located at 3401 E. Fry Boulevard, during the facility's regular hours. The Sports Division is currently open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

"City Recreation Program Supervisor John Healy and I are thrilled to partner on this project and bring the City's sports history out of the archives for public display here at the Sports Division," Henry F. Hauser Museum Curator Elizabeth Wrozek says.

Public Safet

Heed Hands-Free Arizona Law

Citations Start January 1, 2021



HEN LOCAL DRIVERS ARE CAUGHT holding a cell phone or other electronic device while on the road, they can expect to be pulled over. Soon, they will also get a citation.

The state's new hands-free law prohibiting in-hand use of electronic devices while driving went into effect after being signed by Arizona Governor Doug Ducey on April 22, 2019. It immediately made using devices like cell phones in-hand while driving a primary offense, even though citations and penalties take effect on January 1, 2021.

"Officers have issued numerous warnings to drivers distracted by in-hand digital devices since the law went into effect. This includes many repeat offenders," SVPD Public Information Officer Cpl. Scott Borgstadt says. "Texting or using a cell phone while driving is extremely dangerous because it takes a driver's eyes and attention off the road. We urge all drivers to take this new law seriously and stay focused on the road."

In 2018 alone, 2,841 people were killed due to distracted driving in the United States, including 202 people between the ages of 15 and 19, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Teen drivers made up about 9 percent of distracted drivers involved in a fatal crash in 2018.

Hands-Free Arizona Law at a Glance

PROHIBITS

- Holding or supporting a wireless device while driving
- Writing or reading any text-based communication while driving
- Watching, recording, or broadcasting video while driving

EXEMPTIONS

- Hands-free voice-to-text
- Stopped at a traffic light
- Reporting an emergency

HB 2318 took effect in 2019. Penalties begin on January 1, 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2019, SVPD and Sierra Vista Fire & Medical Services teamed up with the Buena High School Film & TV Production class to film a video highlighting the dangers of texting while driving. The video was filmed at a mock crash scene with student actors and local emergency responders acting much as they would in a real-life incident. It was shown at an assembly of Buena High School juniors and seniors. To view the video, search for "Buena High School Texting and Driving PSA" on YouTube.



Grant Supports New EMS Substation

THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE Office of Economic Adjustment awarded the City of Sierra Vista a grant of nearly \$1.5 million to build a new emergency medical services substation at the northeast corner of 7th Street and Buffalo Soldier Trail.

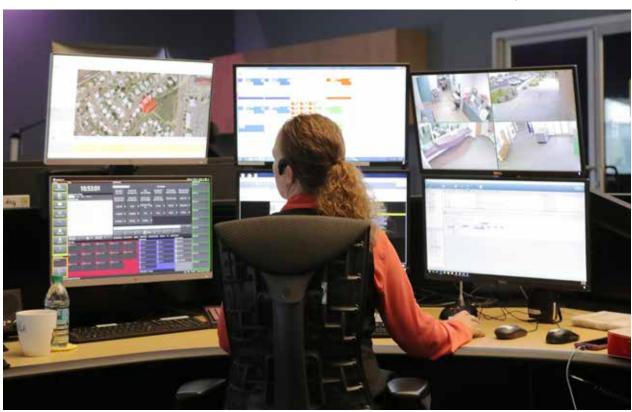
The City identified the need for an EMS substation at this location through multiple City Council strategic plan objectives over the past few years that sought to assess and improve EMS response in Sierra Vista. The project required support from Fort Huachuca and had to demonstrate substantial benefit to the military community stationed in Sierra Vista.

"We're thrilled to be able to offer our community a new EMS substation with an ambulance staffed and operated 24/7 in the near future," Sierra Vista Fire & Medical Services Chief Brian Jones says. "This will improve response times throughout the City while also aiding our efforts to serve Fort Huachuca."

The City entered into an Intergovernmental Support Agreement with Fort Huachuca in 2017 to provide EMS services to the installation, which resulted in significant cost savings for the post. The City's history of partnership and innovative collaboration with Fort Huachuca helped this project advance to be one of 16 proposals selected out of more than 100 submitted from around the country and US territories that advanced to the final round of the Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP) application process in August.

The grant award provides \$1,438,000 million in Office of Economic Adjustment dollars for the project, while the City has budgeted \$100,000 to complete the architectural and engineering work. The design will be consistent with the surrounding neighborhood and is expected to be complete in Spring 2021. At that point, the City can move forward with construction, which is expected to be completed by early 2022.

Software Enhances Medical, Fire Dispatching



ISPATCHERS CAN NOW SERVE local residents in need of emergency medical aid more efficiently and provide vetted instructions the moment they are needed thanks to the recent implementation of Emergency Medical Dispatch software at Southeastern Arizona Communications (SEACOM).

The intuitive software will make the call taking process faster and more efficient, while also standardizing it. A nationally recognized priority dispatch system guides dispatchers through each call, providing prompts for questions to ask and automatically prioritizing the call based on the caller's responses.

It will also give dispatchers instructions to provide to the caller while first responders are en route. This removes liability concerns and empowers the dispatcher to give nationally vetted instructions to callers for whatever situation they find themselves in.

"This is a huge enhancement that will benefit Sierra Vista and all the communities served by SEACOM," Sierra Vista Fire & Medical Services Chief Brian Jones says. "It empowers our dispatchers to give people the information they need to start offering the care that's needed before responders arrive on scene."

The new software went live in October for fire and medical calls, with a module for law enforcement planned for implementation next fiscal year, which starts July 1. This staggered implementation follows the recommended best practices.

About SEACOM

SEACOM currently provides combined dispatching services for the Sierra Vista Police Department, Sierra Vista Fire & Medical Services, Cochise County Sheriff's Office, Huachuca City Police Department, Fry Fire District, Whetstone Fire District, Tombstone Marshal's Office, National Park Service SEAZ Group, Palominas Fire District, and numerous rural volunteer fire districts in Cochise County.

The SEACOM Joint Powers Authority Board is comprised of Sierra Vista City Manager Chuck Potucek, Cochise County Sheriff Mark Dannels, Town of Huachuca City Interim Town Manager Suzanne Harvey, and Fry Fire District Fire Chief Mark Savage.



Protect Your Presents!

TT CAN FEEL MAGICAL TO PICK OUT perfect gifts during the holiday season and residents are urged to take appropriate precautions to ensure those gifts make it to the right people, instead of someone acting like the Grinch.

This is the season of giving but it's also the season of taking for criminals looking for easy opportunities. With so many people shopping online this year, it's especially important to make sure valuable deliveries are secure when they are left at your doorstep.

That could mean making arrangements with a friend or neighbor to check on the package or requiring that the delivery person get a signature to ensure safe delivery. Leaving the security door open may also help the delivery person leave the package out of sight if you have a space between that door and your front door.

GRINCHES CAN BE SNEAKY LIKE A FOX. MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO SECURE A PACKAGE OR BOX. DON'T GIVE A GRINCH A REASON. TO RUIN YOUR HOLIDAY SEASON.

And criminals also keep a watchful eye on parking lots this time of year. So if you go shopping in person, please remember to keep your car secured and to never leave valuables out where they can be easily seen.

REMEMBER LOCK YOUR CAR DOORS WHILE YOU ARE SHOPPING INSIDE STORES. DON'T GIVE A GRINCH A REASON TO RUIN YOUR HOLIDAY SEASON.

Sierra Vista Public Lil

7 Reasons to Love #SVLibrary

*HILE MOST OF THE SIERRA VISTA Public Library remains closed due to COVID-19, our extraordinary team has found new ways to serve our community, giving patrons new reasons to love their local library.



New free grab-and-go kits are available for pickup at the library starting on Monday each week. These kits feature themed activities perfect for people of all ages to enjoy at home.



The library offers StoryWalks so families can read together while getting some exercise outdoors! Enjoy the current StoryWalk in the botanical garden behind the library.



The library is offering a variety of small group and virtual programming to serve patrons in new ways. Like the "Sierra Vista Public Library" on Facebook to get the latest updates.



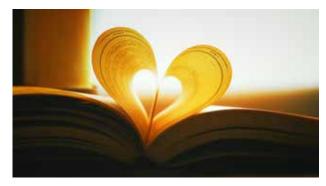
The lobby is open to pick up holds, request materials, or check out materials. The Book Nook Café is also open inside the library. The lobby is open Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



The library offers free computer lab access Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to



The library is now lending Wi-Fi hotspots! They are available for two-week check out with a limit of one per household. Anyone 18 years old and up can borrow one with a valid library card.



The library went fine free in September! Items kept longer than their due dates do not accrue daily overdue fees. But that doesn't mean materials can be kept indefinitely without penalty. Patrons who keep an item past its due date may receive a bill for its replacement, and patrons will be charged for lost or damaged materials.



2021 Coed Youth **Basketball**

Sign up by Friday, December 11

The City is now accepting registration for a 2021 Coed Youth Basketball Program to gauge the community's interest. The program is open to girls and boys ages 5 through 15.

The program is being planned with enhanced safety protocols associated with COVID-19. Fees will be collected after December 11 once the program has final approval to move forward based on interest and the latest public health guidance. Please request our "Return to Play" document for details.

Practices are expected to start in early January, with the season planned to run through mid-March. Participants will be waitlisted after the first 40 registrations per division.

Email Sports@SierraVistaAZ.gov or call the Sports Division at (520) 515-4999 to register or learn more. Online registration is available at www.SierraVistaAZ.gov.



Private Tennis Lessons (Youth & Adult)

Enjoy a "lifetime" sport and improve your skills!

Private tennis lessons are taught by Tennis Pro Steve Bokowski.

INDIVIDUAL PRIVATE LESSONS: \$30/hour (or four sessions for \$100) SEMI-PRIVATE LESSONS (2-4 participants): \$20/hour (or four sessions for \$60 per participant)

Openings are currently available. Please call (520) 515-4999 or come by the Sports Division to schedule lessons.



Private Pickleball Lessons (Youth & Adult)

Learn the rapidly growing sport of pickleball!

Private pickleball lessons are offered on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

FEE: \$35 per hour

WHAT IS PICKLEBALL?

Called "a game for everyone," pickleball combines the elements of badminton, tennis, and ping pong. It is played with solid paddles and a perforated polymer ball, similar to a wiffle ball, and can be played indoors or out. Paddles and balls can be checked out from Leisure Services at the Oscar Yrun Community Center.

NOTE: All private lessons must be scheduled at least five days in advance.

COVE CLOSED FOR WAVE MACHINE REPLACEMENT

The Cove is currently closed for the installation of a replacement wave machine.

Staff anticipates reopening the City's aquatic center in between mid-December and early January. For more information, call The Cove at (520) 417-4800.

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(520) 458-3315 SIGN UP TO ENGAGE SIERRA VISTA! This new social media tool makes engagement with your City easy, safe, and convenient. Stay Informed. Sort fact from fiction. Share your voice and help shape Sierra Vista. Start engaging at Engage.SierraVistaAZ.gov