



Greater Yuma
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP

SEPTEMBER 2018 E-UPDATE

GREATER YUMA EDC

Mission Statement:

To expand economic activity within Yuma County by attracting commerce and industry to the region, and by assisting in developing the region's existing industry to its fullest potential.

Vision Statement:

Greater Yuma will be recognized as a globally competitive region - one that embraces advancing technology, attracts and retains human capital and continues to develop & foster the amenities that make the Yuma Region a great place to live and work.



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[* Yuma 50 And GYEDC Partnering to Create A Spaceport in Yuma](#)

[* GYEDC President Working with AMC to Address Impeding NAFTA Changes](#)

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



GYEDC has been working on multiple projects that have short and long-term implications. Food Production, Textiles, and Aerospace were the primary industry sectors we worked with in August. Multiple company tours were conducted and as always, our local industry leaders stepped up to help us welcome and impress our clients. We are very grateful for your continued assistance. You tell the story much better than we do!

There is a great deal of positive energy surrounding the new trade alliance with Mexico and hopefully very soon Canada. This will boost our already vibrant region with more opportunities and interest from major industry needing to avail themselves of our key assets (location and labor).

Thank you to our investors who allow us to attract and retain the companies who add so much to our dynamic economy. Our 2017 Business Retention Survey is now complete with positive trends continuing for professional service sectors. Thank you to all the companies who gave their time and allowed us to conduct our survey. We have begun our 2018 survey of industrial and food production companies. We sincerely appreciate the support each of you lends.

MILITARY ADVOCACY



The Yuma 50 co-hosted a dinner in Tempe AZ, with our military partner agencies, for high profile aerospace companies who attended the ASU Congressional Symposium on Space. At this conference, the Yuma 50/GYEDC announced our desire to develop a spaceport in Yuma County to support private Industry launches of satellites. The announcement was met with great enthusiasm and support. The contacts that were made will be critical to the success of this endeavor. We are in the very early stages that include conducting the probability analysis and determining the changes that will need to take place at the FAA/state level. Autonomous vehicles, streaming technologies, artificial intelligence and growing automation will continue to stress the existing infrastructure and the need to meet these new demands is overwhelming.

BI-NATIONAL REPRESENTATION



The Arizona Mexico Commission held their monthly board meeting in Phoenix. An in-depth presentation was given regarding the election results in Mexico, the new direction the President is hoping to take the Country and the newly released trade agreement with Mexico and hopefully very soon, Canada. The agreement has great potential for this region and has the capacity to reinvigorate the industry that left for opportunities in China and Vietnam. It was reported that many offshore operations may find it advantageous to return to the US and Mexico. Aerospace and Automobile manufacturers could reap great benefits producing within a twin plant model allowing for greater cohesiveness between operations.

COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENTS



GYEDC is pleased to announce that Piana Nonwovens, LLC, a family-owned Georgia fiber producer, has selected San Luis, Arizona to open a \$4 million manufacturing plant. The company plans to initially hire 30 new jobs to serve their west coast customer. We are excited to welcome a Piana Nonwovens to our community. It is an honor to work with a company that has been in business for 482 years. Piana's longevity is a testament to their high standard of workmanship and their ability to continuously innovate product lines. The mayor and City of San Luis staff did a phenomenal job of

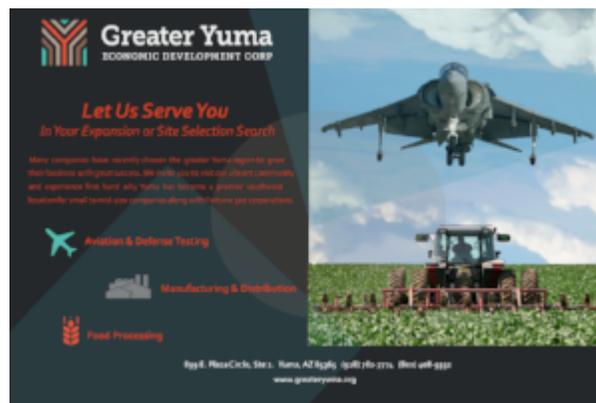
showcasing our region's business-friendly environment. San Luis is a perfect location for manufacturer's in search of a highly productive workforce with close proximity to California and Mexican markets. Piana is expected to begin production in February of 2019.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



GYEDC will continue engaging with business in Yuma County through our Business Retention and Expansion Survey for 2018. This year we are visiting Agriculture, Manufacturing, Logistics, and Utilities in an effort to mitigate issues that deter future success of operating a business in Yuma County. If you would like to participate in this survey, please call our office at (928) 782-7774 or, you can also email Karime Hayer at khayer@greateryuma.org to schedule a visit with one of the staff members.

PREFERRED VENDOR GUIDE



Greater Yuma EDC is beginning the process of updating the Preferred Vendor Guide for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. Each investor will be receiving a copy of their current ad and will be asked if they would like to keep the same ad contained in the PV guide or replace it with an updated one.

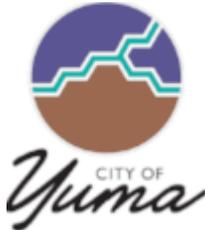
Investors who are not yet listed in the guide will be receiving information regarding the placement of their new ad.

Please watch for an email, which will contain a copy of your current ad and timelines for keeping your ad in our Preferred Vendor Guide. For any questions regarding the guide please contact Stephany Turner at (928) 782-7774 or scrowe@greateryuma.org

INVESTORS MAKING NEWS



SVN Commercial Real Estate in Yuma awarded their first four Yuma County teachers winners with \$400.00 each as a result of their #Yumarkable campaign. The campaign was created to give back to local educators and classrooms. Great job SVN!



The Yuma Art Center was awarded a \$22,000 Community Investment Grant from the Arizona Commission of the Arts as part of the state effort to boost the arts and culture throughout the state. The grant award is the maximum amount an organization of this level can receive. An impressive note is that Yuma arts and culture funding has increased by 169%



Special shout out to AWC for winning a \$400,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The grant will be used to expand AWC's academic library services over the next four years. The AWC library serves students from NAU-Yuma, U of A, and ASU with a total of 12,000 visitors annually.

CLICK ON THIS BUTTON TO BECOME A SPONSOR



ATTENTION – GYEDC INVESTORS
WANTED
SPONSORS
For
The Greater Yuma EDC
Roaring 20s
Annual Investor Dinner
Arizona Western College
October 25, 2018
6:00 p.m.
SPONSORSHIPS

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor for the Greater Yuma EDC Roaring 20s Annual Investor Dinner, please check out the available sponsorshipS. Once you have decided to become a sponsor click on any of the blue links. This will take you to the purchase screen and at that time you will choose the name of the table (Gangster and Dolls), place (Speak Easy/Mug Shot, or person (Famous Celebrity) you would like for your sponsorship. When you are ready to check out please make sure you click on "other payment options" and then invoice. Once notified, we will send an invoice to you. No payment is due at sign up.

Invitations will be sent out the middle of September.

PICTURES

It pains us to say goodbye to a true American Leader, Sen. John McCain on August 25th. The Yuma 50 exists today because of this wonderful man. He attended the Yuma 50 first meeting (below).



Yuma 50 Chairman, Julie Engel and Yuma Mayor Doug Nichols attended the ASU Congressional Summit on Aerospace and Space. Both spoke about Yuma's capabilities for future Aerospace development.

The Yuma 50 Co-hosted a dinner with SADA, NAMAC, and MIDC, for industry experts to network and learn more about Arizona's assets, after the symposium.

Pictured above is Yuma 50 Chairman Julie Engel, Yuma Mayor Doug Nichols, Arnoldo and Ramon from AQST missile systems.



Want to buy a shirt, sponsor, or sell the shirts in your local business? Contact denelle.lococo@svn.com or liz.williams@svn.com.



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