



YOUNGTOWN VILLAGE Reporter

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VOLUME 6 NUMBER 4

youngtownaz.org

April 2012

BLANTON & COOPER Visioning exercise interview - March 26

On March 12, Blanton & Cooper, the Economic Development consultant for the Town of Youngtown, held a Visioning Exercise to hear from residents about how they vision the Town in 2025. Gayle Cooper was interviewed to find out more about the exercise.

Q: What is a General Plan and why does the Town need to prepare one?

A: The General Plan is a blueprint for the future; a document consisting of text, divided into sections called Elements, and related maps. It is required by law that municipalities in Arizona formulate an updated General Plan every ten years. The last one for Youngtown was done in 2003.

Q: What kind of input did you receive from the Youngtown community about their ideal image for Youngtown in 2025?

A: There were approximately 20 residents and landholders at the meeting on March 12. They gave us 159 comment cards that ranged from beautification of the town to high speed transit. Very insightful comments were made, from which we have formed a matrix of information to be considered in the preparation of the General Plan.

Q: What kind of concerns do Youngtown residents have about the General Plan and Youngtown's future?

A: Residents of Youngtown were surprised to learn that this is a requirement. The only voiced concern was

that the town didn't need one.

Q: Will Town officials and staff take into consideration the comments that they received from residents?

A: Absolutely. Not all of the wishes can actually be accomplished by the Town alone – such as high-speed transit – but the desire to have that in the future will be noted. Some of the “wish list” is already in the works but takes a long time to be accomplished, such as the economic development items. Economic development requests made up the biggest group of comments.

Q: Will there be another meeting to discuss the General Plan?

A: Yes. There will be a Land Use Scenarios workshop on Monday, May 14, from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Clubhouse. At this workshop, we will establish where we would like various types of land uses to be located within the community.

Q: When will the General Plan be completed and will residents have access to the information?

A: Blanton & Cooper will have the General Plan prepared for the Town Council to approve in concept in August 2012. The draft plan will be available on the website at this time. The plan will then go through a series of required reviews, and finally be taken to a public vote in May of 2013.

Q: Is there any other important

MORE VISIONING EXERCISE ON 7



Sheriff Joe Arpaio, Maricopa County Supervisor Max Wilson, Mayor LeVault, Councilmember Oglesby-Gustafson and Vice Mayor Duran enjoyed the beautiful morning at the MCSO Community Day. Turn to page 6 to read more about the event.

Wanted - Reward offered

Yup, if you're not wanted by the MCSO, the MCSO wants you. In conjunction with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO), the Town of Youngtown is looking for volunteers interested in creating a Sheriff's Posse here in Youngtown.

According to Projects, Programs & Grants Manager Mark Hannah, who grew up on the Westside and personally knew several Sheriff's of old, “When we think of the Sheriff, we naturally think of the Sheriff's Posse. When I was a youngster, I was a member of Sheriff L.C. “Cal” Boies' Junior Deputy Posse from the time I was seven until he retired from office in 1968. Now there's literally a new Sheriff in town, especially since the MCSO has taken over the day-to-day law

enforcement duties here in Youngtown, but the need for a volunteer posse has not really changed since Arizona's territorial days.”

Duties of the Youngtown Posse could involve safety patrol wherein posse members would drive through town looking for suspicious and/or criminal activity, which they would immediately report to a Deputy Sheriff to investigate; posse members could also be called to assist with traffic and crowd control duties

during special events or at the scene of traffic problems. Those looking to work indoors could assist in the processing of police reports and evidence.

“Since I first came to work for Youngtown I have seen several great needs here met by the fine efforts of volunteers,” Mark reports. “Now we're putting out a call within the community for those who would like to become the volunteer

MORE MCSO ON 7



Dewey the cat looking for home

Our friendly Library cat Dewey is still looking for a good home. If you or anyone that you know would be interested in adopting Dewey please contact the Town Library staff.



Sheriff's Criminal Action Team (SCAT) visits Town of Youngtown

The Town had a surprise visit from an impressive group of Sheriff Deputies and their leader Sgt. Folker at the March 1 council meeting.

Right to left, Sgt. Bob Folker, Dep.

Scott Kikes, Dep. Doug Bremer, Dep. Ron Frieberg, Dep. Cameron McDade, Dep. Kenneth Witcher, Dep. Bill Cornwell, Dep. James Penny, Dep. Drew Morrison, and Dep. David Armstrong.

The mission of SCAT is to be a deterrent to criminal activity. They are deployed to make a positive difference in a short period of time with a singular focus.

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Fire-flow, the odyssey nears its end

By HONORABLE
MICHAEL LeVAULT
MAYOR
TOWN OF YOUNGTOWN

Odyssey: a long wandering or voyage usually marked by many changes of fortune.

That accurately describes the process Youngtown has pursued, since 2007, to implement long awaited fire-flow improvements, needed for public safety, in the older part of Youngtown (north of Peoria Avenue).

Most water lines in that part of town were constructed circa late 50's-early 60's. Rural, surrounded by farm and ranch land, Youngtown, at that time, was not exactly the edge of the earth but they say you could see the edge of the earth from there. Little thought was given to providing adequate water flow for fire fighting. Code compliance, in those days, was all about providing enough pressure at the kitchen tap and bathroom shower.

Since those early days, the west valley has become the fastest growing region in the Phoenix mega-plex and Youngtown is now surrounded by urban development. The need for adequate fire fighting capabilities is crucial. Requiring our

firefighters to stretch water-hose for blocks, in order to access functioning fire hydrants, is not safe. Successful firefighting requires quick and ready access to fire hydrants which provide sufficient water pressure and flow.

Recognizing this, Youngtown filed, as an intervener, in Arizona American Water Company's rate increase hearing before the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) in January 2008 asking the ACC to order the Company to bring fire flow delivery up to International Fire Code standards (1500gpm in commercial areas and 1000gpm in residential areas). Improvements needed to be made in Youngtown, Phase I Sun City and a small portion of Peoria. The company would then be allowed to recover their initial construction cost through a cost recovery mechanism of about \$1.20 per month for the average residential customer.

The Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) recommended that the ACC vote to implement the plan but the ACC, in a split vote, decided to over-rule the ALJ and refused to order the improvements.

We appealed to the ACC asking that they re-

consider. We were denied. Next, we went to the Arizona Court of Appeals asking that the ACC cause the improvements to be made for public safety and fairness reasons, arguing that all residents in the water district should be provided an equal level of service. We were denied. The Arizona Supreme Court refused to hear the case.

Finally, we asked the Company to separate and reengineer the improvements into a Youngtown only project. We then began the search for funding.

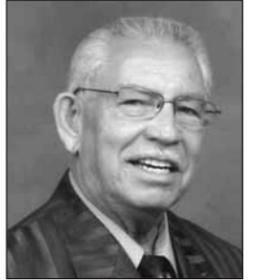
Estimating a 3-4 year completion time; we have successfully secured Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds sufficient for completion of phases 1 and 2-about half the project.

Phase 1 construction (starting at Grand Avenue and working south) is finished and functioning. Phase 2 construction should be completed sometime this year. We have combined phases 3 and 4; an application for financing is pending.

This project, once completed, will provide greatly enhanced fire protection keeping residents, their homes and their property safer. Proof positive that persistence pays...



Mayor
Michael LeVault



Vice Mayor
Jack Duran



Councilmember
Margaret
Chittenden



Councilmember
Susan MacKay



Councilmember
Dorena Mello



Councilmember
Shirley
Oglesby-Gustafson



Councilmember
Judy Johnson

TOWN OF YOUNGTOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS REGULAR MEETINGS

DATE: March 1
TIME: 7:20 p.m.
PLACE:TOWN CLUBHOUSE, 12033 CLUBHOUSE SQUARE

Approved: Resolution 12-08 to participate in the Regional Employee Benefit Pooling Feasibility Study, Employee/Council Medical Insurance Pool

DATE: March 15
TIME: 7:05 p.m.
PLACE: TOWN CLUBHOUSE, 12033 CLUBHOUSE SQUARE

Approved: An Amendment to the Agreement between the Town of Youngtown, "Town," and Maricopa County, "County," on behalf of the Sheriff's Office shall be retroactive to December 1, 2011 upon approval of the Maricopa county Board of Supervisors and the Town of Youngtown.

Approved: An Amendment to that certain contract entitled Agreement

for Professional Services between Willdan Engineering, Inc. and the Town, dated June 13, 2002, by adding the additional Exhibit C dated March 15, 2012 for engineering services related to the CDBG

Project Number DG1106, Youngtown Waterline Improvement Project, Phase-II, in an amount not to exceed \$74,880, and further authorizing the Town Manager to execute the required documents.

Youngtown Village Reporter

Jamie Boyett, Publishing Supervisor
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My Turn - Youngtown is not history

A recent Arizona Republic article depicts some of the challenges inherent in any small town that is landlocked, but it was a profile of the Town of Youngtown. However, it did not reflect the remarkable and effective efforts to sustain this particular Town's existence into a vibrant future. Youngtown has no "Red Ink..." as it has no debt.



**Lloyce Robinson,
Youngtown Manager**

Youngtown has maximized all available revenues within the law. Concerns have been voiced to the State Legislature regarding ongoing revenue cuts at the municipal level.

Contracting with a tax auditor in 2007 has been an overwhelming success in the collection of rental tax revenues. The number of rental accounts has increased from 51 in 2007 to 236 in 2012. Each month the revenue derived from this tax has steadily increased.

Partnerships and regionalism has been a mainstay for Youngtown. In 1999 the Town successfully petitioned the Sun City Fire District to expand their boundaries to include Youngtown resulting in property owners paying for this fire service

and not the Town bearing the total cost. Controlling costs and improving policing services led to the partnership with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office in December 2011. These are examples of regionalism which is a win-win partnership by adding revenue to the service supplier and reducing costs to the property owners, residents and businesses.

The January 2012 formation of the Citizens Tax Advisory Committee (CTAC) enables these resident and business owner members to have an acute understanding of the Town's tax structure. Their mission is to make recommendations to the Council for revisions to the Model City Tax Code and future financial planning.

They are a dynamic link between Council/Management and the public to ensure greater awareness of Town revenue sources.

As of November 2012, electricity costs for the Town's two street lighting districts will be borne by the property owners. This is a cost-saving measure for the government and an appropriately shared cost for the public.

In March 2012 the Town Council voted to join a council/employee medical insurance pool with the cities of Apache Junction, Avondale and El Mirage. This is a cost-saving action for the Town plus gaining a better insurance product.

Youngtown is focusing on economic development, improving the environment for existing businesses and to entice new businesses. Updating the state-mandated Youngtown General Plan is currently in process to include zoning changes for a live/work zoning concept, introduction of an economic development strategy and other enhancements for land use.

Operating government
MORE MY TURN ON 5

Citizen Tax Advisory Committee (CTAC)

On January 5, 2012 the Town Council created a special committee, Citizen Tax Advisory Committee (CTAC) and appointed members. Councilmember Dorena Mello is the Council Liaison and staff support is by Town Manager Lloyce Robinson and Finance Officer Jacquelyn Hoffman. Resident Barbara Lehn is the recording secretary for the Committee. Council's intent and CTAC's mission is to foster understanding of the Town's financial situation, instill confidence and trust with the citizens, offer a grassroots recommended plan to financially sustain the Town and be embedded in the budget process at its infancy stage through to final approval in June 2012.

The seven (7) CTAC members have the opportunity to understand the Town's budget formation, understand revenues, tax structures and offer recommendations to assist with the Town's future stability.

The Committee has had five meetings starting in February. Government acronyms can be very confusing, so a listing of these abbreviations was provided to promote clarity during Committee discussions. Detailed explanation of the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) accounts and state shared revenues were the initial information provided to the members. As the various drafts of the FY 2012/13 Budget have been submitted to the Town Manager, the Committee has been apprised of the "revenue gap" between estimated revenues and expenditures. The Model City Tax Code

has been the members' main focus and guest speakers from The League of AZ Cities & Towns' Assistant Director Tom Belshe and City of Chandler's Tax Division Supervisor Lee Grafstrom offered their professional advice and explanations. This activity has resulted in CTAC compiling a recommended list of changes to Youngtown's Tax Code by eliminating some tax categories that are not relevant to the tax base. The Council will receive these recommendations in May 2012 for consideration.

Upon CTAC's invitation Town Clerk/Treasurer Letty Goldberg will provide copies of materials to process a primary property tax to the voters. She will be available during the April 9 meeting to answer questions about CFD (Community Financing District) and SLIDs (Street Lighting Improvement Districts) funding mechanisms.

Starting on April 2, CTAC members are invited to attend the Council budget briefing sessions to further their understanding of the Town's budget process as each Department Head justifies his/her requests for expenditures during the Fiscal Year 2012/13.

The CTAC members have demonstrated tenacity in deepening their understanding of Youngtown's current tax structure and revenue streams. This knowledge and experience promotes greater public awareness and creates a link of governmental finance for the Town's future stability.

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'Big Box' Comes to Youngtown...

Well kinda, anyway (see below)! So what's in the box that is so important it needs to be reported, you ask?

The story actually begins in June of 2010 when Mark Hannah, the Town's Projects, Programs & Grants Manager, wrote and submitted a grant application to the Tohono O'odham Nation, in response to a Request for Proposals under the state's Twelve-Percent Gaming Distribution program, asking for funding to develop an emergency operations center at the Youngtown police station. On September 15 of the same year, then Police Chief Terry McDonald was notified that of the more than 230 proposals received by

the tribal council, the town was one of only a handful of successful grant recipients during that funding cycle. In all, the Tohono O'odham Nation awarded the Town a grant in the amount of \$37,500 to develop and install a fully-functioning emergency center in Youngtown.

Since then, town staff has met with experts in the field and has designed, within our capabilities, a center that can meet the emergency response needs of Youngtown, acknowledging the somewhat limited resources available because of the town's size. The finishing touch to this effort will be installation of a new large-screen computer monitor/

white-board system.

Once installed, the new center will be available in Youngtown should an emergency situation take place that requires a central command and control facility responsible for carrying out the principles of emergency preparedness and management, or disaster management functions at a strategic level.

At the Emergency Management Center, or EOC, managers and elected officials can direct the strategic overview, or "big picture", of disaster response; typically the EOC hands off to Incident Commands the direct control of field assets, leaving tactical decisions to lower commands, while instead making the overall operational decisions. The common functions of all EOC's is to collect, gather and analyze data, make decisions that protect life and property, maintain continuity of the organization within the scope of applicable laws, and disseminate those decisions to all concerned agencies and individuals. In most EOC's are headed by an Emergency Manager.

These centers, originally created as part of the United States civil defense, can be found at all government levels, as well as in larger corporations that deal with



John Milhoun, the Town's IT consultant and Public Works Technician-II Gilbert Ochoa arrive to begin the installation process.

large equipment or numbers of employees.

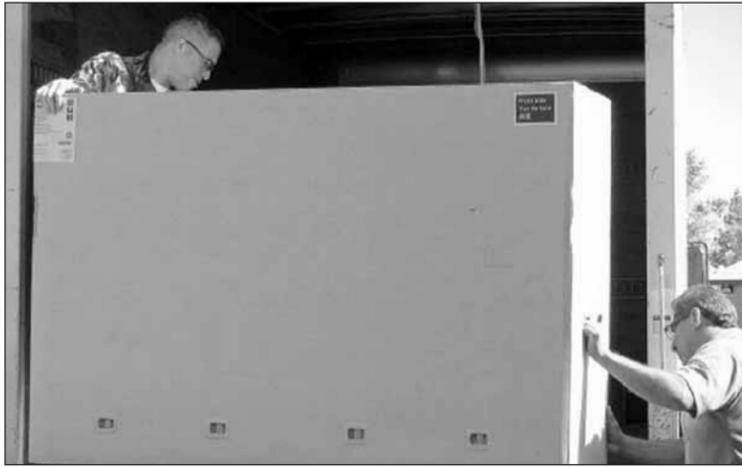
A critical component of an EOC is the folks who staff it. They must be trained, and have the proper authority to carry out actions that are necessary to respond to the disaster. They also must be capable of thinking outside the box, and creating a lot of "what if" scenarios.

Also critical to the operations of an EOC is its communications system. This can be all the way from simple word of mouth to sophisticated encrypted communications networks, but it must provide for a redundant path to ensure that both situational awareness information and strategic orders can pass into and out of the facility without interruption. Here in Youngtown, the new EOC includes new computers and monitors, telephones, and emergency

radios purchased under this and another grant. The capstone of this effort is the installation of the new large-screen computer monitor/white-board system.

Once installed, the EOC can become operational when needed. There, decision-makers from the Town, the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, Sun City Fire Department, Arizona Public Service, Southwest Gas Corporation, EPCOR Water and other key players can be brought together under one roof.

Town Manager Lloyce Robinson reports, "This is a culmination of the fine efforts of many, including Town employees, county emergency managers and others. None of this, however, would have been possible without the generosity of the Tohono O'odham Nation, to whom we express our sincere thanks."



Public Works Technician-III Margarito Araiza (lower right) taking possession of the new monitor.

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From the Bench...Traffic ticket information

Very few if any of us get through life without receiving a traffic citation somewhere along the line in our driving history. There are usually several options to choose from when on the receiving end of a traffic citation. First, you could possibly attend a court certified traffic school. This option is available to the driver only once every two years, and is a diversion program, meaning that the citation is dismissed upon successful completion of the class. Another option is to take the matter to trial, however, by doing this, you give up the above mentioned traffic school option. Finally, some people just pay the ticket and are done with it.

For moving violations, the courts don't control the points assessed to a person's



**Lex Anderson
Town Magistrate**

driving record, nor do they have any involvement in the person's insurance rates. The court sends the traffic dispositions to the Department of Motor Vehicles, which is the actual agency that assesses points to all moving violations. Insurance companies routinely solicit driving record information from the MVD and make their own independent determination on insurance rates for the

individual drivers.

On traffic days in court, I see some people at the arraignment with that "it's the end of the world" look on their face. They often tell me "this is my first citation in 25 years or first ever", or ask, "what is the traffic school like?"

This is where I have tried to take my experiences with those "bumps in life" and apply them in a manner that people can relate to. It does seem to have a "reality check" effect when I tell them that their long standing perfect record was even better than the judge's, or that the judge has also been to traffic school himself.

Paying the fine is the option that some would rather take, but few know exactly how the fine money is dispersed throughout the

government. There are legislatively 77% surcharges added to all base fine amounts. This means a base fine that was \$100 dollars now becomes \$177 with the applicable surcharges added by the State Legislature to benefit and support various State agencies and funds. Hopefully you or I won't be hitting those "bumps in the road of life" too often, but if we do, there are options.

MY TURN: Youngtown is not history, From 3

as a business requires searching for ways to improve and streamline operations, find resources and adhere to federal, state, county and municipal law. The business plan for profit/loss becomes government's revenue/expenditure structure.

The current financial dilemma was inevitable based on past decisions and is now

accelerated by the present-day economic environment.

Youngtown will continue to focus on its future with a financial eye on stable revenues that provide continued quality services in partnership with its property owners, residents and business owners. Youngtown is on the move - stay tuned!

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Deputy Dawg...MCSO in Action

In a flurry of wind and dust the MCSO helicopter landed in the middle of Clubhouse Square. Serious injury was averted when a local resident tried to get closer as the blades swirled and a MCSO Deputy quickly stepped in to block his approach. Whew! Not a good headline test.

Soon a loud rumbling sound could be heard as the MCSO SWAT Team's large vehicle affectionately referred to as the "Bear",

came into view and parked in front of the Public Safety Building. Out spilled personnel dressed in the now recognizable dark green/tan MCSO uniform.

This was only the beginning of a very informative morning for the Town of Youngtown at the 1st Annual MCSO Community Day on March 10.

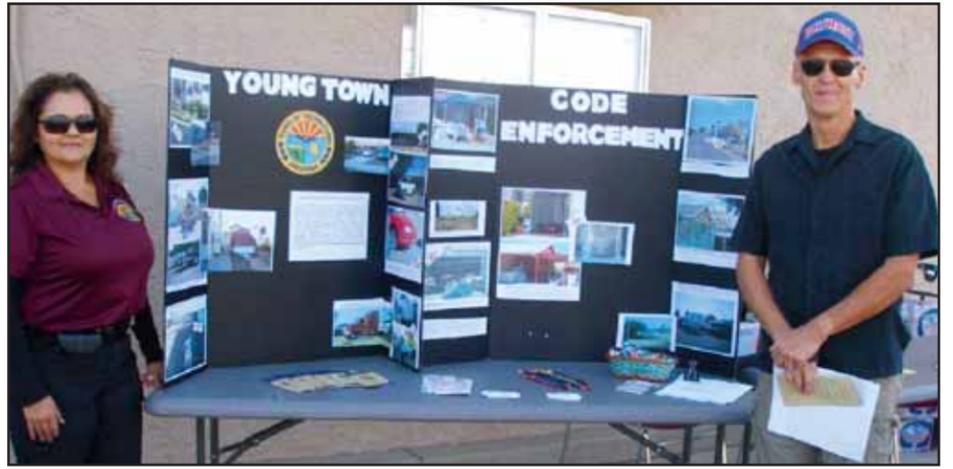
The Town was honored to have Board of Supervisor Max Wilson and Sheriff Joe Arpaio attending and

mingling with the residents. The resident/business turnout was sporadic and sparse, but the enthusiasm reflected in the faces of those attending was apparent.

MCSO had their SWAT Team, BOMB Squad, Mountain Search & Rescue Team, and K-9 Unit offering displays, information, experiences and a "wow" effect. Maricopa County Animal Control displayed examples of care, treatment choices and information to give the best support to furry friends.

The Town was represented by the Code Enforcement Department, not only giving information, but providing a forum to take comments of concern and purported violations.

Tripping across Clubhouse Square soon appeared a vision of the most colorful and engaging figures dressed in eye-popping costumes. These were the clowns ready to do face painting, exchange funny stories and give the attendees an opportunity for the lighter side of fun. Even the Town Manager was seen sporting a pink, green



The Town's Code Enforcement department answered questions and concerns residents had about code enforcement and violations. Pictured is Code Enforcement Inspector, Lupe Romero and Public Safety Manager, Mike Kessler.



The MCSO helicopter was a big hit and many Youngtown youth wanted to know what it takes to become an MCSO pilot. Pictured is Kaleb Booker.

stemmed flower on the left side of her face. Age has no boundary when it comes to fun.

McGruff, the canine mascot to "Take the Bite out of Crime" was seen walking around on two legs and having a following of leashed four legged creatures.

During the K-9 demonstration by Vato, a gorgeous, black German Shepherd, Dewey (the Library Cat) was startled and dove from an outside tree perch through the Library cart on the veranda into the Library front door. Visiting Dewey later in the morning, he had resumed his feline strut and confi-

dence inside the Library.

Representatives from Youngtown's branch of the Compass Bank were present to provide guidelines regarding banking principles of caution and guarding both identity and banking information. Their presence and information had a present day ring of caution.

Clubhouse Square was a magnificent setting for MCSO's impressive display of resources available to the Town of Youngtown. The details of the Mountain Search & Rescue Team communication links, Bomb Squad's robot and SWAT Team's 70+ pound

vest and shield, pictures with Sheriff Arpaio, sitting in the helicopter seat or ATV vehicles, smiling at kids running around with heart tattoos (from the Clowns), and petting that gorgeous canine creature, Vato, were enjoyable memories. MCSO's Deputy Tom Miller of District III, is congratulated for his hard work to secure this display of resources and we are anticipating the new plans for the future 2nd MCSO Community Day in 2013. Thank you all for participating and being engaged in the positive as we partner with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office for our Town's public safety.

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MCSO: Join Youngtowns very own Posse, From 1

eyes and ears of the Deputy Sheriffs who patrol our town. Those who answer this call will most assuredly be rewarded with the great feeling one gets from giving back to the community."

In order to join the Posse program, a person must be at least 18 years old, a U.S. citizen, have a valid Arizona driver's license and be in good health. A person cannot have been convicted of any felonies or have any misdemeanor convictions

in the last 12 months or any record of improper personal conduct – which will be discovered during the background check – that may affect their suitability for volunteer law enforcement work.

Applicants must complete and have notarized a written application to start the process. The MCSO holds monthly recruiting meetings the third Wednesday of each month except December, beginning at

6:30 p.m. at the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office Training Center, 2627 South 35th Avenue, just north of the intersection of 35th Avenue and Lower Buckeye Road, Phoenix, Arizona.

Mark reports that to expedite the recruitment process, interested recruits can download and complete a Posse recruitment application at the following link: <http://mcs0.org/About/Posse.aspx>. Completed ap-

plications must be notarized and brought to the monthly meeting for validation and processing. (Do not print the application double-sided, only single-sided applications will be accepted.)

If you are interested in joining the Youngtown Posse, you are kindly asked to contact Mark at Town Hall at 623-933-8286 x134 or by email at mhannah@youngtownaz.org.



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Youngtown residents and business owners attended the March 12 Visioning Exercise to discuss what Youngtown will look like in 2025.

VISIONING EXERCISE , From 1

information that Youngtown residents should be aware of regarding the General Plan?

overarching planning tool. It is important that residents take an interest in the General Plan process. It is their voice for the future of the Town.

A: The General Plan is the Town's



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DRAGON WORLD



In The Works - Building Safety Month

By **JIM FOX**
PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER

The Month of May is Building Safety Month. In light of the celebration of Building Departments across the nation, the next two months will cover Building Safety topics which may be of some help to many of you.

Window Low-E Film or Window Replacement?

Which is the better solution: window film or new windows with low-e coatings? As with many upgrades, there's no right answer. Only you can determine which product offers the best performance at a reasonable cost. Consider these four steps when deciding which improvement fits your building.

When you see an NFRC rating on a window or film, you can be sure the product lives up to the manufacturer's claims. But what does that rating really mean? NFRC condenses these criteria onto one product sticker:

A. U-factor: How well a product prevents heat from escaping.

B. Solar heat gain coefficient: How well a product blocks heat caused by sunlight, as expressed

by the amount of solar radiation that passes through a window.

C. Visible transmittance: How much visible light is transmitted through the product.

D. Air leakage: This optional rating shows how many cubic feet of air can pass through a square foot of window area. A low leakage rating shows that less air will pass through cracks in the window assembly.

E. Condensation resistance: This optional rating measures how well a product resists forming condensation on its interior surface (not shown).

1. DIAGNOSE THE PROBLEM

Examine your existing windows. You need to replace them if they leak moisture or air, the space between the panes (double insulated glass) is fogged up, or the seals have failed.

2. BALANCE FIRST AND FUTURE COSTS

For some, the choice comes down to which is the bigger priority – less costly low-e window film over the existing windows vs. new high-performance windows that save more energy and enhance the building's value.

Window film reduces solar heat gain, some winter heat loss,

and damaging UV radiation. It's less expensive than replacing the entire window and less disruptive during installation.

However, new windows last longer, are less susceptible to damage during cleaning, and offer broader benefits and more improved performance. These factors may justify the cost, especially if your current windows are nearing the end of their lifecycle.

3. SEEK ANSWERS FROM MANUFACTURERS

The variety of films and windows on the market demands a close look at your climate, budget, occupant needs, window size, and orientation. Ask yourself these questions:

- How much solar heat gain do you want? Consider the local climate.

- How should the glass look and perform? Tints, coatings, thicknesses, and strengths can all affect performance.

- Which window frame do you need? Frames affect windows' insulating and structural properties.

- How tight should the building be? A low U-factor rating indicates better insulation properties.

- How much light do you need in the space?

4. LOOK AT THE LABELS

Check manufacturer specifications to ensure the product fits your building. The wrong film can absorb too much heat and cause thermal stress that breaks the glass. A good warranty is imperative.

Most window films have a 10 to 15-year warranty. It's rare for the glass to break, but most manufacturers have breakage and seal failure in their warranties.

Also check products for ratings from the National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC). "The biggest red flag is when windows show up to a job site with no labels on them. Without the label, you can't be sure that it will perform the way it's advertised.

I hope this information helps if you are looking at window replacement or installing window film. If you are installing new windows, you do not need a permit unless you are changing the size, or are changing the type of window in a sleeping room (bedroom) because bedrooms have minimum emergency escape sizes required.

AARP News

The next meeting of the AARP Chapter #1 will be at the Youngtown Council Chambers at N. Clubhouse Square on April 6. We will begin with a potluck dinner at 5:30 p.m. followed by a short program and Chapter business meeting. All AARP members are invited, and encouraged to join our historic Chapter. For questions, call Arky Muscato at 623-362-0605.

West Valley Genealogical Society News

The West Valley Genealogical Society, 12222 N. 111th Ave., offers the following classes for the newly curious or experienced family history researcher:

- Novice Genealogy – The third Friday of the month 1 to 3 p.m.
- Family Tree Maker 2 (Prerequisite: Part 1) - Mondays, April 2, 9, 16, and 23, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Introduction to Basic Power Point - Friday, April 6, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Digital Images for Genealogy - Tuesdays, April 10 and 17, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Land Records - Tuesday, April 17, 1 to 3 p.m.

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Pat Sherman, soon to be retired 4 Paws President, was honored by Youngtown Council and Staff.

Say What? Mayor, you can't have my basket!

The Youngtown Council and Staff honored Pat Sherman, soon to be retired President of 4 Paws, at the March 1 Council Meeting. She was presented with a fat cat in a basket with cat statue toys and stickers, reflecting Pat's ever present humor and love of furry critters.

Pat has been a strong advocate for the Town of Youngtown through her work at this non-profit organization, 4 Paws. She has served on a provisional committee to bring a Surprise Regional Chamber Youngtown Sub-committee,

the first organization within this Regional Chamber.

Dewey, the Youngtown Library Cat, has been a recipient of her support and 4 Paws' kindness. His physicals and vaccinations have been completed by a 4 Paws' veterinarian.

4 Paws Board is expected to announce Pat's replacement in the near future.

It is with great sadness that we bid Pat "meow," but know she will pounce in another arena and sharpen her claws for more hard work and fun.

Learn more about Youngtown

To learn more about the Town of Youngtown, visit www.youngtownaz.org.

For any questions, call 623-933-8286



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	2:30 p.m. Sermon on the last seven words of Christ
	3:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross
<u>Holy Saturday</u>	9:00 a.m. Blessing of the Fire High Mass
<u>Easter Sunday</u>	9:00 a.m. High Mass <i>No Rosary and Benediction</i>

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Youngtown Public Library April 2012 News

Happy Spring!

The library is now open on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (We will be closed on Saturday, April 7, 2012).

Story Time continues on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. for ages 2-5.

Resume Writing assistance is available with Di-

ana Green, our library clerk. Whether you are creating a resume or want to update one, call and make an appointment with her.

The Youngtown Library is still temporarily caring for a stray cat, while we have been trying to find him a home. We have appropriately named him "Dewey", after the book of the same

name. Come to the library and check-out the book, and you can follow his adventures on our blog at www.youngtownlibrary.tumblr.com.

The library is always happy to receive donations in the form of hard back books and DVD's. Also, if anyone is looking into their estate planning, did you

know you can bequeath part of your estate to our library fund? The Library offers a large selection of large print books, magazines, VHS and DVD movies, and many other items. There are community notices, Youngtown clubs to join, and volunteer opportunities. Come in and look at all the information! The Summer Reading

Program will be starting in May and will be on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. On May 29, we will have a guest speaker, "Wildman Phil", who will bring in different creatures, such as lizards, spiders, and snakes!

Library hours are: Monday – Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Youngtown



Historical Museum is open for tours by appointment.

Heidi Speed, Library Manager
623-974-3401

Friends of the Youngtown Library

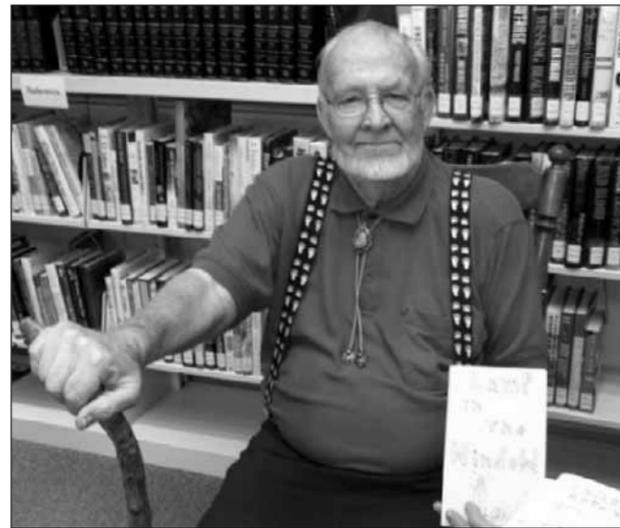
The meeting of the Friends of the Youngtown Public Library held a special election for President. The current President, Claudia Lawson, resigned for family reasons effective immediately. Patrice Druehl was elected to serve until the next regular election in November. Mrs. Druehl was the organizer and is the Statutory Agent for the organization. She is also a past president and has been active in the "Friends" for many years. A membership drive is underway and we always welcome new members. Dues are \$10.00 per year and you do not have to be a resident of Youngtown to become a member. If you have a love of reading and want to keep a local library in our community, please join us.

Our April Sale will feature hardcover books priced at a 'Buy One Get One Free' special. We accept donations of gently used hardcovers, paperbacks, DVD and VHS tapes. The proceeds of our sales go toward purchasing items for the library that are not in the Town budget. Stop in and check out our inventory.

Local Youngtown Author – James Skiver

James Skiver, Youngtown author, poet, artist, woodcarver and storyteller extraordinaire, has been writing down his stories and poems for years. Mr. Skiver says he started writing poems in about 3rd grade. He has been published in the International Poetry Hall of Fame and many newspapers and periodicals including Argosy Magazine, The Rooster, and Stars and Stripes.

While they are not available for check-out, for your reading enjoyment some of his books are in the reference section of the Youngtown Public Library and the Youngtown Historical



You can enjoy some of local author James Skiver's books at the Library and Town Historical Museum.

Museum.

Mr. Skiver was born in Michigan, and lived on a homestead in Mackinaw, on the bank of Buff Brown Creek, at the edge of Wildcat Swamp. He received a tuition scholarship at Michigan State College at age 16 and attended for a year, until he signed up for the U.S. Navy at age 17.

While serving six years in the Navy, he received a Bronze Star. Some of his military experiences, including a Court Marshall, a stay in the brig for accidentally burning up five planes, and his military reinstatement are detailed in his 3-part book series titled, "Children Go to War".

He and his wife moved

to Phoenix, Arizona, in 1970 for his wife's health and a warmer climate, and then moved to Youngtown a few years later. His beloved wife of 52 years passed away in 1996, and he now dedicates his writings to her memory.

The staff of the Youngtown Public Library has appointed Mr. Skiver the Youngtown Library's unofficial poet laureate.

Here is a sample of one of his funnier poems:

A young man cursed and flung a stone

At pigeons on the roof.

An old man smiled and stayed his hand

With words of soft reproof.

"But look at the mess they've made of my hat,

Those cursed worthless things."

The Old Man chuckled and said, as for that

"Suppose a cow had wings."

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Citizens Dog Park of Youngtown

Dogs are often called "man's best friend." They provide loyal companionship and are often the first to sound the alarm that someone is in the area that does not belong. We love our dogs. They make us laugh, sometimes cry, and may be the only reason that some of us get any exercise at all (Fido needs to be walked, doesn't he?). These are some of the reasons that brought 31 residents together to form the Citizens Dog Park of Youngtown. Since June 2011, citizens have been volunteering countless hours and much labor to the conceptualization, design and implementation of a dog park.

The dog park's planned location is at 113th and Alabama Avenues, east of the playground and volleyball court in Schliefer Park. The park, scheduled for redesign to minimize maintenance, has been designated as the site for the dog park. The redesign (remove the grass and replace it with gravel) was slated to occur sometime in the next three years. The Citizens Dog Park of Youngtown committee approached Youngtown Council and asked to have the area reserved for a dog park, with the stipulation that donations would be used to convert this area into a dog park. Thus, no Town monies would be used to create the park. Maintenance of the park area is likely to remain the same or less than it would have been under the redesign.

Citizens Dog Park of Youngtown (CDPY) has estimated that it will require approxi-

mately \$35,000 to complete Phase 1 of the dog park. Toward that end, CDPY has established a bank account at the Youngtown BBVA Compass Bank. Donations may be made at the Youngtown BBVA Compass Bank location for your convenience. The

Committee is completing a donation letter and other fundraising efforts in support of the park. Some donations have already been made (\$230 plus fencing, a pet waste station, and a cement table and benches). The park will need much more to make it an appealing place to bring your furry four legged friends and spend time with other dog lovers. The Committee hopes to provide benches, trees, watering stations, and eventually shade coverings. Look for a sign on our location site soon.

Citizens Dog Park of Youngtown's next scheduled meeting is Saturday, April 21, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. at Youngtown United Methodist Church (northeast corner of 113th and Alabama Avenues in Youngtown). You may contact Councilmember Margaret Chittenden at Town Hall 623-933-8286 or her home 623-974-9756 with questions or comments. Dog lovers are encouraged to volunteer their time or make donations toward our park. No donation is too small!



Citizens Dog Park of Youngtown



Successful 2012 Cleanup Event

Youngtown's Clean up Event 2012 was a great success with approx. 50 tons of trash dumped and over 100 residents participating in the two day event. This event allows our residents to get rid of old unwanted items around their homes and do some early spring cleaning at no dumping expense to them. Together Code Enforcement and Public Works made this event successful. The Town appreciates the hard work and commitment residents made

to voluntarily reach compliance on their properties that may have otherwise been in violation.

Alleys and Rights-of-Ways

Please remember that it's the responsibility of the owner/tenant of any home to maintain the alley ways and rights-of-ways free from weeds and debris. Youngtown Code Enforcement is actively doing inspections in the alley ways for high weeds and debris. Due to continued

budget restraints the alleyways will not be sprayed for weeds.

Commercial Vehicles

Gross weight vehicles in excess of 10,000 lbs. or exceeding a one ton chassis is prohibited in any residential district and must be moved immediately. Code Enforcement will be citing any vehicles in violation.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at 623-974-3665



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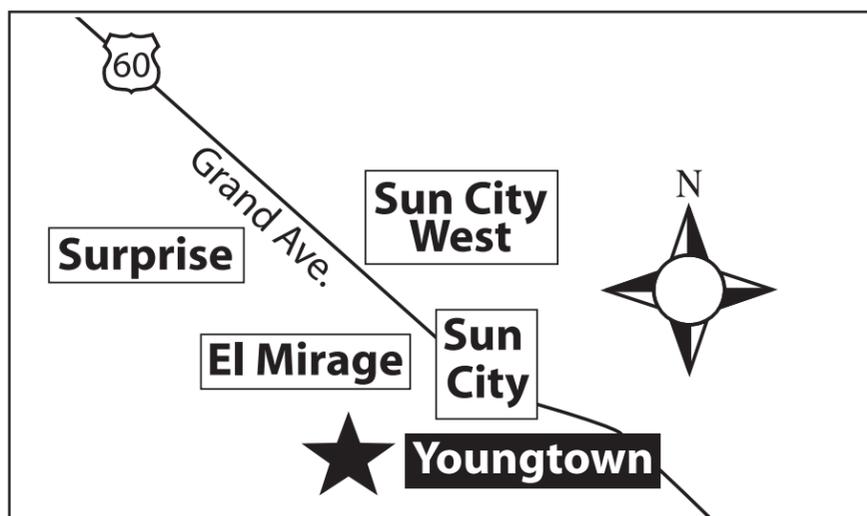
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