

POINT OF VIEW

JEROME'S NEWSLETTER

November – December 2013

From the Mayor

Dear Residents,

What a lovely autumn it is has been so far! I hate to bend your ear on the topic of vacation rentals again, but I feel it's important so here goes.

Vacations rentals (VRs) have been on the agenda now for a full year and the council, with input from P&Z, successfully passed an ordinance in mid October to regulate them with a stringent and limited Conditional Use Permit (CUP) process. This ordinance protects our neighborhoods and commercial district from a rampant VR take-over and also addresses concerns like parking, awareness of dangerous roads, fire restrictions, noise regulations, and trash disposal. It restricts CUPs to one per neighborhood (seven total) unless there are prior existing VRs, in which case NO CUPs will be granted. Jerome could see about three new VRs in the R-1 zone and three new VRs in the commercial zone (12 total), only after they are approved and have met the rigorous standards set by council.



Despite the information we have received by consulting with two of the top land-use lawyers in the state, there are residents who believe this ordinance is unnecessary and that our code could be interpreted to exclude VRs already.

Unfortunately, many municipalities [across the country](#) have recognized VRs as a residential use, which muddies things a bit. I believe it's important that we specifically [and expressly](#) address VRs in our code.

Enjoy this lovely weather and the coming holidays!

Mayor Nikki Check

Town Holiday Schedule

November 11, Monday – Veterans Day

Trash will be picked up on Tuesday, November 12.

November 28 and 29, Thursday & Friday – Thanksgiving

Trash will be picked up on Friday, November 29.

December 25, Wednesday – Christmas

January 1, Wednesday – New Years Day

Hi Neighbors

We have finally passed ordinances that will protect Jerome from "vacation rentals" (VR) running amok, both in the numbers allowed and in the behavior of the users! Whew! It was an enormous pile of work done brilliantly by our excellent staff and many volunteers.

Granted, we would have had to tolerate a couple fewer, ones that have in the meantime established usage, if we had been able to pass these rules months ago. But now we have something, Ordinance 405, that has the very best chance of holding up in court.

Great holidays to us all.

Anne Bassett



Meeting Dates for November, December 2013 & January 2014

Regular Council Meeting

November 12 at 7:00 pm

Planning & Zoning

November 6 at 7:00 pm

Design Review Board

November 18 at 7:00 pm

Regular Council Meeting

December 10 at 7:00 pm

Planning & Zoning

December 4 at 7:00 pm

Design Review Board

December 9 at 7:00 pm

Regular Council Meeting

January 14 at 7:00 pm

Planning & Zoning

January 8 at 7:00 pm

Design Review Board

January 13 at 7:00 pm

AS THE EGG FRIES

Here we go again....



Have a good winter.

Lew Carrier



Manager's Dugout



DID YOU KNOW that the Town of Jerome now has an official website? The site includes a lot of information about our Town government, including meeting agendas, approved minutes, pending ordinances,

and the entire text of our Town Code, Zoning Ordinance and General Plan. You can find it at www.jerome.az.gov.

A REMINDER FROM OUR TOWN CREW – Winter is coming! Keep an eye on overnight temperature forecasts, and remember to leave one of your faucets running at a slow steady drip if the temperature is expected to drop to 20 degrees or below. That will help you avoid frozen, and possibly broken, pipes. You should also place insulation or heat tape around any pipes that may be above ground and exposed to cold air. Hoses should be disconnected from outdoor spigots as well.

Wishing you all a safe and wonderful holiday season!

- Candace Gallagher

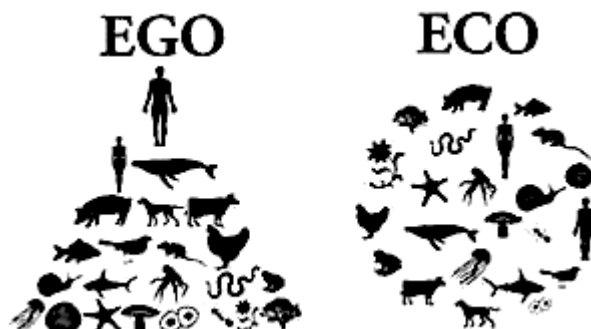


Sustainable Jerome

By Henry Melody

My experience in trying to get Sustainable Jerome off the ground hasn't been all that encouraging. I had the idea of launching Sustainable Jerome, but not the energy to sustain actively promoting it.

It seemed that I came up against challenges which had to be addressed at "higher levels" than I had access to, but it just occurred to me that I could use this Newsletter to call on those folks at "higher levels" to schedule some Town Hall Meetings to address the issues that we face as a community.



I don't know who is interested and capable of organizing these discussions, but I think it's necessary.

There are many issues that we are facing as a community that unless we can clearly identify and find creative solutions to, there may be no Jerome to sustain.

So consider this a call to anyone interested to contact



Spaces for Rent at Jerome Civic Center

Two studio/office spaces are available on the first floor at Town Hall. Call 928-634-7943, if interested.

To move in to any of them, you will need first and last month's rent plus a key deposit.

There is a monthly utility charge of \$50 for each rental space.

Studio 1 is 608 sq. ft. for \$475.60 per month, including the utility charge and Studio 3 is 661 sq. ft. for \$512.70.

The income generated from these spaces directly supports the Jerome Public Library.



Police Dispatch Number

For emergencies, always call 9-1-1.

For all other situations, call police dispatch at 634-2245.

Jerome Fire Department

Rusty Blair, Chief JVFD



Do You Have a Defensible Space?

Yarnell is very similar to Jerome in many ways. The history, population, vegetation, weather and mountainous area are very much like Jerome. On June 30th, nineteen firefighters lost their lives trying to save their Town during the Yarnell Hill wild land fire.

A total of 127 buildings were destroyed in Yarnell. It took 600 firefighters to completely extinguish this fire. Could this happen in Jerome? One of the factors that led to such a devastating loss was the lack of defensible spaces around buildings. This is preventable if you take care of your property.

The Town of Jerome has established a site where you can remove dry unwanted vegetation. This site is managed by the fire department. Simply call the fire station and we will open the gate. The site is safely burned about 12 times per year.



Too often we find that cut vegetation has been discarded in the washes and other places around town, which could burn for days. This practice is strictly prohibited. The Town of Jerome adopted the International Fire Code and the Property Maintenance Code (Ordinance 358 on 7/9/2009). To report possible code violations, please call the fire station, 649-3034, or Town Hall at 634-7943.

Create a defensible space around your home. A defensible space is an area around a structure where fuels and vegetation are treated, cleared or reduced to slow the spread of wildfire towards the structure. It also reduces the chance of a structure fire moving from the building to the surrounding area.

Our locally called Paradise Trees are particularly troublesome. They grow very fast and in unwanted places. They do not have a long life span. As they age, branches die and large trees have fallen onto APS power lines, onto roadways, homes and cars. Not only are the branches and leaves combustible, the heavy branches may start a fire by falling on energized electrical lines. The Property Maintenance Code, Section 302.4.1, specifically states that these dangerous trees shall be removed. This time of year is great time to remove unwanted fuels. The cooler temperatures and the leaves off the trees, make it easier to remove these unwanted fuels and there will be less material to haul off.

Defensible space provides room for firefighters to do their jobs. Your house is more likely to withstand a wildfire if grasses, brush, trees and other common forest fuels are managed to reduce a fire's intensity. Jerome is unique, as many homes are very close together. Work with your neighbors and friends to make your neighborhood safer. For more information on creating

defensible spaces check the Jerome Fire Department web site at www.jeromefd.org

The Jerome Fire Department would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

I would like to thank all who participated and helped with this year's Halloween Ball, as it was a great success. Our next activity will be the Mardi Gras dance, date and time yet to be determined.

The Fire Department is always looking for new members for fire or EMS or both. Free training, cool t-shirts, and drive big trucks with red lights. 5:00 PM, every Thursday. Come on down and see what we do. Everybody is welcome.

If the fire and EMS doesn't interest you, but you would still like to help out, the Jerome Fire Department Auxiliary is always welcoming new members as well!! Come join us!! If you wish to join, please contact Chief Blair at (928) 300-8701 or you can e-mail your interest to blair@jeromefire.us or jeromeauxiliarysecretary@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued support.

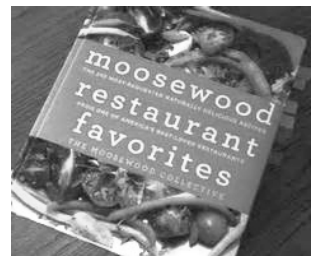
Buy a Book for Your Jerome Library

In an ongoing effort to reduce costs and raise funds for the Jerome library, we are beginning the **Buy A Book** program. Every month a list of wanted books will be published along with price and availability with the hope that someone will buy the book and donate it to the library.

This will allow the library to use book monies in other needed areas. Check with library staff before purchasing.

Here are some of the titles we would like to add to our stacks:

- **The War of the Copper Kings: Builders of Butte and Wolves of Wall Street.** Hardcover – January 1, 1966, by Carl B. Glasscock (Author) \$12
- **The Emerald Mile: The Epic Story of the Fastest Ride in History Through the Heart of the Grand Canyon.** Hardcover, by Kevin Fedarko (Author) \$22
- **Moosewood Restaurant Favorites: The 250 Most-Requested, Naturally Delicious Recipes from One of America's Best-Loved Restaurants.** Hardcover, by The Moosewood Collective (Author) \$22
- **Dear Life: Stories.** (Vintage International) Paperback, by Alice Munro (Author) \$8



Hello Jerome - from your new Zoning Administrator

It is such a pleasure to be here! With the Holiday season fast approaching, now is a good time to plan for holiday shoppers and review some of the sign regulations.

Jerome's Zoning Ordinance Section 511 identifies the purpose of regulating signage: "...to encourage the preservation of historic buildings and artifacts, to protect the general public from damage and injury, to protect property values, to preserve the beauty and unique character of Jerome, to aid in the free-flow of traffic within the town, and to promote the tourist industry which is important to the economy of Jerome and the Historic Overlay District." The sign ordinance provides standards for the design, construction and placement of signs within the Town. Prior to designing a new sign, or making significant changes to an existing sign, review (or ask me about) the inclusive list of regulations available in Section 511. Sign permits are required before constructing, placing or altering any signage. Applications are available online at the new Town website, www.jerome.az.gov.

A few points to remember regarding on-site temporary signage:

- Temporary signs and banners (such as "sale" signs) less than 8 square feet may be displayed in commercial and industrial zones without a permit for a maximum of 90 days per calendar year and no more than 45 consecutive days.
- Place A-frame style temporary folding signs ("sandwich boards") on-site in such a way that does not restrict pedestrian movement or block ingress/egress.
- Political signs, smaller than a total of 6 square feet, can be displayed 60 days prior to an election and removed 10 days after. (Be aware of placement: they are not permitted to be placed in the public right-of-way or on telephone/power poles.)

**VOTE TO
RESTORE
SANITY**

Please do contact me with any questions, comments, concerns or for a friendly welcome. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the best for a magnificent holiday season filled with peace, love and joy! For the love of Jerome, Rebecca Borowski, r.borowski@jerome.az.gov.

Smart Meter Awareness

by Carl Nye

A topic that is gaining attention throughout the Verde Valley is APS and their smart meter program. Several cities' elected officials are considering how to approach the issue, in many cases considering how to opt out of the installation of these meters without incurring fees.

The members of the Jerome Town Council will be considering this question in the near future and it would be very helpful to have the input of our local residents, pro or con. Please share your thoughts and feelings about having smart meters installed in Jerome, so the Council may make decisions that are based on the wishes of our friends and neighbors.

Centennial Birthday Card on Display

Mr. Al Slusser, of Cottonwood, has provided to the Town, for display, an interesting item of Centennial memorabilia. He explained:

For years I've had an interest in collecting postal memorabilia, so it was natural to think of doing something special for Arizona's centennial birthday. The idea to develop the "Arizona Centennial Birthday Card from the Verde Valley" came to me on the morning of the centennial, so I purchased nine Arizona Centennial postage stamps and envelopes, one for each of the nine communities in the Verde Valley. Each envelope received the cancellation postmark of February 14, 2012, from each of the nine post offices. Each Mayor and District 3 Supervisor, Chip Davis, signed them, as well as the postal representatives from each post office.



Darlene and Al Slusser standing next to the exhibit.

The card was warmly received and displayed in the Arizona State Capitol's museum centennial exhibit, "WORDS FROM THE WEST - ARIZONA'S POSTAL HISTORY."

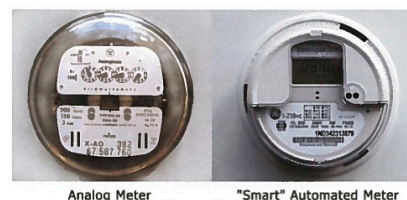
Since the Arizona Centennial Birthday Card represents all the citizens of the Verde Valley, it is available for display anywhere there is a secure display case.

This Centennial Birthday card will be on display throughout the month of November in the main hallway display case at Town Hall.

You can express your opinions by email to smartmeters86331@yahoo.com, by calling Town Hall,

or by speaking directly to Council members. Please identify yourself, so we know that what we receive genuinely reflects our town residents' input.

The Sedona Smart Meter Awareness Group will have a presentation on this topic on Monday, November 25 at Spook Hall from 6:00 till 8:00 p.m.



Light Up the Mountain and other Holiday Events

LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!!! PEACE SIGNS AND HO'S!!!! PLEASE READ ON!!!!

Well here it is November and the Holidays are upon us once again. This year I am the head of the Holiday Activities for the Jerome Chamber of Commerce. Our committee is really planning something that I think we all can enjoy and WE ARE ASKING FOR YOUR

PARTICIPATION!

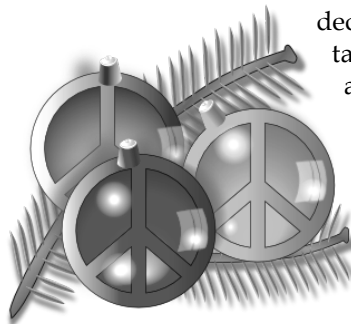
HO

Many of our residents display "HO" signs throughout the town. It's an endearment to Santa and not someone being

nasty!! The Chamber has asked our merchants to decorate their windows for the Holidays incorporating Peace Signs and Ho's! (literally)!

We plan to hold our annual "Light up the Mountain" event on the 30th of November. I will make out a ballot listing all those businesses participating and asking our visitors and residents to vote on the best window. I will put a notice at the post office where our town residents may pick up a ballot. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will be announced at our town dinner on December 14th and cash prizes will be awarded then.

Also at the November 30th event, we will have the Mingus Union High School band, choir and drama club. There will be carolers throughout the town so everything will not be centered just around the park this year. Activities are from 3:30 till 7:00 p.m.



This will be the last year Fred and I will be decorating the park. Hopefully someone will take over next year. So ONE LAST TIME we are asking for lights or donations to help with the decorations. We want to go out with a great display!!! We also would appreciate any help we may be able to get putting everything up. Please call us at 928-634-2604 or stop by at Mooney Christmas for more information!!! Free Chili for all those who help!!!

Fred and I would like to thank everyone who has helped us for the last seven years. It has been fun and we have really have enjoyed it. Let's enjoy this holiday Season with all the events coming up. We appreciate your participation and hope to see you at LIGHT UP THE MOUNTAIN on November 30th and also the TOWN DINNER on December the 14th. Doors open at 6:00 and dinner starts at 6:30 p.m.

And, don't forget, the Polar Express is on December 6th. This has always been a great event as well.

Diana Martin

HO!

ho

Jerome Kid's Christmas Party

December 14th, 2013

Spook Hall

10:00 AM



Jerome Humane Society Report

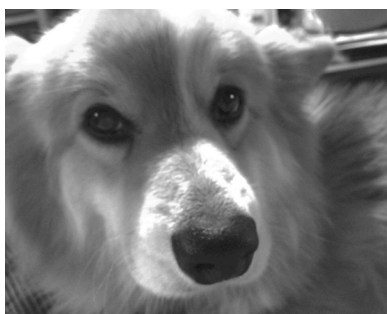
In a word Jerome...
THANK YOU!

The Jerome Humane Society's annual brunch at the Honeymoon Cottage was the most successful event in our history.

Somewhat

overwhelming as a

matter of fact. Marge Mitchell, broken kneecap and all, pulled off an amazing feat... cooking for over 200 people... many more than we expected. The overall community support, astounding. The little town that could is helping surrounding cities. These funds will keep us going for several months. Jerome's spay, neuter and pet care philosophy is now the model for the Verde Valley. Our mission... animal welfare... we are here to help you. Dr. Kennaway is a tremendous blessing - dedicated, talented, innovative and caring.



Darby

Winter is approaching... are you providing warm dry housing for your pets? Our Food Bank is at your disposal. Looking for a pet? We can help with that too.

Don't forget about Fall Flea Market on November 16, 17, and 18 at Spook Hall. Three fun days because we have received so many donations.

THANK
YOU!!



Jerome Humane Society Clinic Hours

Thursdays Noon - 5:00 p.m.

Clinic Phone: 634-6166 (during clinic hours only)

Appt. Phone: 639-1341

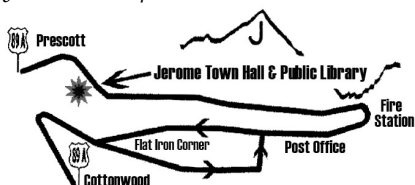
JEROME PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOOKS * VIDEOS * INTERNET * FAX
COPY MACHINE * SCANNER * PRINTER

Phone/Fax 928-639-0574

Drawer I, Jerome, AZ 86331

Sunday	10 am - 2 pm	Thursday	Noon - 8 pm
Monday	10 am - 5 pm	Friday	Noon - 6 pm
Tuesday	Noon - 8 pm	Saturday	CLOSED
Wednesday	10 am - 5 pm		



Jerome Library's Old Book Room

The Old Book Room has undergone a transformation thanks to library volunteer Karen Wood. She has spent the past few months organizing books, moving shelves, cleaning and making the room a more welcoming place.

We are now ready for the public to visit again and are seeking volunteers to be book room staff. The only experience necessary is a love of old books.



Contact Kathleen at the library for more information.

Old Book Room Hours

Monday	10 am - 5 pm
Tuesday	Noon - 5 pm
Wednesday	10 am - 5 pm
Thursday	Noon - 5 pm

Fundraiser for the Jerome library

Buy your copy of Boom Bust Boom, by Bill Carter, for \$25.

Also available is Cemeteries of Yavapai County, featuring Jerome graveyards, for \$20.

100 percent of each sale goes to the library.

Support your library!



Library Holiday Closures

November 11, Veterans Day
November 28 and 29, Thanksgiving
December 24 and 25, Christmas
January 1, New Years

Greetings From Haven UMC

Well, here we are coming up on the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, with all the hustle and bustle that goes with getting the turkey or ham ready, visiting with relatives, and holiday shopping. Let us not forget what this day really means for many of us.

We will be having a brunch following our 9:00 a.m. worship services on November 17th and December 15th, and we encourage everyone to feel free to join with us in this time of fellowship.



We here at Haven are looking forward to the Christmas Eve service, which begins at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 24th. Our youth will be adding a Christmas video to the service, which we are looking forward to. It is titled; "Hope, Joy, Love and Peace." We will also be doing a traditional candle-lighting service. We especially would like to share this evening with all of our Jerome family so please come and join us.

As we plan ahead for the upcoming holiday season we are looking forward to celebrating with you.

Peace and grace,
Pastors Janet & Mike

Jerome Chamber of Commerce

The Jerome Chamber of Commerce is proud to be part of several community events this winter. We are encouraging business owners to participate in the "Peace and Ho" decoration competition, which will be sure to highlight the creative spirit we have in our town. We are also working on our annual "Light Up the Mountain" event for November 30, which will include a performance from the Mingus Union High School Choir.

A reading of The Polar Express will take place on December 6, at Spook Hall with a surprise visit from Santa. The annual Jerome Town dinner will be on December 14. The town dinner is a very special event and is sponsored by the Town of Jerome, the Jerome Historical Society and the Jerome Chamber, cooperatively. We are hoping for a large turnout this year. The doors open at Spook Hall at 6:00 and dinner will take place at 6:30 p.m. Please bring a side dish to share and the entree and drinks will be provided. There is a charge for alcoholic beverages, and coffee and tap water are free. You are welcome to bring your own dinnerware.



Happy Holidays to everyone!

Liz Gale, President

Jerome Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

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