

Youngtown Village Reporter

October 2020
youngtownaz.org

In the *Heart* of the Northwest Valley



From the Mayor...

Welcome Back, Youngtown Village Reporter!

Several years ago, I was asked by another Valley Mayor why I thought we, as a people, found it important to organize into cities, towns, school districts and other small, local jurisdictions. That's easy, I replied, there is only one reason and that is to maintain and exert local control over policies

and services which touch our lives daily--police, fire, streets, parks, libraries, education, etc. After all, it is the local jurisdiction which provides 65-70% of those services.

That is why I believe local jurisdictions are both supremely important and most accessible--the most likely point where citizens

can and should exert control over their local leaders by involving themselves in the process.

Conversely, local jurisdictions owe it to their constituents to constantly look for ways to be ever more transparent, informative and accessible in order to keep people abreast of the important policy decisions

being made day after day.

That's why we are delighted to bring you the first edition of our 'resurrected' *Youngtown Village Reporter*. We were deeply disappointed when our last publisher ceased operations, without notice, well over a year ago.

Each month, beginning with this September/Oc-

tober, 2020 issue, we will use the 'resurrected' *Youngtown Village Reporter* as a vital communication tool to keep you informed of important local and regional issues, events and conditions which affect and enrich our lives.

In the meantime, during these turbulent times, I'm happy to report that Young-

town remains safe and fiscally sound. We will continue to deliver a high level of service with a low tax burden while maintaining a healthy rainy-day fund.

Michael LeVault
Mayor

Lead Safe Maricopa County

Homeowners and renters living in the communities of Gila Bend, Guadalupe, Tolleson, and Youngtown may be qualified to receive services from the Human Services Department's Lead Safe Maricopa County program. This no-cost program aims to reduce childhood lead poisoning by creating lead-safe housing for the County's most vulnerable families. Services available for eligible homeowners and renters will include lead-based paint home inspections and hazard reduction services.

For more information about lead poisoning, please visit the Arizona Department of Health Services' website.

If you live in Phoenix, please contact the City of Phoenix to learn about their Lead Safe Phoenix program.

To apply for the Lead Safe Maricopa County program, follow the step-by-step instructions below.

Check Eligibility

To qualify for the Lead Safe program, a homeowner or renter must meet the following criteria:

- Housing is in the communities of Gila Bend, Guadalupe, Tolleson, and Youngtown
- Housing was built before 1978

80% of Area Median Income

Household Size	Total Household Income
1	\$40,850
2	\$46,650
3	\$52,500
4	\$58,300
5	\$63,000
6	\$67,650
7	\$72,300
8	\$77,000

80% of the Area Median Income for 2019 as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; Effective June 28, 2019.

- Housing is a single-family home or an apartment complex with less than 15 units
- A child under the age of six (6) or a pregnant woman lives in the home or a child under the age of six (6) visits at least three hours a day on two (2) separate days a week
- Household's total income is at or below 80% Area Median Income.

Complete Online Inquiry Form

To receive additional information about the Lead Safe Maricopa County program, please complete the confidential online inquiry form by clicking on the button below. After you have submitted the form, the Human Services Department will contact you within 10 business days to discuss your inquiry.

If you have questions, require assistance with the completion of the form, or would like to request the form in paper, please call 602-506-1258, TTY 711, or email LeadSafe@maricopa.gov.



**Happenings at
the Dog Park**
Page 5



**Code
Enforcement
Illegal Yard
Sale Signage**
Page 6



Postal Customer
ECRWSSDDM
Permit No. 1424
Phoenix, AZ
US POSTAGE PAID
PRSR STD

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

This October, during Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Town of Youngtown will be lighting up the Town Campus with purple lights to support domestic violence.

Show your support in lighting up Arizona Purple and show your support for victims and

survivors of family violence during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Together, we can end domestic violence. It can stop!

Domestic violence does not discriminate. It is an issue affecting Arizonans in all communities, regardless of age, race, gender, economic status,

religion, nationality, or educational background. In fact, twenty-four people in the United States are victims of intimate partner violence every minute.



Michael Lavault
Mayor



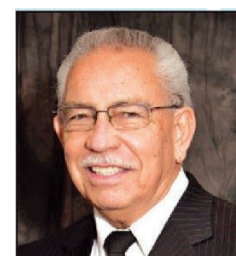
Charles Vickers
Vice Mayor



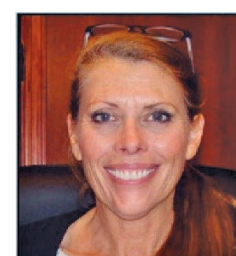
Margaret Chittenden
Councilmember



Karen Duncan
Councilmember



Jack Duran
Councilmember



Susan Hout
Councilmember



June Miller
Councilmember

Domestic Violence Safety Plan

Do You Feel Safe at home?

You can.

For Local Shelter Call:
480-890-3039 or
844-SAFE-DVS 844-723-3387

National Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

MARICOPA ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS

Safety at Home

During a Violent Event

- Stay out of rooms with no exit.
- Avoid rooms that may have weapons.
- Select a code word that alerts friends and children to call police.
- Leave suitcase and checklist items with a friend.

If You Don't Feel Safe at Home

You may want to get a protective order to stop the abusive person from coming into contact with you and/or your children. For more information on protective orders and safety planning, please call an advocacy center or the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (ACESDV).

- Phoenix: 602-534-2120
- Glendale: 623-930-3720
- Mesa: 480-644-4075
- Scottsdale: 480-312-6300
- Southwest: 623-333-7900
- ACESDV Legal Advocacy Hotline: 1-800-782-6400
- TTY 602-279-7270

Safety at Work

- Tell your employer.
- Give security a photo of the person abusing you and a copy of the Order of Protection.
- Screen your calls.
- Have an escort to your car or bus.
- Vary your route home.
- Carry a noisemaker or personal alarm.

Protecting Your Children

- Plan and rehearse an escape route with your children.
- If it is safe, teach them a code word to call 9-1-1 and how to use a cell phone.
- Let school personnel know to whom children can be released.
- Give school personnel a photo of person abusing you.
- Warn school personnel not to give out your address and phone number.

PRINTING COURTESY OF:



IN AN EMERGENCY—CALL 9-1-1 IMMEDIATELY

Go to an emergency room if you need medical help. Take pictures of bruises and injuries.

Getting Out Now

Quick Check List

- ☐ **Identification:** driver's license, birth certificates
- ☐ **Money:** ATM card, credit cards, checkbooks
- ☐ **Legal Papers:** protective order, medical records
- ☐ **Important Personal Items:** keys, medicine

24-Hour Hotlines

- For Local Shelter Call:
• **480-890-3039**, or
• **844-SAFE-DVS**
- National Hotline:
• 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

If you are in immediate danger call 9-1-1.

Keep this card

Safety When Leaving

If you think you may want to leave, a careful plan is needed to ensure safety. Do not let the person who is abusing you know of your plans; try to act as if things are unchanged.

Leaving can be the most dangerous time! These suggestions do not apply to every survivor in every situation. These are to be used as a guideline. Please make your safety plan around your own individual needs and circumstances.

Have a safe place to stay. Make sure it is a place that can protect you and your children or grandchildren. This may be at a domestic violence shelter.

Call a domestic violence victim service program. Find out which services and shelters are available as options if you need them. Keep their address and phone number close at all times. For local shelter, call 480-890-3039, or 844-SAFE-DVS.

Find someone you trust. Leave money, extra keys, copies of important documents and clothing with them in advance, so you can leave quickly, if necessary.

Save any harassing emails, texts and/or voice mail messages. Keep a record of unwanted and/or repeated contact by your abuser to provide to police.

Open a savings account. Use a new bank and location. Put it in your name only. Have statements sent to a safe address. Consider direct deposit from your paycheck or benefit check.

Gather important documents. Identification cards, children's immunization records, marriage license, divorce decrees, birth certificates, school and medical records, passports, and others.

Learn about safety concerns around technology. Discuss with an advocate safety concerns around technology and how devices such as cell phones, computers and Global Positioning Systems (GPS) can be used by the abuser to track you. For more information, call ACESDV Legal Advocacy Hotline at 1-800-782-6400.

Concerns about immigration status. You may qualify under a law called the Violence Against Women Act. Talk to an immigration expert at your local domestic violence victim services program for more information.

Review your safety plan. Study and check your plans as often as possible in order to know the safest way to leave the abuser. Contact the national hotline, any advocacy center, or the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence Hotline for help in safety planning and keep these numbers with you at all times.

National Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

ACESDV Legal Advocacy Hotline: 1-800-782-6400
www.FindDVservices.com

This project was supported by Grant No. ST-WSG-15-010115-18 awarded by the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith, and Family for the STOP Formula Grant Program. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the State or the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

- 71 percent of domestic violence victims report that their abuser also targeted their pet.¹
- As many as half of battered women have delayed their decision to leave their batterer, or have returned to their batterer, out of fear for the welfare of their pets or livestock.²
- An estimated 1 million animals are abused or killed each year in connection with domestic vi-

olence.⁴

- 60 percent of those who witnessed or perpetrated animal abuse also experienced family violence.⁵
- Animal abuse occurred in 88 percent of families with a history of domestic abuse.⁶
- 30 percent of family violence victims experienced animal cruelty.⁷
- 32 percent of battered women with children re-

port that their children have hurt or killed pets.⁸

- In many domestic abuse situations, the family pet is the a key source of kindness and compassion for the victim. This high dependency and attachment for the pet is commonly used as a means of control by the abuser.¹¹
- One in four women and one in seven men will be a victim of domestic violence in their lifetime.¹²

1 Ascione, Weber, & Wood, The Abuse of Animals and Domestic Violence: A National Survey of Shelters for Women who are Battered. Society & Animals, Vol. 5 No. 3, 205-218 (1997)

2 Twelve independent surveys have reported that between 18 percent and 48 percent of battered women have delayed

their decision to leave their batterer, or have returned to their batterer, out of fear for the welfare of their pets or livestock (Various dates). A study by the Alberta Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals found that 59 percent of abused women delayed leaving the home out of fear of leaving their pets behind (2012)

4 Tufts Now, CSI: Animal Abuse, A Cummings student comes up with forensic tools to help distinguish between accidental and deliberate injuries, Genevieve Rajewski (March 18, 2015)

5 2009 study: Survey of 860 college students, Is Animal Cruelty a "red flag" for Family Violence? Journal of Interpersonal

Violence, DeGue & DiLillo, (June 2009)

6 Animal abuse occurred in 88% of families that were under state supervision for the physical abuse of their children (DeVinney, Dickert & Lockwood, 1983)

7 2009 study: Survey of 860 college students, Is Animal Cruelty a "red flag" for Family Violence? Journal of Interpersonal

Violence, DeGue & DiLillo, (June 2009)

8 Battered Women's Reports of Their Partners' and Their Children's Cruelty to Animals, The Zero, Frank R. Ascione, Ph.D (originally published in Journal of Emotional Abuse, Vol. 1 (1) 1998)

11 Pets, Intimate Partner Violence, and the Abuser's Perspective, Rochelle Steven-

son, University of Windsor (January 2012)

12 NCADV Fact Sheet citing to the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, Michele Black, Kathleen Basile, Matthew Breiding, Sharon Smith, Mikel Walters, Melissa Merrick, Jieru Chen and Mark Stevens (2010 Summary Report)



TOWN OF YOUNGTOWN
In the heart of the Northwest Valley

12030 N. Clubhouse Square, Youngtown, AZ 85363 • 623-933-8286 • youngtownnaz.org



Youngtown Community Fund News

It is wonderful to be a part of an organization that helps those in need of equipment for temporary use. We have had more folks from all of our service area, which means we are getting the word out that we are here. Thank you to those who have helped spread the word. It is so sad when we find someone who went without because they didn't know we were here and couldn't afford to buy their own.

As you know, we loan durable medical equipment for short term use to residents of El Mirage, Surprise and Youngtown as well as Peoria. We have shower chairs, commode chairs, four-wheel walkers, two-wheel walkers and wheelchairs. We have many items too numerous to name here.

Are you having company in from out of town? Remember, you may borrow a roll away bed or a wheelchair for that weekend visit (or even a little longer).

Did you know, a donation made to our organization qualifies for a state income tax rebate? This is not just a deduction; it is a rebate. You may request up to \$400 per person or \$800 per couple. We will need more donations as we are required to pay the increased wage from the recent proposition vote.

You can help us at no out of pocket cost to you if you sign up for Fry's community rewards and choose our organization to support. If you did it last year, please check as we understand you must reconfirm your choice each year in August.

We have a car show coming up in October. Call or text Larry Wise at (623)692-8127 Noon to 6 P.M. for more information.

Thank you for assisting us in our mission. People appreciate the service.

Stop and check out the Medical Lending Center at the Youngtown Community Fund at 11215-A West Nevada Avenue, Youngtown.

Our phone number is 623-977-4661 and our hours are Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. to Noon.

Historical Museum

The Youngtown Public Library Manager oversees the Historical Museum in Clubhouse Square. Tours may be scheduled during Library hours.

History of Youngtown

Shortly after WWII, Gilbert and Frances Greer purchased a 320-acre property for a large cattle ranch.

1947: Ben Schliefer came to Arizona to visit a friend in a nursing home. "Big Ben" then had a vision of creating an active retirement community.

1949: Gilbert Greer passed away and Elmer Johns arrived to help manage the ranch. 1954: The Youngtown Development Company was formed, consisting of Ben Schleifer, Frances Greer and Elmer Johns. Ben Schleifer had the idea of an active retirement community, Frances Greer had the ranch and Elmer Johns thought that the idea and ranch could be brought together.

1955: 125 homes were built, 85 lots had been sold and only 40 lots remained.

1957: Youngtown was featured on the national TV show Wide Wide World, by Dave Garroway. This led to national attention for the area and a new retirement movement began.

1960: Youngtown incorporated.

1960: Sun City was also launched, which triggered economic development for Youngtown. The Post Office, a Bank, A J Bayless Grocery Store, gas station and pharmacy in Town meant that residents did not need to travel to other areas for their shopping.

1960: The nation's first AARP Chapter was established in Youngtown.

1966: Sheriff Nofs was shot and killed. Youngtown began to realize that the Town was no longer isolated.

1970's: Custom homes started to be



built and Youngtown became designated a bedroom community.

Late 1970's: Margaret Chittenden became the Town's first female police officer.

1986: The Senior Age Overlay was challenged.

1995: The Youngtown Water Company was sold.

1996: The new Library building was constructed.

1998: The Senior Age Overlay was



overturned through a ruling by the State Attorney General. Younger people and families came to Youngtown and activities for children and playgrounds were needed.

2001: Daphne Green became the Town's first female mayor.

2001: Youngtown joined the Sun City Fire District.

2001: Voters elected to directly vote for the Office of the Mayor.

2001: The Manager / Council form of government was established. The Town's first Town Manager, Mark Fooks, was hired.

2002: Agua Fria Ranch subdivision was developed. The population of the Town doubled, and even more families and children became residents.

2006: The firing of the Town Manager sparked a recall election of the Mayor and two Council Members.

2007: Cisco became the Town's first K-9 Officer.

2008: Chief Kimberly Johnson became the Town's first female Chief of Police.

2008: Lucille Retheford became the Town's first Person of the Year: 2007.

2009: Youngtown Historical Society was dissolved and the Youngtown Historical Museum established.

2011: The Town's Police Department was dissolved and Maricopa County Sheriff's Department (MCSO) became the Town's Law Enforcement Agency.

2013: Remodeling of Youngtown Public Library

EVERY ARIZONAN COUNTS



2020 CENSUS • BE COUNTED!
LEARN MORE AT [AZCENSUS2020.GOV](https://www.AZCENSUS2020.GOV)

ARIZONA

United States
Census
2020

TODA LA GENTE EN ARIZONA CUENTA



CENSO 2020 • ¡HAZTE CONTAR!
OBTENGA MÁS INFORMACIÓN EN [AZCENSUS2020.GOV](https://www.AZCENSUS2020.GOV)

ARIZONA

United States
Census
2020

Youngtown Public Library

October 2020

Because of COVID-19, we are temporarily CLOSED to the public, however, we are doing CURBSIDE SERVICE to check out books and movies. You can put items on hold by accessing our Card Catalog using the link on the Youngtown website at www.youngtownaz.org, or on our Facebook page, or by calling us at (623) 974-3401. We also offer digital books through the "Libby" app. Just call us for instructions!

September is National Library Card month! If you don't have a library card with us, call and register today! We carry all the latest books and movies! You can rent DVD's for a week, and check out books for two weeks for FREE!

The Youngtown Public Library still offers many services, including:

- FREE WI-FI outside from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
- FREE DVD rental – over 1,100 movies
- FREE Resume' Assistance
- FREE Tax Forms
- FREE Legal Forms
- FREE Career Information
- FREE Faxes
- Copies 15 cents each

Once the Library reopens, please join us for **BOOK CLUB** on the third Friday of every month.



Picture of Volunteer Recognition at Town Council Meeting 1-18-18, for volunteers with over 10 years of service in the Youngtown Public Library. From L to R, Mayor Michael LeVault, Arlene Rajcevic, Charlotte Johnson, Patrice Druehl, Beverly Meers, Terry Martinez, Kitty Spindler, Jim Schuh standing in for Arlene Schuh, and Library Manager, Heidi Speed

LOCATION

Both the Library and Historical Museum are located in Town Square, between Alabama and Youngtown Avenue, just west of 112th Avenue.



For additional information about the Library or the history of Youngtown, call (623) 974-3401.

Our hours for Curbside Service are 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Monday through Thursday.

It is with extreme sadness that we announce that two of our treasured volunteers have passed away during our closure: Patrice Druehl and Arlene Rajcevic. They will be missed.

Clubs and Organizations

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS ARE NOT MEETING AT THE MOMENT DUE TO COVID-19. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT THE BOARD MEMBERS.

AARP Board

MEET: 3rd Tuesday of the month 4:30 p.m.
Jay Lickus – 623-734-5438

AARP CHAPTER 1

MEET: 1st Friday of the month 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Jay Lickus – 623-734-5438

AGUA FRIA RANCH HOA

MEET: 2nd Wednesday of the month 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
OFF: August
Ogden & Company/Jackie Monty 623-628-4708

BOOK DISCUSSION CLUB

MEET: 3rd Friday of the month 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Meets in the Youngtown Library
Heidi Speed – 623-974-3401

CRAFT CORNER

MEET: Every Monday 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Betty Trolen – 623-974-9130

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

MEET: Every Other Month on the 3rd Friday 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
OFF: June, July and August Teresa Felton – 760-415-5446

OPEN PAINTING

ALL MEDIUMS WELCOME
MEET: every Monday 9:00 a.m. - Noon
Beverly Meers – 972-5145

WOOD CARVERS CLUB

MEET: every Tuesday of the month 8:00 a.m. - Noon
Terry Damato – 623-933-2426

YOUNGTOWN ART COMMISSION

MEET: 4th Wednesday of the month 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
OFF: June, July and August Val Wilson – 623-810-3137

YOUNGTOWN COMMUNITY FUND

MEET: 4th Wednesday of the month 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Madelon Jeffreys – 623-977-4661

YOUNGTOWN WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

MEET: Every Wednesday of the month 10:30 a.m. - Noon
OFF: June, July, August Madelon Jeffreys – 623-583-8047
All clubs meet in the Clubhouse unless otherwise noted.

West Valley Genealogical Society

Largest genealogical library in Arizona; serving genealogists throughout the Northwest Valley area of Maricopa County, Arizona and beyond! WVGS is a non-profit organization dedicated to researching, recording, and sharing genealogical, and ethnic information to aid anyone interested in researching and recording their family history.

Meets at 12222 N. 111th Ave., Youngtown, AZ 85363 for classes and SIGs on genealogy, DNA. Offers computer lab, seminars, research trips and much more!

Monday, Wednesday and Sunday, open from 1:00 p.m.

to 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Thursday open from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Closed the 2nd Monday, from September to May for General Membership Meeting
For more information, call 623-933-4945. or visit www.azwvgs.org.



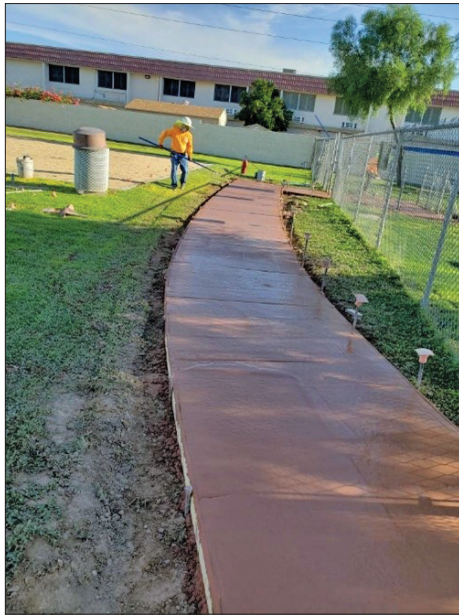
News You Can Use...

Canine Happenings at the Dog Park!

Time does fly fast when our beloved 4-legged furry friends are having fun running, chasing balls, frisbees in the Town's Dog Park. A lot has happened since the sign went up in Spring 2013, "Future Site of Citizens' Dog Park of Youngtown."

Now to the Present. The Dog Park Committee would like to thank Mayor LeVault, and all members of the Youngtown Staff for their assistance during this very stressful Spring, and Summer with the Covid-19 Virus pandemic. The Youngtown Dog Park remained opened with precautions: social distancing, maximum stay of one hour so all could enjoy getting out of sheltering at home, and be outside and exercise with their dogs. Thank you for the backing and guidance from the Dog Park Board of Directors too! Due to the popularity of the park being kept open, we had a large influx of visitors, the parking was limited to the South Side of Alabama and notices placed for overflow parking. Thanks to Youngtown residents greeting and mingling with surrounding communities. Due to the visitors and their generous donations, future parks amenities will be discussed at the upcoming public meetings.

A great attitude here in Youngtown is our Town's openness and willingness to share our parks. A lot of dogs and their owners took advantage of walking around Maricopa Lake while



Great addition to the park

waiting for others to leave the park. I would also like to thank Charlie and Steve (Public Works Department), for keeping us well stocked with mutt mitts for those who are utilizing our park, especially on the weekend. We have received many compliments on the quality of the mutt mitts. Youngtown residents should be proud how you all represented our Town to others!

Summer happenings at the Parks. Sidewalk installation from Alabama to entrance, five feet wide to help assist those on scooters, bicycles, and walkers. As with all of the Youngtown Parks, this is a great addition to safety and appearance. The bone sign was re-

*"Until one has loved an animal,
a part of one's soul remains
unawakened."*

Anatole France

furbished, mounted higher, and metal poles installed. A huge thank you to Building Inspectors Gregory Arrington and Barry Collins, along with the Mayor's support to accomplish this. This sidewalk is wide enough for owners and pets to enter.



Mid July a major water line had a leak and it was several days before it was repaired. Many dogs would have loved the pool though!

Now back to business. The next dog park meeting will be Saturday, October 17th at 11:00 a.m. by teleconference. When the Town buildings reopen to the public, our meetings will be held in the Clubhouse. Our present board members are Chair Margaret Chittenden, Co-Chair Tim Ayres, Treasurer Kathryn French, and Susan Hout has graciously stepped in to be secretary to fill the secretary's position after Pat Druehl's passing this summer. Pat and her husband Orville were great supporters of the Citizens' Dog Park from the grass roots start, even before the site was finalized.

Thank you all! Hopefully you will join our group.

CITIZENS' DOG PARK OF YOUNGTOWN

Hours of Operation
6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
NW Corner of Alabama
& 113th Avenues
For Information & Donations
623-974-9756

In The Spotlight

Each month the Town of Youngtown will be featuring some of our local businesses who make up the many wonderful, long standing businesses that service our residents and the surrounding communities in the Northwest Valley! Please meet one of our hidden treasures right here in Youngtown!

Adam's Cafe

602-488-3267

My name is Harold Adam and I am the owner of the Adams Cafe; We're open Tuesday through Sunday, from 7AM to 2PM. Adams Cafe offers daily specials, good company, and great food! All food including, baked goods, come fresh and all at great prices! Business has been slow paced due to COVID-19, we'd still love a safe, healthy visit from you! We hope to see you, stop by and try us out!



Monsoon Time is Upon Us...

Watch Out For Lightning!



By: **Jim Fox**
Fire Marshal Sun City Fire
and Medical Department

Thunder and lightning storms happen all the time. But did you know that lightning strikes and lightning fires occur most often in the summer?

Approximately 10% of thunderstorms are considered severe, which means they may produce hail up to three-quarters of an inch in diameter, have winds of at least 58 miles per hour, or produce a tornado (spinning wind) or micro-burst (sudden downburst of wind). Most lightning deaths

and injuries occur when people are caught outdoors in the summer months during the evening or afternoon. The chances of being struck by lightning are about 1 in 600,000.

- Lightning often strikes outside of heavy rain and may occur as far as 10 miles from any rainfall.
- Outside and other fires accounted for 78% of the lightning fires reported to local fire departments.

Before a Storm:

- Stay informed - listen to a weather radio to check local forecasts and news reports regularly. Keep a battery-powered or hand-cranked radio along with extra batteries.
- Buy ground fault protectors for key electrical equipment.
- Remove dead or rotting trees

and branches that could fall.

- If a thunderstorm is likely in your area, postpone outdoor activities.
- Secure outside doors and objects. Secure outdoor objects that could blow away.
- Unplug appliances and other electrical items, such as computers, TV's, and if possible - turn off air conditioners. If you are unable to unplug them, turn them off.

During a Storm:

- Follow the 30-30 rule: When you see lightning, count the seconds until you hear thunder. If that time is 30 seconds or less, the thunderstorm is within 6 miles and is dangerous. Seek shelter immediately. The threat of lightning continues longer than most people think. Wait at least 30 minutes after

the last thunder before leaving your shelter.

- If you can hear thunder, you are within striking distance for lightning. Seek safe shelter immediately.
- Stop outdoor activities at the first clap of thunder and get inside a large building or an enclosed vehicle. Wait 30 minutes after the thunder to go back outside.
- When inside, stay off corded phones, computers, and other electronic equipment that put you in direct contact with electricity or plumbing. Cordless phones and cell phones are safe to use. Avoid showering or bathing.
- If you are in open water, go to land and seek shelter immediately.
- If you feel your hair stand on

end, indicating that lightning is about to strike, squat low to the ground on the balls of your feet. Place your hands over your ears and your head between your knees. Make yourself the smallest target possible and minimize your contact with the ground. Do not lie flat on the ground. This is a last resort when a building or hard-topped vehicle is not available.

After a Storm:

- If a person is struck by lightning, call 9-1-1 and get medical care immediately.
- Lightning strike victims carry no electrical charge; attend to them immediately. Check their breathing, heartbeat, and pulse.

Contributing information: NFPA

Code Enforcement 101...

Illegal Yard Sale Signage

With the yard sale season in full swing, Code Enforcement would like to remind and educate residents that it is illegal, under Town code, to place signs in the right-of-way of any public road, which include signs placed on traffic signs, street lamps, electrical poles, utility boxes, etc. Property owners are allowed "carport sale" or similarly worded signs on a self-supporting stake or pole (wood, metal, etc.) and not more than twenty-four (24) inches in height, measured from the ground upward to the top of the sign on their own private property.

Signs posted in the right-of-way pose a safety problem for drivers and pedestrians by distracting motorists, creating blind spots. Furthermore, most of these signs are not removed and quickly litter the streets, detracting from the appearance of our neighborhoods. To stay safe and protect the community, residents are encouraged



to place their yard or garage sale signs on private property. Better yet, we urge residents to announce their yard and garage sales in local newspapers via classified ads or

free website listings.

The Code Enforcement Officer will remove any signs placed illegally in the public right-of-way. A Notice of Violation or Citation may

be given on any violations. Please note a person violating any of the provisions of this chapter is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor and upon conviction may be subject to

a fine of up to two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) and/or six months in the Maricopa County jail. Please visit our website for a complete of codes at www.youngtownaz.org.

Q & A

Is there a limit on the number of garage sales I can have?

Garage sales are limited to four (4) times in a calendar year for a maximum of three (3) consecutive days in any (30) day period.

This limitation applies to the location of the garage sale. Do I need a permit to have a garage sale?

No. Permits are not required for garage sales.

Do I need to remove all unsold items from my property?

No. Unsold items do not need to be removed from property, but must be removed from public view.

In The Works

October 2020



Marty Mosbrucker
Public Works Manager

Hello newspaper readers, welcome back! If you're reading this, you must be a newspaper person, much like myself. There is so much information on the internet but there is just something enjoyable about holding and reading a newspaper. Maybe it reminds us of a time when we

perceived life as being simpler and less complicated. Hopefully you will find the Public Works articles informative and enjoyable.

Looking Back on FY 2019/2020

As complicated as life has been due to the pandemic, the small Town of Youngtown Public Works Department was able to accomplish quite a few projects last fiscal year, which ended this past June 30th. In order for all Town departments to conduct business safely, a Hazardous Communication Plan along with an Emergency Action Plan was completed. The Town was able to purchase two new Public Works trucks,

two new Code Enforcement trucks and a new Town car. Citizens Dog Park was re-sodded, Maricopa Lake Park had concrete landscaping border installed to define the path around the lake and separate grass areas from granite. Two decorative water features were installed at the lake, which help to aerate the water and add a serene peaceful attractive element. New picnic tables were installed in most parks. The basketball court at David C. Uribe Park was resurfaced. Security surveillance cameras and duress/panic buttons were installed in the Town Square buildings. Two automated external defibrillators were installed, one in Town Hall

and one in the Clubhouse. New flooring was installed in two buildings and new air conditioning units were installed in two buildings. Emergency generator service and repairs were completed. Street resurfacing was completed, new street and traffic signs were installed, the street sweeping contract was renewed. One new storm drain catch basin was installed in Town. Right of way weed spraying was completed along with licensing renewal. Right of way utility work was completed and inspected. The storm water management program was conducted. A Public Works presentation was performed at Discover U Elementary school.

During the month of May, a household hazardous waste event was offered to all residents.

Looking Forward to FY 2020/2021

The Town's new fiscal year began on July 1st. Due to the uncertainty caused by the pandemic, the Town found it necessary to complete a zero based budget which focuses primarily on conducting day to day business, as the town is uncertain of the amount of revenue that will be received. We were able to install a Zoom meeting system in the council chambers, as most meetings are now conducted electronically via in-person. We still plan on

conducting street resurfacing this fiscal year, sometime in the spring. When that time arrives, the resurfacing schedule will be presented in this article.

Thank You

Two simple words when said with sincerity, help to make the world a better place. I sincerely thank you for taking the time to read this article. Please stay safe, stay positive and express to the people in your life how important they are to you. This too shall pass and I, for one, think we will be back to an improved normal, as we will hopefully have learned what is truly important and not take anything for granted. God bless.

NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY

Email your article to Jeanne Blackman: jblackman@youngtownaz.org

The right to accept or reject rests with the publication editor.

Yesterday... Today

Yesterday... The Ranch!

The Town Hall Campus in Youngtown, called Clubhouse Square, was originally a working ranch owned by Gilbert and Frances Greer. Mrs. Greer deeded the property and buildings to the Town in 1961. By this time, the Town had been incorporated - in 1960.

The Clubhouse was the homestead of Mr. and Mrs. Greer. It now houses the Municipal Court, and is home to Town Council meetings, along with numerous public meetings and club functions. Town Hall, where the Town Manager, Town Clerk and Finance departments now reside, was formerly ranch hands' housing.

On Alabama Avenue, around the corner from Town Hall, is the current Community Development Building which houses the Community Development Manager/ Building Inspector office. In the 1960s and 1970s, these offices comprised Town Hall and Police Headquarters. They originally were bunkhouses for ranch workers.

North of Town Hall are buildings that were once a milk shed, a tack and equipment storage shed and a garage. These now contain, respectively, The Youngtown

Municipal Court Administrative Offices, the Arts and Crafts Center, Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) personnel.

The current Community Development and Public Works offices were designed and built by Frances Greer as a bunkhouse, then became the Youngtown Utilities Office. After the Town utilities were sold, it served various purposes before becoming the offices for Community Development.

As Youngtown was being developed, the Youngtown Historical Society log cabin was the headquarters for engineers and craftsmen. Only the Youngtown Library is a new building. It was built in 1994 and remodeled in 2013.

Today... Setting the Stage for Success

Located in the Heart of the Northwest Valley, Youngtown maintains its small town atmosphere while benefiting from immediate connectivity to the amenities of the larger centers surrounding it. The Town itself is just 2 square miles and has 6,200 residents, yet its trade area contains more than 200,000 people in a 5-mile radius.



Seven parks, a lovely lake, special Town events and three commercial centers provide fun opportunities within walking distance. Once in the car, Youngtown residents are provided an abundance of entertainment in Glendale, Peoria, and Surprise. Youngtown is a community in transi-

tion. The former sleepy retirement community now is home to 80% young people. The Town is changing with the times: increasing public landscaping, introducing public art and forging partnerships to update commercial centers.



CDBG COVID-19

RENT & UTILITY ASSISTANCE



RENT



ELECTRIC



WATER



GAS

HAVE YOU FALLEN BEHIND ON YOUR RENT OR UTILITY PAYMENTS?

- **UP TO 3 MONTHS OF ASSISTANCE**
- **COVID-19 FINANCIAL HARDSHIP REQUIRED**
- **FAMILIES MUST INCOME QUALIFY (EXAMPLE: FAMILY OF 4
MUST EARN LESS THAN \$62,250/YR)**

ELIGIBLE LOCATIONS

- Buckeye
- El Mirage
- Fountain Hills
- Goodyear
- Guadalupe
- Litchfield Park
- Tolleson
- Wickenburg
- Youngtown
- Unincorporated areas within Maricopa County

CALL OUR HOTLINE AT: 602 - 506 - 2000