



PAYSONAZ.GOV



# TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

AUGUST 23, 2023

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TOWN MANAGER

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# MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN MANAGER



This document is developed and provided to help inform residents about what is happening with Town operations, services and programs; to answer frequently asked questions; and to encourage citizen participation in our local government. We aim to provide high quality programs and services to our residents in an effort to create a high quality of life. We welcome public comment and participation in the governance of our town. Residents are encouraged to join a council appointed board, commission or committee, speak at a council meeting during the public comment period, or fill out an [online comment form](#). Town staff and I are honored to serve the residents of our town; we are committed to excellence and welcome you all to join us in the spirit of service.

-Troy Smith, Town Manager

# PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Town of Payson and the Parks and Recreation Department held the Grand Reopening for Mustang Park on Sunday, August 20th. Parks and Recreation staff were excited to host the event. Mayor Chris Higgins, Vice Mayor Barbara Underwood, and members of the Parks and Recreation Commission were on site to officially extend an open invitation to the community for one of Payson's newest projects. Mustang Park, also known as the "Blue Park" by locals, is a neighborhood pocket park in the Payson Ranchos subdivision. Originally built in 1995, the park has seen multigenerational families come to enjoy its amenities. Due to safety concerns and outdated equipment, the park was shut down and the mission to rebuild ensued. After gathering input from residents and working with several engineers and landscape architects, Town Council was presented with a project proposal and they approved plans to have the Parks and Recreation staff break ground. The park renovation includes new playground equipment, landscape enhancements, parking lot resurfacing, new fencing, and a new half-court basketball court. Thanks to the generosity of Friends of Parks and Recreation, the public can also enjoy a drinking fountain and shade provided by a brand new ramada. This project has revived a neighborhood park that has enhanced an open space, provides a safe and healthy recreation opportunity for families, and has restored a quality asset to Payson. Thank you to all who have been a part of this highly anticipated project.

For more information, please contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 928-472-5110 or visit our social media sites:

<https://www.facebook.com/paysonparksandrec/>

<https://www.instagram.com/paysonparksandrec/>

#playpayson

# PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



# PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



# PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Town of Payson Flag Football 2023 kicked off on the morning of August 12th with picture perfect weather.



Congratulations to the 2023 Town of Payson Summer Co-Ed Softball Champions, "Swingers".

There were 8 total teams in this division this summer. Fall season will start Monday, August 21st.



# PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



TOWN OF PAYSON PARKS AND RECREATION PROUDLY PRESENTS

## FIDDLE & FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

JOIN US ON  
**SEPTEMBER 22-24TH**  
AT GREEN VALLEY PARK

REGISTER ONLINE OR IN-PERSON



 **LIVE PERFORMANCES**

 **FIDDLE CONTEST**  
ARIZONA STATE FIDDLERS COMPETITION

 **CELEBRITY JUDGES**

 **OVER A DOZEN FOOD TRUCKS**



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER,  
CALL PAYSON PARKS AND REC AT 928.472.5110 OR VISIT

@PAYSONPARKANDREC   #PLAYPAYSON

[WWW.PAYSONRIMCOUNTRY.COM/FIDDLE](http://WWW.PAYSONRIMCOUNTRY.COM/FIDDLE)





# PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PAYSON PARKS AND RECREATION &  
PAYSON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

# FLEX FRIDAY PROGRAM

GRADES:  
**K - 5TH**

LOCATED AT JULIA RANDALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GYM

**SEPT. 8TH - DEC. 15TH**

FRIDAY'S • 8AM - 3 PM

**NO PROGRAM 10/6 & 11/24**

Enjoy planned activities and presentations from local organizations. A free school lunch and a snack will be included each Friday for all registered participants. This program will be loosely structured after the Parks and Recreation 2023 Summer Camp Program.

**REGISTRATION OPENS: TUESDAY, AUG. 8TH**  
**REGISTRATION CLOSES: MONDAY, SEPT. 4TH**

**ONLY \$50 FOR THE FALL SESSION!**  
THAT'S 13 FRIDAYS IN TOTAL!

FOR ANY QUESTIONS OR TO REGISTER FOR THE PROGRAM  
[www.paysonparks.com](http://www.paysonparks.com) | 928.472.5110

# PAYSON LIBRARY

*Payson Public Library*

328 N McLane Rd, Payson, AZ 85541; 928-474-9260  
[www.paysonaz.gov/departments/library.org](http://www.paysonaz.gov/departments/library.org)

**SEPTEMBER 2023**

Join  
Library  
Friends  
of  
Payson!



Sun day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
Please Sign-Up for all Friday & Saturday Programs					Labor Day Cube Appreciate All Workers! 1:00 pm Sign-Up	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
LIBRARY CLOSED Labor Day 	Storytime with Toddlers 10:30 am Line Dancing Beginners 1:15-2:15 Intermediate 2:15-4:00 pm	Storytime with Babies 10:30 am Practice Spanish 11:30 am 	Line Dancing at the Library! 2:15-4:00 pm 	Spark Your Creativity-Paint a Stepping Stone for our Garden or Take it Home! Sign-up! 1:00 pm 		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Sit & Stitch 2:30 pm 	Storytime with Toddlers 10:30 am Line Dancing Beginners 1:15-2:15 Intermediate 2:15-4:00 pm	Storytime with Babies 10:30 am Practice Spanish 11:30 am	Line Dancing at the Library! 2:15-4:00 pm	Discover Spanish for Kids - Learn language, Food, Culture 11:30 am Sign-Up 	Bubble-ology - How bubbles are made and why they pop? 12:00 Noon 	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Library Friends of Payson Meeting - Julie & Glen Bradley - Sailing the Great Loop 10:00 am Sit & Stitch 2:30 pm	Dental Hygiene Storytime with Toddlers 10:30 am  Line Dancing Beginners 1:15-2:15 Intermediate 2:15-4:00 pm 	Rim Country Readers Book Club 10:00 am Storytime with Babies 10:30 am  Practice Spanish 11:30 am	Line Dancing at the Library! 2:15-4:00 pm	Make 3D model of Solar Eclipse in preparation for Annular Eclipse on October 14, 2023! 1:00 pm Sign-up! 	Solar Eclipse Glasses will be provided 	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Sit & Stitch 2:30 pm	Storytime with Toddlers 10:30 am Line Dancing Beginners 1:15-2:15 Intermediate 2:15-4:00 pm	Storytime with Babies 10:30 am 	Line Dancing at the Library! 2:15-4:00 pm	Learn Origami - Make Mobile Cranes and Stars! Entire Family - Sign-Up 1:00 pm 		

# WATER DEPARTMENT

Did you know that groundwater wells need routine maintenance to keep working properly? Recently, the Water Department performed video logging and injection testing on one of the Town's recharge wells. Based upon that data, the Water Department determined that the well was losing capacity and would need to be rehabilitated. The Water Department devised a well rehabilitation plan which included brushing and swab-airlifting the well casing. These rehabilitation techniques are intended to help increase the hydraulic connectivity between the aquifer and well casing which overall would improve the injection capacity of the well.

During the week of August 14, the Water Department contracted with Empire Pump to perform the work needed on the injection well. The work is scheduled to conclude on Tuesday August 22. Once the work is completed the Water Department will video log the casing to document its condition before conducting performance testing again.

The results of the video log and testing will inform the next steps with either bringing the well back into normal recharge operations or determine if additional well rehabilitation techniques should be applied on the well.



# STREET DEPARTMENT

## The Monsoons

It's mid-August at the time of this writing. Our crews have been working hard this summer in preparation for a season in Town that rivals winter in its potential for beauty, relief and destruction all in the same package. In previous reports, we've shown you that our crews have their work cut out for them in advance of Monsoon season and since it can't be as easily predicted as winter, we are often trying to work much earlier on the calendar in anticipation of this season. While not all damage or destruction that can occur with a major storm can be fully stopped, our crews go out of their way to be sure that we have done what we can to keep the public safe by clearing main channels of sediment, and potential flow debris.



This area of Luke Drive is the upper reach for the North Branch of the American Gulch. Stormwater from this area flows through natural and man made drainage channels including through Rumsey Park and Payson Golf Course before joining the American Gulch, eventually flowing to the East Verde River.

# STREET DEPARTMENT

Crews come out and remove major sediment deposits and re-sculpt swale drainage to assure that the majority of debris has been removed pre-season. On the pathway of this channel it passes along or through multiple private properties. Town code requires the owners of all properties to maintain the ditches adjoining their property. They need to be free of loose debris and binding agents that can block under passing culverts along the roadway. If residents are unable to clear large portions of debris or cannot clear under their driveway, the streets crew can come out to inspect and determine if work needs to be done on that section. Ironically, grass and weeds are a natural filter that help trap and slow debris down, however that trapped garbage still needs to be removed.

Typically, a storm drain pipe that passes under a driveway or Town maintained street becomes a concern for our crews once it reaches the half full point. If your lines near your property are full from a half or more, please contact town hall to initiate a work order request for us to inspect and clean.



# STREET DEPARTMENT

## The Rodeo



Shane and the bucket truck ninjas install the banners for The Rodeo in the pre-sunrise hours of mid-July to avoid traffic.



# STREET DEPARTMENT



Enjoy the Monsoons and the most beautiful sunsets in the country!

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT

# General Plan UPDATE

[WWW.PAYSONGENERALPLAN.COM](http://WWW.PAYSONGENERALPLAN.COM)





# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

## PUBLIC SURVEY

THE COMMUNITY SURVEY, AVAILABLE AT [WWW.PAYSONGENERALPLAN.COM](http://WWW.PAYSONGENERALPLAN.COM), HAS BEEN OPEN FOR JUST ONE WEEK AND HAS 371 RESPONSES ALREADY!

SURVEY RESPONSES FROM THE PREVIOUS UPDATE TOTALED  
628

SURVEY CLOSES OCTOBER 8, 2023

GENERAL PLAN STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE

65 MEMBERS

THEIR FIRST MEETING IS SEPTEMBER 19TH

# 323

## E-mail

Citizens can register on the general plan website to receive updates via e-mail.

# 40

## Text

Citizens can register on the general plan website or text Payson GP to 888-521-3871 and follow the prompts to receive updates via text message. Both numbers have grown in the last week!

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

Public participation is the lifeblood of the community planning process. This Payson General Plan (Plan) process will engage the Payson community with a variety of in-person and virtual participation tools. All ages will be included, using creativity and inclusivity to make public participation with the project as convenient and enjoyable as possible.

The public participation plan was presented at the kick off meeting on August 1, 2023. The entire plan is up for all to view on the General Plan website [www.paysongeneralplan.com](http://www.paysongeneralplan.com).

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

## GENERAL PLAN TIMELINE

### SEPTEMBER 13

Town Council and  
Planning Commission  
joint in-person visioning  
workshop

### SEPTMEBER 19

General Plan Stakeholder  
Committee and  
Technical Committee  
Visioning workshop

### OCTOBER 8

Public Survey  
closes

### NOVEMEBER 7-8

Public open house and  
Planning Charrette at  
Payson Public Library

### NOVEMBER 10-24

Virtual Community  
Open House #1

### JANUARY 30

Final General Plan  
Stakeholder  
Committee and  
Technical  
Committee virtual  
meeting

### FEBRUARY

In-person work  
session Council and  
Planning Commission

### FEBRUARY 6-19

Virtual Community  
Open House #2

### MARCH/APRIL/MAY

Planning & Zoning  
public hearing and  
recommendation and  
Council public  
hearings and  
approvals

### NOVEMBER 5, 2024

Voter ratification

End of Report  
Next Report: September 13, 2023

