



PAYSONAZ.GOV



TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

DECEMBER 8, 2022

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MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN MANAGER



Over the past year the town management team has met once a quarter to engage in leadership development, team building, and to evaluate organizational improvement. This group of leaders decided it was a good time to reevaluate the organization's mission statement and core values. The group desired to ensure that our mission statement was clear, simple, and provided an accurate description of the services provided by the Town of Payson. After much discussion and deliberation the group has adopted three simple words to describe our organizations purpose; anticipate, create, and serve people. We anticipate the needs of the community, we work together to create solutions to address identified concerns, and we provide excellent service. Our leaders are in the process of finalizing a set of core values that will serve our team well to increase shared responsibility, shared decision making, and increase consistency and accountability. I am very proud of our leadership team and the excellent service they provide.

Finally, as I look through this final Town Manager Report for the year 2022, I can not help but feel gratitude for the work of all of our town's staff throughout this very busy year. I am humbled by the commitment of our employees to serving our residents, businesses, and visitors; the exceptional spirit of service they share is part of what makes Payson such a special place. My heartfelt thanks to every employee and outstanding volunteer who helped us make 2022 a fantastic year!

May peace and joy bless you all this holiday season.

-Troy Smith, Town Manager

PAYSON LIBRARY

PAYSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

328 N McLane Rd, Payson, AZ 85541; 928-474-9260
www.paysonaz.gov/departments/library.org



Celebrating 10 years as Director of Payson Public Library!

DECEMBER 2022

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
					Take Picture with Mrs. Claus & make a Christmas Card! 1:00 pm 	Soda Bottle Rocketry – Launch Rocket 100 feet plus 12:00 Noon
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Sit & Stitch 2:30 pm 	Storytime with Toddlers 10:30 am 	Storytime with Babies 10:30 am Practice Spanish 11:30 am 		Build a Gingerbread House! 1:00 SIGN-UP REQUIRED 	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Sit & Stitch 2:30 pm 	Storytime with Toddlers 10:30 am 	Storytime with Babies 10:30 am Practice Spanish 11:30 am 		Holiday Movie with Hot Cocoa & Cookies 1:00 pm 	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Sit & Stitch 2:30 pm 	Storytime with Toddlers 10:30 am 	Storytime with Babies 10:30 am Practice Spanish 11:30 am 	Create a Nativity, Hanukkah or Kwanzaa Magnetic Set 1:00 pm 	Come and Sing or Listen to Christmas Carols with Cinnamon Twist! 1:00 pm 	LIBRARY CLOSED Christmas Eve
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	LIBRARY CLOSED Christmas 	Storytime with Toddlers 10:30 am 	Storytime with Babies 10:30 am Practice Spanish 11:30 am 		Polar Express Movie with Snacks! 1:00 pm 	

PAYSON LIBRARY

The Payson Public Library presents its
Annual Holiday Musical Extravaganza



Bach-N-All

Monday, December 19th
at 2:00 p.m

The Payson Library

Ukulele Club

Tuesday, December 20th
At 10:30 a.m.



CHRISTMAS STAR CAROLERS

Thursday, December 22nd
at 2:30 p.m.

Cinnamon Twist

Friday, December 23rd
at 1 PM



PAYSON LIBRARY



Emily Linkey, Library Director, as Mrs. Clause



WATER DEPARTMENT

On November 17, the Water Department conducted a downhole well video inspection of the inside of a groundwater production well casing. This inspection is the industry standard, to assess whether the well's physical health is bad or good. It is essential to monitor the "well-being" of our groundwater wells as these are our only water supply when C.C. Cragin water is not running into Town. This particular well was constructed in 1998 to a depth of 330 feet into the fractured Payson Granite aquifer and pumps up to 180 gallons per minute. The Water Department utilized it's newly purchased well camera to photo-document the condition of the well casing. During the videoing, it became clear to our Hydrogeologist that this 24-year-old well was in tip-top shape! After returning to the office the camera video log was stored digitally in our well database for future reference. Performing routine inspections of our well system saves us costs and keep the Town's water supply flowing.



View of the bare aquifer wall showing the fractured nature of Payson's aquifer.

WATER DEPARTMENT

During Thanksgiving week, two vessels that will hold Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) weighing over 15,000 lbs. each were delivered to our Water Treatment Plant and roughly set in place adjacent to the existing GAC vessel. The carbon will “polish” the treated water by adsorbing particulates that could potentially affect water quality after a wildfire in the C.C. Cragin watershed. The next steps will be fine tuning the vessels to exact elevations and plumbing connections to the existing Treatment Plant pipe manifolds. Lastly, the vessels will be filled with GAC and put into service. Construction should be completed by end of January 2023.



WATER DEPARTMENT



PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM

This past Saturday was very festive with the 23rd Annual Electric Light Parade lighting up Main Street and welcoming the Holiday Season. The event sponsored by APS was joyfully brought to the community by Payson Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department. As with many of our events the preparation, execution and cleanup of the well-loved community holiday parade encompassed several Town of Payson Departments working together to put on the annual event including our Town Manager Troy Smith working alongside staff in the rain. A special kudos to the crew with Parks Operation with their work on Santa's float.

The parade filled with participants from local dignitaries, businesses, non-profit organizations, and families around Rim Country and of course a special visit from Santa himself made for a spectacular holiday display of lights, spirit, and community togetherness.

Below are the winners in each category of the parade and Best Overall goes to Experimental Aircraft Association.

We want to give a ginormous thank you to are sponsor APS, participants, announcers, volunteers, Judges: BJ Bollier, Anna VanZile and Cris Gerard, and our community for your involvement and continuous support of this event.

All of us with the Town of Payson and the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department wish you all a very Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year.



PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM



PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM



DEFINING THE USE OF THE OFFICIAL PARKS AND RECREATION LOGO

INTRODUCTION

Payson Parks and Recreation has a new look to identify the Department and all the activities produced. The logo was crafted to showcase all the elements of the department and what makes it unique. This logo is planned to be used to identify the department and the areas in town that they manage, as well as, acknowledge the hard work and effort completed by this department.

DESIGNATED USE

The Parks and Recreation Logo is to be used when branding material & programs produced by the department, future signage located around our parks and facilities, marking trailheads and signage along the trails, branding all recreational programs produced by department, and all activities that the department manages.

Examples of use:

- P&R Logo on all sports programs and activities; jerseys, promotions, registration.
- P&R Logo on all parks and facilities maintained under Parks and Recreation; playgrounds, stage & ramadas, restrooms, fields and courts, multi-use event center, etc.
- P&R Logo on all managed trails; hiking trails, biking trails, etc.
- P&R Logo on all events hosted by department; marketing promotions, event signage, etc.
- P&R Logo on all internal branding; business cards, documentation, staff uniforms, etc.

PARKS AND RECREATION LOGO VS ADVENTURE PAYSON LOGO USE

The Parks and Recreation logo was developed to celebrate the department of Parks and Recreation for specific duties, as well as, other activities ran by the department.

To define this: The Adventure Payson Logo should be used in scenarios where marketing material or campaign is Tourism focused... where as the Payson Parks and Recreation Logo should be used in all department organized programs, facilities and activities. In several cases, both the Adventure Payson and the Parks and Recreation Logo can and should be used. For example; Parks and Recreation organizes the 4th of July Celebration, and henceforth should receive recognition for their hard work. However, this is also a Tourism driven and focused event and should also include the Tourism branding of Adventure Payson.

PAYSON AIRPORT

UFOs and Pies

One of the pleasures of working at the Payson Airport is being on call 24 hours a day. Over the past several years there has been an increase in calls during the night asking staff to check their radar (We have no radar at the Payson Airport.) for UFOs. (Unidentified Flying Objects) My favorite call came in at 2:00 am. (Airport is staffed Mon. - Fri. 7:00am to 4:00pm. and Sat, Sun 7:00am to 11:00 am) The caller was sure that they were seeing a UFO. He told me that there were two large blue circles in the sky that seemed to be changing direction in ways that no earthly aircraft could. After calming him down I explained that what he was viewing was a Marine Corps. Osprey. The Osprey is a tilt rotor aircraft that can land and take off like a helicopter and then transition to normal flight like an airplane. During night training maneuvers the props/rotors have blue lights on the tips. As they rotate, they look like blue circles in the sky.

Another UFO that frequents the Payson night skies are the Army Blackhawk Helicopters. The Army like the Marine Corps like the dark skies over Payson for night operations training. During such training the crews use night vision goggles and the aircraft function with minimal exterior lights on the aircraft. Many of the UFO calls that we answer are about something flying low in a line and moving in an irregular pattern. These are Blackhawks flying low altitude in a line following the terrain, moving from one location to another. The other inquiry that we often get is a black object that is flying around the airport that makes no sound. These are most likely the new Blackhawks that have different rotors and engines that are very quiet. Occasionally they practice night landings at the airport.

PAYSON AIRPORT

The past couple of weeks the airport was privileged to have some of America's finest fly into Payson to pick up pie orders for their Thanksgiving dinners at the Crosswinds Restaurant. I have had people question the use of our federal tax dollars being used for military aircraft to fly to Payson for pies. The truth is that the pilots and crews must fly a prescribed number of hours every month to stay proficient so that they are ready to answer the call when it comes to help us or protect our Country. Every time a military aircraft takes off, they must file a mission plan, have it approved, and follow it. Because of the Payson Airport's location in the center of Arizona along with its mountain terrain we have become a favorite location for our military to train pilots and crew. The fact that these flight crews schedule some of their training missions to the Payson Airport is a testament to the fine pies we have in Payson.



STREET DEPARTMENT

Our crews have been busy getting holiday decorations up for all our visitors and residents. In addition to the festivities, it's still seasonal maintenance as usual for our department. We are in a focus right now of brushing and pruning trees and vegetation that are either dead or nuisance in our Right of Way (ROW). Residents can expect to see our crew trimming vegetation and operating various heavy equipment in their neighborhoods throughout the winter season when we are not handling the accumulation of the white stuff during storms. We are thankful to all the residents in our construction zones and especially those who "give-us-a-brake" as we maintain vegetation limits inside Town ROWs or any other construction needs on the roadways.



**Jesse and KC
prepare in the boom
truck to handle and
hang lighting and
decoration for the
Giant Sequoia on
the south side of
260 near
McDonald's.**

STREET DEPARTMENT



Jesse sets the nativity star on the peak of the Giant Sequoia.

The Town invested in purchasing all new LED lights for the ornaments and decorations involved in the festivities of the season. This up-front investment will save the community thousands of dollars in yearly costs associated with installation of the decorations as well as associated electric bills involved in the lighting.



Jesse (truck) and KC (ground) confer and discuss safety and process before hanging a 200ft strand of cool white LED bulbs.

STREET DEPARTMENT

There are around 3500 LED bulbs illuminating the Sequoia from the inside to the outside. Each bulb is approximately 0.8 watts compared to the original 40 watts per bulb required on the previous incandescent illumination.



Inner core of the Giant Sequoia displays a myriad of lights climbing their way to the top of the tree.



This year, the Tree received an additional 6 new strands of lights as well as an LED nativity topper.

STREET DEPARTMENT

In addition to the tree, crews were busy hanging over 100 of the Town's Christmas marquee decorations. Each decoration is attached and powered by APS light poles along the two main thoroughfares in the Town. Each of these marquees will be converted to LEDs following this season's festivities.



KC, Houston, and The Ang manage traffic and situational awareness as Shane installs a Decorative Marquee on Beeline Highway.



Shane handles a snowflake as he and the crew installed over 100 marquees in a two day period.

STREET DEPARTMENT

Have a safe and Happy Holidays in all your travels and time with friends and loved ones.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

On November 9, and November 18, 2022, officers participated in a fundraising event at Chilis and Danzeisen to help raise money for Beards on Patrol. Officers assisted staff in serving food and beverages and bus tables. The officers raised over \$1,400 in tips which does not include the portion of sales that Chilis is donating. All funds will be donated to Beards on Patrol recipient Josh Gonzalez, a local resident in Payson who is battling cancer.



On November 10, 2022, officers attended the flag raising ceremony with children and veterans at JRE.

POLICE DEPARTMENT



Officer Bathke and Officer Barr assisted Game and Fish with a young elk that was wrapped up in a clothesline. The elk was sedated for a short time while they freed him of the clothesline and then released him to continue on his way.

Our dispatch center was the recipient of a "Dispatch Giving Plate" courtesy of Prescott Regional Communication Center. Gila River, Chandler, Gilbert and Prescott Communication Centers all contributed to the basket.



POLICE DEPARTMENT



Cody Krause was re-hired on November 28, 2022 as a Police Officer Recruit. He will begin his journey at the Police Academy on January 9th, 2023.

End of Report

Next Report: January 12, 2022

