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YOUNGTOWN

Village Reporter

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 10

youngtownaz.org

October 2011

Youngtown Village Reporter
12030 Clubhouse Square
Youngtown, Arizona 85363

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10 am - 3 pm

- Fire Freedom Truck
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OCTOBER 8, 2011

Run will benefit the Foundation for Burns and Trauma. Run to Support all burn victims that have been severely or critically burned and help raise awareness and education in the community.



Registration	Distance	Location	For More Info
Day of event 7:00 am Mail In & Online Soon to come	Races will Start @ 8:00 am 10K Run ~ 5K Run/Walk 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk	113th Ave. & Alabama Youngtown, AZ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary: 623-974-2321, mdickinson@suncityfire.com • Peggy: 623-362-8438, mmaggie3@cox.net

SEE ENTRY FORM INSIDE THIS PAPER

G.A.I.N. Day 2011

Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods

Saturday, October 8

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Greer Park – 112th and Alabama Avenues

Youngtown

Join your neighbors for a day out by celebrating Youngtown's G.A.I.N (Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods) neighborhood celebration.

This year's FREE event activities include:

- Fire Up Freedom truck • Live burn demonstration
- Equipment from Maricopa County SWAT • Ambulance display
 - National Fallen Firefighters LAST Trailer
- Arizona Dept. of Public Safety DUI Processing Trailer

Here in Youngtown, G.A.I.N. events encourage residents to get together in a fun atmosphere to promote safety, neighborhood communication and celebrate the successes of crime prevention. G.A.I.N. is also a night for the Town of Youngtown to show appreciation of those in the community who support our efforts in the day-to-day fight against crime.

G.A.I.N. is Arizona's answer to the nationwide crime awareness program, National Night Out.





A letter from the Mayor... You reckon?

By HONORABLE
MICHAEL LeVAULT
MAYOR
TOWN OF YOUNGTOWN

Recently, a former Youngtown Councilmember was quoted in a letter to the editor in The Independent as saying he was "... involved in town finances a few years back, and went through a worse financial crisis than the supposed crisis of today..."

Supposed crisis? Unless this person was talking about having served on a town council somewhere during the Great Depression of the 1930s,

he did not experience anything like today's train wreck of an economy, which is easily the worst we've experienced in our lifetimes.

From a macro-economic standpoint, the length and depth of unemployment (when you include those who have given up looking for work and those who are underemployed) and the loss in home values are both worse than what occurred during the Great Depression. Neither Arizona, which was ground zero when the housing collapse brought down the global economy, nor

the nation have begun to come to grips with the long-term impact of the damage being done by today's economy.

In the same letter to the editor, this same person said "...now the Mayor says he wants \$1 million [in property taxes]..."

To correct the record: I've never said that.

What I have said, consistently and often, is that I intend to be forthright and proactive with the residents of Youngtown in discussing the structural and inherent weakness in the current fiscal condition of the Town. It's

not quantum physics; it's just simple arithmetic: A given level of government services must be financed with a commensurate level of revenue. If the expenditures exceed the revenue, you either reduce the level of services, or you find additional revenue or, in the case of a Town, you look for another city or county that is willing to annex you or take over - in which case, you're still going to pay someone for services rendered and you've given up all control.

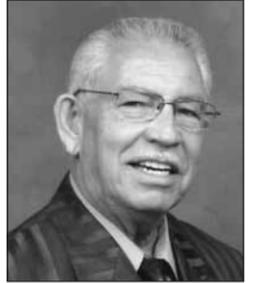
Through frugality and innovation,

these past four years, we've managed to reduce Youngtown government spending by almost 20 percent and build a rainy day fund of just under \$2 million. Much of the rest of the Town's "on-hand" money is in accounts whose usage is legally restricted to things like street repair. By burning through our rainy day fund, we can postpone the day of reckoning for awhile, but make no mistake about it, at some point, there will still be a reckoning.

I say, better now than later.



Mayor
Michael LeVault



Vice Mayor
Jack Duran

Benevilla – New face of interfaith community care

Are you in need of help around the house from time to time? How about someone to assist with grocery shopping or emergency errands? Benevilla, the new face of Interfaith Community Care, may be able to offer Volunteer Home Services to help.

Projects, Programs & Grants Manager Mark Hannah recently met with Jane Bruzzese, the Senior Director of Programs for Benevilla, and learned that these services and more are available to qualified town residents. According to Bruzzese, "We are in our 30th year in the Sun Cities communities (including Youngtown) and want to be sure that residents know that we're here! Although we've been covered well by the local newspapers, we still hear that we're 'the best kept secret' in the area, and that's certainly not our preference."

Benevilla is a not-for-profit human services agency dedicated to enhancing the lives of Northwest Valley residents. Originally founded to provide support ser-

vices for older adults, the agency has embraced the explosive growth of the area by widening its mission, providing care for seniors, adults with disabilities, as well as children and the families who care for them.

During a recent tour of one of the facilities, Hannah learned that Benevilla offers skilled, trained volunteers to assist with important daily-living needs free of charge to folks with limited resources. Depending on the availability of volunteers, residents may find assistance in the following areas:

- Grocery Shopping services offering weekly grocery shopping for clients unable to shop for themselves.
- Friendly Visitors and/or Phone Pals who can provide weekly companionship and socialization.
- Handyman service to assist with minor home repairs and routine home maintenance tasks.
- Business Assistance that can help organize basic home finan-

cial affairs, such as balancing checkbooks.

- Transportation to medical appointments.
- Emergency Errands for occasional assistance in completing essential errands.
- Information and Referral specialists who maintain constantly updated databases of local resources to help both individuals and families find and utilize various community services.
- Adult Day Centers where residents can find hot meals and snacks and important social interactions in a welcoming, safe and secure environment at six centers serving the Northwest Valley.
- Emergency Response System offers medical alert service 24 hours a day at the touch of a button. Features of this service include fall detection, medical and appointment reminders, and daily self-testing to ensure the unit is functioning properly.
- Home Delivered Meals are available for three, five or seven meals a week.

For families, Benevilla offers Wirtzie's Child Development Center where children from six weeks to five years of age can discover, grow and create in "an environment of love, respect and care." Wirtzie's features a highly educated and experienced staff and a child-centered curriculum, along with a low child-to-staff ratio. The Benevilla Family Resource Center, in partnership with First Things First, offers free parenting classes and support groups for families with children five years and younger. They also help parents by providing referrals to community agencies and resources.

According to Bruzzese, Benevilla can be a great resource for those who care for loved ones. Benevilla's Caregiver Support Groups offer caregivers a friend who can relate and professionals who can help. Support groups can now help those who care of someone with dementia-related

MORE BENEVILLA ON 3



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Margaret Chittenden



Councilmember
Susan MacKay



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Youngtown Village Reporter

Jamie Boyett, Publishing Supervisor
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TOWN OF YOUNGTOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS REGULAR MEETINGS

Disclaimer: This document does not contain the complete official meeting minutes but is intended to provide information about meeting activity. To obtain official meeting minutes, please contact the Youngtown Clerk's Office.

DATE: SEPT. 15
TIME: 6:10 p.m.
PLACE: TOWN CLUBHOUSE,
12033 CLUBHOUSE SQUARE

ing the work and forming the North Youngtown Street Lighting Improvement District (NYT SLID).

Approved contract with Interim Public Management, LLC, for Economic Development for a total contact price of \$30,200 for services through December 31, 2011.

Approved Community Garden Plan.

Approved Change Order to the contract with NFra, Inc. in the amount of \$23,030 for Youngtown Peoria Avenue Realignment project.

Approved Resolution 11-24 declaring a public record entitled "The 2010-2011 Amendments to the Tax Code of the Town of Youngtown."

Approved Ordinance 11-12 adopting "The 2010-2011 Amendments to the Tax Code of the Town of Youngtown by reference.

Approved Ordinance 11-13 amending Municipal Code Title 3 Revenue and Finance Section 3.08.010 deleting reference to 2007 Tax Code Amendments.

Approved Resolution 11-26 order-

Town Hall Meeting

Residents are invited to attend a special Town Hall meeting for an open discussion regarding the community survey

results.
Date: Oct. 10
Time: 6 p.m.
Location: Town Clubhouse, 12033 Clubhouse Square



BENEVILLA: Interfaith care, From 2

diseases, chronic illnesses, as well as parents of developmentally-disabled adults, and individuals living with grief and be-

reavement. At the same time, Benevilla is looking for "Heroes" who volunteer their time as the hearts and

hands of Benevilla's many efforts in the community. Because volunteers form one of the essential cores of the services Benevilla provide, you can find a variety of opportunities to make a meaningful difference in someone's life - and you may just develop a close friendship too. Anyone can volunteer; individuals, families, friends, coworkers, students, congregations and corporations are all welcome. To learn more about volunteer opportunities, contact the Volunteer Manager at 623-584-4999, or by e-mail at volunteers@benevilla.org.

Benevilla is located at 16752 N. Greasewood St., Surprise 85378. You are invited to check out their website at www.benevilla.org, or you can call them at 623-584-4999.



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Our new animal rescuer

It was June at 4 Paws and we were up to our whiskers in kittens and mom cats, when we received a frantic call from Virginia, a previous 4 Paws adopter. Virginia discovered that a mom cat and her kittens had taken up residence in her back yard.

Virginia had named the

mom cat Missy, and she had been feeding Missy and her kittens in the back yard. Predictably, Virginia's cat Ginger had a hissy fit over Missy the mom cat's presence. And now, Virginia needed help to find Missy and her kittens homes. In a rescue situation it is so vitally important to be able to spay the mom cat, to stop the cycle of more unwanted kittens. 4 Paws was glad to be able to offer help.

A 4 Paws volunteer armed with a crate went to Virginia's home, and easily picked up Missy, and placed her in the crate for transport back to 4 Paws. Missy was an extremely friendly, lovely cat, but her babies were not tame. Attempts to touch them ended badly for the 4 Paws volunteer, who was scratched and bitten. And so the plan was devised; if Virginia would work with the kittens, 4 Paws would take the kittens as they were ready, test, vaccinate, spay/neuter and find them homes. And so, after a phone call to 4 Paws, and the capture of one mom cat, a new animal rescuer

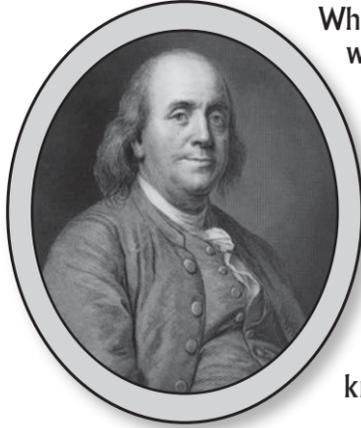
was born.

Virginia is a delightful woman who, along with her sweet 4 Paws kittygirl, Ginger, resides in a peaceful Youngtown neighborhood. SO, what's the big deal you ask? A Very Big Deal! Virginia, at the time, was 92 years young. A good friend and member of 4 Paws, loaned Virginia a large crate in which to feed the kittens. Virginia utilized toys, food and kindness and braved our summer's 100 degree plus weather to turn these wild babies into loving sweet adoptable kittens. This commitment, this labor of love, of hers took a great deal of her time and energy. 4 Paws provided food for the kitties, and Virginia provided the time, diligence and love to save the lives of these homeless kittens. And one by one Virginia would call with an update, and then, we arranged for the first kitten to be brought in, then the second and finally the third. Virginia remarked how fond she had grown of the third kitten, as he was the most shy and took the longest to bring around. The joy of watch-

ing him as he blossomed from a frightened hissing feral into a totally adoptable sweet loving kitty-boy, was a heartwarming experience, one Virginia would not soon forget.

Those of us who work in animal rescue can easily become numb during kitten season, with the never ending amount of cats and kittens that we provide homes and shelter for, and also for those, who, for lack of space we are forced to turn away. It is an extremely busy and exasperating time, punctuated by the relentless heat of our Arizona summer. But, we all so welcomed Virginia's calls and updates, taking personal joy and satisfaction in her accomplishments, encouraging her to persevere and then, what pure delight to see the fruit of her labors!! Thank you Virginia! You adopted a rescue cat, and then, you saved the lives of four others. Not only did you take the time to talk the talk, but you made the effort to walk the walk.

Reprinted from the March 2008 Scratching Post



When Benjamin Franklin died in 1790, he was known throughout the world as a scientist and diplomat, but in his will he named himself just as the caption under his photo shows, a Printer.

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Monthly Trivia



1. In what Olympic sport is the clean and jerk' event held?
2. What were the professions of Cain and Abel, respectively?
3. Which president has his full collar and lapels and not just his face carved into Mount Rushmore?
4. What was the code name of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima?
5. What U.S. state capital is "landlocked"

6. Who took Barry Goldwater's seat when this longtime senator retired in 1986?

If you have an interesting trivia question that you would like to submit, please send it to Jamie Boyett at jamieboyett@cox.net.

Answers: 1. Weight-lifting. 2. Farmer and Shepar. 3. George Washington. 4. Little Boy. 5. Juneau, Alaska. 6. Jon McCain III.

"Things are perking up around here!"



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YOUNGTOWN VILLAGE REPORTER

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Youngtown Dog Park - Update

By **MARGARET CHITTENDEN**
COUNCILMEMBER
TOWN OF YOUNGTOWN

Methodist Church (113th and Alabama Avenues), 9 a.m., on Oct. 1 and 15.

Following these meetings the next step in the process is to seek Council approval (October 20, 2011, 7:00 p.m.) for the complete dog park plan including location with site plan, Town costs, hours of operation, amenities of benches, trees, water fountains, etc. The supporters are confident in-kind donations and sponsorships will be a major portion of securing the success of this project.

Upon Council approval the supporters will organize a campaign to seek donations for necessary features to ensure a pleasant, functional, and low-maintenance dog recreational area for the community.

"The grassroots group has accomplished much in just four meetings, but after the August heat break, we must get the ball moving along. You may not have a dog and not wish to use a dog park, but it is a nice service amenity for Youngtown and some of your

neighbors, states Margaret Chittenden, Councilmember/Advocate.

Future meetings will be important to finalize strategies, design, and timing to move this project from vision to reality.

Direct any comments, questions to Councilmember/Advocate Chittenden at the Town Hall, 623-933-8286.

Mission Statement: Building a social network for people and their dogs 4 paws at a time.

Purpose: To provide a clean environment for people and their dogs to get healthy exercise and socialize safely.

Upcoming meetings: Attend and be an important part of this grassroots project: Saturdays at the Youngtown

In the works: Public Works Department enters technological age

By **JIM FOX**
PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER

Isn't it amazing... the technology of today; yet some areas have not been "blessed" with the upgrade in technological advances that many of us "can't live without."

Unfortunately, that had been the case with the Town of Youngtown Public Works facility located at 11117 W. Peoria Ave.

Several years ago, a beautiful Public Works Building had been constructed to house all of the Public Works equipment accumulated over the years. Everything from backhoe tractors and street sweepers, to shovels, rakes and street signs are housed in this building.

It even has an area for the workers to have their lunch and fill out all the necessary paperwork at their desks.

Paperwork? In this day and age? Yes, it's sad but true, the Public Works Building had no connection for computers to communicate with Town Hall, or the Police Department or the Public Works Manager's office. Everything had to be done by paper.

Work orders, follow-up on accomplishments, bids for work, time sheets, etc, etc, etc, was done by paper. The problem was there was no direct transmission line

to the remote building from Town Hall.

Enter In: modern technology. You know how the television shows are bounced off of satellites into our homes? Well, the Public Works staff has installed two satellite receivers, one at Town Hall and one at Public Works, to send and receive computer signals between the build-

ings. This now enables the Public Works employees to receive e-mails on work orders, process paperless requests for assistance, turn over paperless correspondence and the like; all for a couple of \$75 satellite dishes.

It's about time we caught up with the rest of the world. Isn't technology amazing?

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Youngtown residents attended the September 19th Town Hall meeting to discuss the future of the Town.

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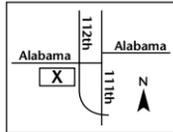
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Thank you for speaking up Youngtown

A big thank you to the residents and businesses who participated in Speak Up! Youngtown. More than 250 people attended a town hall or community event and 777 community surveys were completed. The Mayor and Town Council appreciate your participation and will consider your input as they discuss the Town's future over the next several months.

Are you interested in the results? A special Town Hall meeting will be held on Monday, October 10, 6 p.m. at the Clubhouse to review the survey results and to have further dialogue on the Town's



YOUNGTOWN
LET'S DECIDE OUR FUTURE
future direction.

A report on the results will also be presented during the Town Council meeting on October 6 and a summary will be published in the November issue of the Village Reporter.

Speak Up! Youngtown was a community effort with many people and organizations helping to engage the residents. Thank

you to the businesses who served as official survey collection locations: Brenda's Kitchen, ACE Hardware, 4 Paws Animal Rescue and Compass Bank. Agua Fria Ranch Homeowners Association, River Bend Apartments, Arizona Baptist Village, Surprise Regional Chamber of Commerce, Compass Bible, Youngtown Methodist, and New Joy Churches also assisted in the community effort by reaching out to their residents and members.

A final thank you to Pueblo Publishing for including the special edition in the Village Reporter and printing extra copies.

Explore and shop Youngtown

Youngtown welcomes businesses...

- new coffee shop and cabinet-maker
- Coming soon - new bar and new restaurant.

The Internet (Wikipedia) defines Economic Development as a term that generally refers to the sustained, concerted effort of policymakers and community to promote the standard of living and economic health in a specific area.

In simpler terms, Economic Development is a bond between residents, businesses and government to have a sustaining community and a desire to embrace Progressive Policies with Traditional Values. This is the focus of the Town Council and Staff as your voices have been heard during the Speak Up! Youngtown survey campaign. Thank you for participating.



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Oct 10, 2011
Nov 14, 2011
Dec 12, 2011

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T-shirts for G.A.I.N.

Officer Sharonda Dean of the Youngtown Police Department, left, received a donation of 19 t-shirts from Mr. John Martinez, Mgr. of the Antigua Outlet Store, 16651 N. 84th Avenue, Peoria, AZ. The t-shirts will be a part of the give-a-ways at the G.A.I.N. event on Saturday, October 8, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 112th Avenue and Alabama Avenue in Youngtown. The G.A.I.N. event encourages residents to get together in a fun atmosphere to promote safety, neighborhood communication and celebrate the successes of crime prevention.

Library news for October

Our theme for October is Harvest. Time to reap the benefits of what we sow: developing a love for reading starts with little ones.

• We are proud to announce the start of Story Time every Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m., for ages one to five. Since the Maricopa County Summer Story Time program is over, we are going to continue offering this fun activity.

• Free beginner computer classes will be offered on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. You must sign up in advance, as we have limited space.

• As your local information center, the Library offers books, magazines and newspapers for travel, organization, cooking, reading and many other areas. Come check it out!

• Our DVD collection is increasing thanks to donations from our patrons. We have nearly 700 different titles. We also have a huge selection of VHS tapes.

October Month Long Observations:

- Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- Aids Awareness Month
- National Hispanic Heritage Month

Dates to celebrate:

- Oct. 1 - Vegetarian Day
- Oct. 2 - World Habitat Day
- Oct. 12 - Columbus Day
- Oct. 16 - National Boss' Day
- Oct. 16 - School Librarian Day
- Oct. 23 - Mother-In-Law Day
- Oct. 24 - International Forgiveness Day
- Oct. 31 - Halloween



We are located in Clubhouse Square, and are open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Our four public computers are available until 3:45 p.m. every day. For a personal tour of the Youngtown Historical Museum, call the library today at 623-974-3401.

Friends of the Youngtown Library

“Friends of the Youngtown Public Library” will be having a very busy Fall schedule.

The featured Little Red Wagon sale for October will be Mysteries by some of the most popular authors, such as James Patterson, Dean Koontz, Stephen King, Mary Higgins Clark and others. Our books are gently used and we pride ourselves on the variety. Stop in the Library and take advantage

of the Buy One – Get One Free special.

We are planning a large book sale for December 3. We have invited the other Youngtown Clubs to join us, so there will be a variety of items to offer. “Books and More” would be a great way to get some of those little Christmas presents for your friends. Look for more information in the November Youngtown Village Reporter about this fun Saturday event.

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Basic fire escape planning

In the event of a fire time is the biggest enemy and every second counts. Escape plans help you get out of your home quickly. In less than 30 seconds a small flame can get completely out of control and turn into a major fire. It only takes minutes for a house to fill with thick black smoke and become

engulfed in flames.

This year for Fire Prevention Week we would like to focus on pre-planning that will help you and your family escape a house fire safely.

Your ability to get out depends on advance warning from smoke alarms and advance planning.

- Pull together everyone in your household and make a plan. Walk through your home and inspect all possible exits and escape routes. Households with children should consider drawing a floor plan of your home, marking two ways out of each room, including windows and doors. Also, mark the location of each smoke alarm.
- Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.

- Everyone in the household must understand the escape plan.

- Choose an outside meeting place (i.e. neighbor's house, a light post, mailbox or stop sign) a safe distance in front of your home where everyone can meet after they've escaped.

- Go outside to see if your street number is clearly visible from the road. If not, paint it on the curb or install house numbers.

- Have everyone memorize the emergency phone number of the fire department.

- If there are infants, older adults or family members with mobility limitations, make sure that someone is assigned to assist them in the fire drill and in the event of an



en, make sure that someone is assigned to wake them up as part of the drill and in a real emergency situation.

- If your home has two floors, every family member (including children) must be able to escape from the second floor rooms. Escape ladders can be placed in or near windows to provide an additional escape route. Practice setting up the ladder from a first floor window to make sure you can do it correctly and quickly.

- Always choose the escape route that is safest.

- Closing doors on your way out slows the spread of fire, giving you more time to safely escape.

In some cases, smoke or fire may prevent you from exiting your home or apartment building. To prepare for an emergency like this, practice sealing yourself in for safety as part of your home fire escape plan. Close all doors between you and the fire. Use duct tape or towels to seal the door cracks and cover air vents to keep smoke from coming in. If possible, open your windows at the top and bottom so fresh air can get in. Call the fire department to report your exact location. Wave a flashlight or light-colored cloth at the window to let the fire department know where you are located.

For more information, please contact the Sun City Fire Department at 623-974-2321.

Ken Rice, Fire Marshal, Sun City Fire Department

-30-
Word count - 700

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Wednesday Bible study - 7:30 p.m.
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West Valley Genealogical Society events

Debe Branning, a member of the Board of Directors of the Pioneer Cemetery Association, and Director of "Historic Cemetery Walks" where costumed characters tell the stories of early Phoenix pioneers, will be speaking about some of the interesting pioneers buried on the grounds and how she rescued a tombstone that had been missing from the cemetery for over 70 years. She will share photographs, stories, the duties of the Cemetery Association volunteers, their research and some of their planned projects.

As a Director of the MVD Ghost Busters of Mesa/Bisbee paranormal team, she has investigated haunted, historical locations throughout Arizona. She has appeared on an episode of the Travel Channel's "Ghost Stories about Haunted Jerome", and is the author of The Graveyard Shift--AZ's Haunted and Historical Cemeteries and two children's books.

The meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m., Monday, October 10, at The First Presbyterian Church, 12225 N. 103rd Avenue, Sun City.

The West Valley Genealogical Society Library, 12222 N. 111th Ave., Youngtown, continues its classes for the newly curious or experienced family history researchers.

Learn how to use or improve your skills in these computerized records programs:

• **Family Tree Maker, Part 1:** Mondays, Oct 3, 10, 17 and 24: 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

• **Family Tree Maker, Part 2:** Mondays, Oct 31, Nov 7, 14 and 21: 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

• **The Master Genealogist:** Thursdays, Oct 6, 13 and 29: 1 - 3 p.m.

• **Roots Magic, Part 1:** Wednesdays, Oct 12 and 19: 1 - 3 p.m.

• **Roots Magic, Part 2:** Wednesdays, Nov 2 and 9: 1 - 3 p.m.

• **Gen Smarts:** Saturday, Nov 12: 1 - 3 p.m. This automated genealogy research program looks at your data and lets you know where you will need to research further.

These two offerings will aid in researching your family history:

• **German Research:** Tuesdays, Oct 18 and 25, Nov 1 and 8: 1 - 3 p.m.

• **Learning About**

Obituaries: Wednesday, Nov 2: 9 - 11 a.m.

Other offerings available:

• **Novice Genealogy** - October 18, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Also regularly held the third Friday of each month, 1 -3 p.m. First steps needed to get started on your family history. No prior knowledge necessary. Provides basic information and organizational tips to get started on your research.

• **Research Techniques 1** - Wednesdays, Oct 12, 19, 26 and Nov 2, 1 - 3 p.m. The next class after taking the Novice Genealogy class.

• **Googling for Ancestors** -Saturday, Oct 8, 1 - 3 p.m. Using Google without getting three million hits. See what else Google has to offer: Patents, Translation, Books, Maps and more.

• **Legacy Family Tree for Beginners** - Tuesdays, Oct 25, Nov 1, 8, 15, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Learn how to utilize this program to organize, plan and share your family history.

You may call the WVGS Library to verify availability of classes or to check for scheduling additions or changes. Can't attend?

More details are available at the website of the West Valley Genealogical Society: <http://www.azwvgs.org/>, or by calling 623-933-4945.

Wanita Zarumba, *Publicity, West Valley Genealogical Society*



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3:00-5:00 p.m.

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AARP news

AARP Chapter #1 will host its next meeting on Friday, October 7, beginning with a potluck dinner at 5:30 p.m., in the Youngtown Council Chambers at 12030 N. Clubhouse Square in Youngtown. All national AARP Members are welcome to attend - no restriction on which city or town in which you reside. Chapter membership is only \$5 per year.

This month the program will be extra special (no hints), but you will not want to miss it. Come early to meet and mingle. For more information, call Arky Muscato at 623-362-0605.

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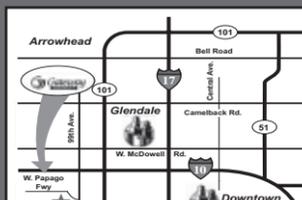




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From the Bench – Serial arsonists

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Serial arsonists are a strange lot. Police and fire investigators have studied and written much on their peculiar, but often predictable characteristics, such as remaining at the scene of a fire to watch the resulting chaos or injecting themselves

into an arson investigation pretending to be a helpful witness.

I had the opportunity to see first-hand that these habitual traits are often correct. A while back, a landmark, but often troublesome bar in the West Valley caught fire. The fire was discovered in the early morning hours shortly after closing. Police and fire officials on the scene immediately suspected arson after surveying the damage. The cash register in the bar was open and small amounts of money were scattered on the floor; additionally, the bar's safe was open...and empty.

Was it a burglary where the culprit set fire to cover any evidence, or was it an inside job to collect insurance money on a fire damage/theft claim?

Shortly after the fire was put out, the arson team began working on the clues. One unusual clue was the cash drawer open with money on the floor beneath it. Businesses normally do not leave money in cash drawers when closing, in fact most will remove the cash and even leave the drawer open intentionally to show any potential burglar that there is no money



Judge Lex Anderson

in the register, thus saving a register from being jimmied open.

Another puzzling clue was the open safe. Based on the bars location, investigators found it unlikely that any talented safecrackers were the perpetrators of this crime, thus the investigators began to suspect an inside job for insurance money.

The owners of the property were nowhere to be found, and because this was being treated as a criminal case, investigators came to me to authorize a search warrant of the damaged premises. Several agencies became involved in the investigation, including the State Department of Liquor since this was a licensed liquor establishment.

Detective Robert Dorn, a seasoned investigator for the State Department of Liquor, arrived on the scene, surveyed the damage and met with

the other investigators. Prior to becoming an investigator with the State Department of Liquor, Dorn spent 20 years as a detective with the El Mirage Police Department. Dorn had seen many other arson crimes in his career. One particular arson/burglary Dorn investigated 15 years prior reminded him of the one he was looking at now.

Although Dorn was at the arson scene regarding other issues particular to the State Department of Liquor, he told the other investigators of his past experience with a similar arson crime.

In that past arson case, Dorn matched up shoe prints to a "helpful witness" to that crime who had offered his assistance to police in their investigation. Dorn became suspicious of this "helpful witness" and his suspicions proved correct when the "witness" eventually confessed to being the arsonist when confronted with the evidence that Dorn and other investigators had collected. Although Dorn had investigated thousands of criminal cases in his career, that case was memorable, as the

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ARSONISTS: Past used to solve present arson, From 10

arsonist subsequently sent Dorn a post card from prison thanking him for helping to get his life turned around.

When Dorn told investigators about the arson/burglary 15 years earlier, he indicated that the circumstances of this new case were similar to the work of the person convicted more than a decade earlier. The investigators rolled their eyes in a manner to insinuate, "Not a chance of any connection."

As the arson team continued combing the burnt down bar for clues, Dorn went about his business completing his job regarding any matters concerning the State Liquor Department. Just when Dorn was preparing to leave the scene, he noticed a group of individuals

had gathered across the street to watch the investigators go about their work.

Surprisingly, among the group of men was the same individual that Dorn had spoken about to the investigators... the same man he had arrested 15 years prior for arson.

Dorn walked across the street and asked the men if they had seen anything suspicious or had any ideas as to the origin of the fire; only one spoke up. The previous arsonist came forward and said that he was an employee of the bar and would help the investigators in finding the responsible party. Additionally, the man stated that he had seen the fire as the Fire Fighters worked at putting it out.

Dorn's suspicions

heightened with this information and he decided to bluff the man. Dorn stated to him that police already knew what happened and preserved footprints left by the perpetrator. Dorn then looked down at the man's shoes and stated, "We know what happened, let's talk about it."

The man became very nervous, then admitted to Dorn that he had burglarized the bar and set the fire. Dorn led the arsonist over to the very surprised investigators. The man was read his rights and confessed to the crime, providing the details that matched up to the evidence.

Detective Robert Dorn's total time at the scene was 25 minutes and was originally only to investigate issues

as to the bar's ownership. Instead, he solved a major felony crime in less than half an hour. The arson investigators were stunned and will undoubtedly listen to him carefully should their paths cross again during an investigation.

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www.TurnANewLeaf.org www.RiverboatBingo.org

Harvest Festival in October

Join your Youngtown neighbors at this year's Harvest Festival hosted by Compass Bible Church. The festival will be held at Uribe Park, Monday, October 31 from 6 to 8 p.m.

There will be lots of free games and prizes for the entire family. Check out local businesses and get a chance to meet "Prince" the new Youngtown Police K-9.

If you are a local business and would like to set up a booth at this year's Harvest Festival or if you would like to donate candy, coupons, gift cards or any other

prizes for the festival contact Compass Bible Church and ask for Joel at 623-933-3106.



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It's official... Youngtown Community Garden

Working together growing a healthy community one seed at a time...

It's official. The council at the September 15 meeting approved the use of the old Public Works yard as the new home for Youngtown's first Community Garden.

At the last steering committee meeting we were honored to have the master gardener that runs the Buckeye Community Garden speak and share their mistakes so we don't repeat them. Working smarter with less is Youngtown's

motto.

Youngtown is looking at partnering with one of our local nonprofits to have additional grant funding sources. We are now at the point where we are looking for donations of supplies: railroad ties, clean fill dirt, fertilizer, wood chips.

Town staff has already repaired the fence and gate and leveled the ground. We would like to thank

Jim Fox and Mark Hannah for all their efforts. Town staff will do the labor portion of building the planter boxes.

We will be having our first community work day soon and we hope you can join us. If you are interested in getting plugged in please contact Mark Hannah at town hall or Councilmember Mello @ at dorena.mello@gmail.com.



This is what our garden can look like.

1st Annual S.A.F.E. Run

Run

Presented by

Entrants will receive event t-shirt and great post race refreshments!

Stick around for **GAIN** 10 am - 3 pm

- Fire Freedom Truck
- Free Hot Dogs & Soda
- Community Resource
- Family Fun

Town of Youngtown, Sun City Fire Department and Adultcare Assistance Homecare

OCTOBER 8, 2011

Run will benefit the Foundation for Burns and Trauma. Run to Support all burn victims that have been severely or critically burned and help raise awareness and education in the community.



Registration	Distance	Location	For More Info
Day of event 7:00 am Mail In & Online Soon to come	Races will Start @ 8:00 am 10K Run ~ 5K Run/Walk 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk	113th Ave. & Alabama Youngtown, AZ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary: 623-974-2321, mdickinson@suncityfire.com • Peggy: 623-362-8438, mmaggie3@cox.net

October 8, 2011 - 1st Annual S.A.F.E. Run

LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____ AGE _____ GENDER _____

WAIVER: In consideration of accepting this entry, I the undersigned, intending to be legally bound hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the All Arizona Running Events, UAT&F, Town of Youngtown, AZ or anyone associated with this event, their representatives, successors and assigns for any and all injuries suffered by me in said event. I will additionally permit the free use of my name and pictures in broadcasts, telecasts, newspapers, etc.

RACE ENTRY FEES			Check Shirt Size			
Distance	Entry Fee	After Sept. 8th	S	M	L	XL
1 Mile Fun Run/Walk	\$10.00	\$15.00				
5K	\$15.00	\$20.00				
10K	\$25.00	\$30.00				

SIGNATURE (Parent or Guardian if under 18)

DATE

Make checks payable and mail to: All Arizona Running Events, 5290 W. Melinda Lane, Glendale, AZ 85308

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Phoenix, Arizona**

OPEN HOUSES SCHEDULED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY WEEKLY CALL THE AGENT IN YOUR AREA!

Anthem	McEwen, Kristen	602-882-1878	Phoenix	Burns, Mary Jane	602-354-8652
Chandler	Tietz, Barbara	480-893-0600	Phoenix	Cook, Cristina	623-628-8714
Chandler	Tietz, Bob	480-893-0600	Phoenix	Frensdorf, Eric	480-722-9771
Gilbert	Hodjati, Ali	480-307-3939	Phoenix	Hughes, Ed	602-882-1531
Glendale	Cerreta, Jonathan	602-617-8939	Phoenix	Joseph Profeta	602-540-1020
Glendale	Hawkins, Mindy	623-533-4302	Phoenix	Noble, John	602-722-9309
Glendale	Cook, Phil	623-385-9070	Scottsdale	DeWitt, Linda	480-201-6259
Glendale	Harrison, Virginia	480-334-1115	Scottsdale	Drummond, Ian	480-748-1375
Glendale	Platt, Thomas	602-615-8470	Scottsdale	Hilton, Pamela	602-481-4006
Goodyear	Nissalke, Tabitha	623-606-3378	Scottsdale	Jones, LeMar	602-318-8672
Lake Havasu	Cheon, Judy	928-486-0793	Scottsdale	Washington, Bill	602-550-3880
Litchfield Park	Rasmussen, Ashley	623-203-8770	Surprise	Zillmer, Ed	602-410-9242
Mesa	DiQuattro, Stefanie	623-687-4915	Tempe	Dishman, Robert	480-217-9507
Mesa	Lanterman, Rob	602-550-4813	Tucson	Reisig, Gerry	520-990-7653
Peoria	Hall, Kory	602-743-6073	Yuma	Erlenback, Peter	928-503-0263
Peoria	Johnson, Erik	623-533-4302			

**WE HAVE OVER TWO HUNDRED BANK HOMES ALL OVER THE CITY
CALL FOR A SHOWING TODAY!**