

Show Low News



Monthly

October 2005

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Working to provide the best for all citizens

The Show Low City Council and staff have been hard at work addressing our growing City's varied needs. Evidenced by the building permits issued this year, the pace of progress continues. This year's valuations through August 2005 for commercial and residential building permits total \$73,860,000 vs. \$55,342,000 for the same period last year, an increase of 33.5%.

When the age-old dilemma of progress vs. status quo arises, we put aside our personal feelings and biases. We strive to base our decisions on what is best for all citizens, current and future.



It is inevitable that not all decisions will be met with unanimous approval. At times, our choices are meant to lay the appropriate foundation for our children's and their children's future.

For example, in June 2005, Phelps Dodge Corporation

conveyed to the City of Show Low all of its rights to Show Low Lake, Jaques Dam and the pumping station. This acquisition will meet our citizens' water needs for many generations to come.

We may grumble about the increased traffic and longer lines at the stores, but growth also ushers in more amenities, services and activities. Plans are under way to develop the Northern Arizona Auto Mall on the northeast corner of US60 and SR77. This 75-acre mall near the airport will house a variety of dealerships, creating a one-stop, view-and-shop opportunity. This exciting new concept is destined to draw shoppers from our region, northern Arizona and into New Mexico.

Commercial activity continues to flourish. The space previously occupied by Wal-Mart at the Park Pineway Shopping Center is now shared by Big Lots, Beall's and Aaron's Rent-a-Center. New restaurant offerings this year give us the best of the Southwest with a Mexican flair, an eclectic mix of New York posh, tropical isles and the Far East, and our kids' favorite – pizza.

To meet our medical needs, physicians' offices continue to be built. And groundbreaking has begun for Navapache Regional

Medical Center's \$25 million expansion. The hospital is building a three-story tower east of the existing main entrance, with plans to increase patient beds from its current 66 to 96. The expansion will upgrade patient rooms to all private rooms, with enough room to accommodate family sleepovers. Family members will be on-hand to participate in caregiving and create an environment closer to home.

Everyone knows that money makes projects happen. And it is even better when that financial burden is on someone else's shoulders. Consequently, City staff spends a lot of time seeking grant funding. Since 2000, our airport manager has secured over \$6 million worth of federal and state funds that have driven improvements at the airport. Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) are federal funds that must benefit at least 51% of our citizens in the low- to moderate-income range. CDBG funds will be used to fund three projects chosen by the Council: 1) widening the portion of East Adams Street that serves Country Lane trailer park and City cemetery; 2) removing dead and diseased trees and thinning properties owned by those who meet

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HALLOWEEN fun for everyone

Show Low Main Street presents two Halloween-themed events in October. One is the second annual *Scaryoke* on Wednesday, October 12, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Show Low Elks Lodge, 805 East Whipple. Come share a favorite Halloween-themed karaoke tune. Judges will choose ten finalists who will compete live, two per day, on Power 95.7 the week leading up to Halloween. Radio listeners can call in and vote for their favorite singer. The top two winners will perform live on Power 95.7 at *Trunk or Treat*, set for Monday, October 31, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Festival Marketplace.

The annual *Trunk or Treat* won an award this year for its innovative approach to offering a safe—and free—way for kids and their families to enjoy Halloween. This always-popular event drew over almost 6,000 children, parents and friends last year. Local merchants and representatives of various organizations will hand out treats from the trunks of their vehicles. Enjoy food, game booths, a costume contest for children and grown-ups, prizes, and loads of fun!

To register for *Scaryoke* or to sign up your business or organization to participate in *Trunk or Treat*, call 537-8181.

Calendar of Events

Family Aquatic Center & Recreation: 532-4140

Public Library: 532-4070

- 10/04 7 p.m., Council Chambers
City Council Regular Meeting
- 10/05 1:30 p.m., Public Library (book: Hunger of Memory)
Arizona Humanities Book Discussion Group
- 10/10 **Fall Swimming Lessons** begin
- 10/10 **Fall Coed Volleyball** games begin
- 10/11 7 p.m., Council Chambers
Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
- 10/12 2:45 p.m., Aquatic Center
Youth craft class (grades 2-5)
- 10/12 5:30 p.m., City Campus gym (730 East McNeil)
Start Smart Basketball games begin (ages 3-5)
- 10/12 6-8 p.m., Show Low Elks Lodge
Show Low Main Street Scaryoke Contest (share your favorite Halloween-themed song)
- 10/13 10 a.m., Public Library
Show Low Library Friends meeting (public welcome)
- 10/18 7 p.m., Council Chambers
City Council Regular Meeting
- 10/20 7 p.m., Council Chambers
Show Low Historical Society meeting (guest speaker Julian Castillo: "My Life in the Town of McNary")
- 10/24 Public Library, begin dropping off decorated pumpkins
Pumpkin Carving Contest
- 10/25 7 p.m., Council Chambers
Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
- 10/27 3:30-4:30 p.m., Public Library
Cool Kids Book Discussion (ages 8-12); share your favorite Halloween or spooky story
- 10/27 5-6 p.m., Public Library
Not-So-Scary Halloween Party (costumes, treats, pumpkin carving judging)
- 10/28 7-9 p.m., Aquatic Center
Halloween Bash (enjoy carnival games, food, swimming and fun for all ages; \$3/person or \$7/family)
- 10/29 10 a.m.-noon, City Park
FREE Candy Scramble (infants-10 years)
- 10/29 2-3 p.m., Aquatic Center
Underwater Pumpkin Hunt (ages 11-17)
- 10/31 6-8 p.m., Festival Marketplace
Trunk or Treat (for all ages)



Working to provide the best...continued from cover page

specific income requirements; and 3) providing matching grants for facade, landscaping and building improvements for businesses in downtown Show Low.

Citizens will see the face of downtown Show Low changing. Early this year, the Council commissioned a team of University of Arizona faculty and graduate students to formulate a master plan for downtown. As a semester project, this award-winning group held community meetings, researched and analyzed information, did site analyses and interviewed citizens. The master plan, approved by the Council, will serve as the blueprint for future enhancements of which we can all be proud. The aim of everyone involved is to develop and create a pedestrian- and visitor-friendly downtown, with landscaping, walkways and renovated historic buildings.

A new venture for the Council and staff is the recent formation of the Show Low Bluff Community Facilities District (CFD). A CFD is a funding vehicle by which a developer can secure bonds to help pay for roads, sewer and water infrastructure. Show Low Bluff is a master-planned community of 3,500 homes that will be built on both sides of Penrod Road. The development will feature trails, parks, sports fields and other amenities accessible to the general public.

The police department is the hub of a regional 911 dispatch center for law enforcement, fire and emergency services. The department's software-driven communication system allows dispatchers to coordinate with up to four agencies simultaneously. This regional dispatch service has led to quicker response times for fire services for citizens in Show Low, Pinetop and Lakeside. Also, callers have access to immediate instructions when dealing with a variety of medical emergencies.

Show Low now boasts a new library almost triple the size of the previous one. Since opening in July, 607 new patrons were issued library cards compared to 432 new users for July and August 2004, a 40% increase. Many are long-time residents who had never patronized the old library. With the additional space, attendance for children's activities is up 20%, with an increase in the circulation of homeschool and child development materials. Out-of-town visitors are impressed that a community the size of Show Low has such a beautiful, well-stocked facility.

To meet demand, the recreation services department offered a wider variety of activities this summer with record numbers participating. The aquatic center experienced a 20% increase in open swim attendance and swim lessons, and the sports programs were very well attended. To help working parents, the weekday Summer Play Days provided kids with arts and crafts, recreational and cultural activities under staff supervision. During the school year, the department oversees the award-winning Show Low DEAL after-school program for fourth to sixth graders. This program was recognized by the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association as the state's outstanding after-school program.

Show Low Monthly News is produced by the City of Show Low, 200 West Cooley, Show Low, AZ 85901. Direct comments to the City Clerk's office at 532-4061. For general information, call 532-4000. Office hours are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.