

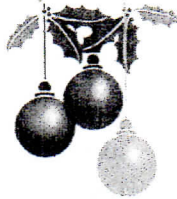
# POINT OF VIEW

## JEROME'S NEWSLETTER

December 2012 – January 2013

### From the Mayor

Hello dear citizens of Jerome. The Holidays are just falling upon us as I write. While usually a time to slow down, this holiday season seems to have brought a bustling tone to it. Town issues have not taken a rest either and the air is abuzz with lively discussion on a multitude of topics. Despite the fact that this buzz means more work for the council and I, it is something that I've come to love about Jerome.



Recently, I completed the Flinn-Brown Civic Leadership Academy in Phoenix. This learning opportunity, over the course of twelve sessions, delved into statewide topics such as the state budget, extremism in Arizona politics, education, healthcare, economic development, water resources, etc. This was a very valuable experience for me as it truly exposed the complexity and interconnectedness of all of these topics. I thoroughly enjoyed thinking about Jerome and its microcosmic

attributes when it comes to these issues, but what I really came away with was a sense of pride.

First of all, it is clear that there is a healthy amount of civic engagement in Jerome. In fact, I couldn't find a parking spot at the last council meeting! To me, that is a good sign. Also, many social issues are mitigated before they become problematic because people here care about each other and are willing to extend the social safety net when there's a need. There's far more than a handful of people in this town putting in extra hours to make sure that Jerome is a wonderful place to live.

In short, we are all in this together. I encourage you all to continue to dig up things that need fixing in our system and continue speak kindly amongst yourselves to come up with creative (and legal) solutions together. I thank you and am wishing you all a wonderful holiday season!

**Mayor Nikki Check**

### AS THE EGGS FRIES



Greetings, Mr. Pavlov –

Jingle, tingle, bells a ringing! Angels singing. Lords a leaping. Reindeer, sleighs, jolly old elves and dwarves. Snowflakes, snowballs, snowmen, angels in the snow. Mistletoe, holly, firs and furs, and trimming spruce trees.

Garlands and wreaths with big bows.

Macy's parade, wrapping papers and ribbons, baubles and ornaments, stars on the tree top, tinsel and twinkling lights. Red and green and white. The Salvation Army kettle. The ringing hand bell.

Endless suburban houses with endless gaudy decorations.

Fruitcakes, plum puddings, stollen, panettone. Bûche de Noël, cookies and mincemeat pies. Gløgg, cognac in a balloon snifter, eggnog, Irish coffee, candy canes, chocolate Hanukkah gelt, lattkas and applesauce, tourtières, baccalà, and coulubiaks. Chestnuts on an open

fire. Gingerbread houses. The goose. Pfeffernüsse. Ensalada de Noche Buena.

Stockings on the mantel, logs crackling in the fireplace, candles flickering, electric trains with real smoke. A Nativity crèche. Strings of cranberries and popcorn.

Carolers at the front door (with snow falling), the Latin midnight mass with incense and Gregorian chant, Handel's Messiah, Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, White Christmas, Jingle Bells, Moonlight in Vermont, Frosty the Snowman, The Holly and the Ivy, The Twelve Days of Christmas, Deck the Halls, Angels on High, God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen.

A Child's Christmas in Wales, Scrooge and Marley, The Night Before Christmas, The Grinch.

Santa Claus. Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donder, and Blitzen.

*The Season is upon us. Have fun.* **Lew Currier**

### Meeting Dates for January, February, March 2013

**Regular Council Meeting**  
January 8 at 7:00 pm

**Planning & Zoning**  
January 2 at 7:00 pm

**Design Review Board**  
January 14 at 7:00 pm

**Regular Council Meeting**  
February 12 at 7:00 pm

**Planning & Zoning**  
February 6 at 7:00 pm

**Design Review Board**  
February 11 at 7:00 pm

**Regular Council Meeting**  
March 12 at 7:00 pm

**Planning & Zoning**  
March 6 at 7:00 pm

**Design Review Board**  
March 11 at 7:00 pm



Jerome has gotten a second new water tank on Sunshine Hill for the holidays!

So many exciting events, enjoy!

Here's wishing you all happiness, friendship, good neighbor relations, warmth and health. And, natch, for all to take up the marvelous democratic opportunity for each voice to be heard that living in Jerome offers. Thus will we shape our future.

**Anne Bassett**

---

## **Update on Jerome's General Plan Update!**

### **WHAT IS A GENERAL PLAN?**

A general plan is a city's road map for the future. It describes a community's aspirations and identifies strategies for managing preservation and change. General plans typically include goals, policies, implementing actions and supporting graphics. These components work together to convey a long-term vision and guide local decision making to achieve that vision.

The general plan also plays an important role in regulating land use. Its policies and maps form the foundation for Town ordinances, guidelines and plans. Over the past few years, some work has been done by the Planning Department and citizens of Jerome to update the 1981 Jerome Comprehensive (General) Plan. While much has remained the same both in Town and with the old plan, the update will provide goals and policies that will reflect present-day community values and priorities and will bring Jerome into compliance with current state laws and local ordinances.

### **WHAT IS THE NEXT STEP?**

Formation of a Steering committee will take place in mid-January for the purpose of guiding the General Plan update. The first step to be taken by the Steering committee will be over-seeing the development of the General Plan vision by the community. The goal of the visioning process is for the community to articulate important values, identify assets and opportunities, and outline key areas for change and preservation. These components will build the foundation for development of the General Plan goals, policies and actions. Anyone interested in participating in the Steering Committee please contact:

**Carmen Ogden, Zoning Administrator**  
928-634-7943

---

## **Manager's Dugout**

**Wishing you all a safe  
and happy Holiday Season**

**And have a  
Happy New Year**

**From the  
Town Hall Staff and Crew**



---

## **A Note from Brice Wood, Chairman, Jerome Design Review Board**

I'd like to thank everyone who took time to participate in the Town Comprehensive Plan Survey. Those of us who are members of boards appreciate the helpful input and direction you provided. Sometimes it can get a little lonely trying to figure out the right thing to do, or what people expect. The survey helps a lot.

I was impressed by the number of written comments citizens made. You could take the survey and only answer multiple-choice questions, but there were hundreds of handwritten elaborations. It took me two hours to read all the comments. Such an outpouring of civic concern by Jerome folks! This really is a well-loved and special place. If you want to read the survey it's available in Town Hall.

One of the things almost everyone said is that our status as a National Historic Landmark is important. Part of maintaining that status depends on the existence of the Design Review Board. In many towns this board is called the Historic Preservation Board, which is a pretty good description of what the DRB does. We look at proposed changes and decide if they fit into the town. We try to understand the visual impact those changes will have on the town.

Some of the things we are working on are:

- Revisions to the Comprehensive Plan. This is the underlying document of the Town Ordinances, and Planning and Zoning. It is an expression of where we want to go as a community. It's why we did a Town Survey.
- Trying to undo the visual clutter and distraction of unapproved, illegal signs.
- Finding a way to address the question of historic preservation vs. solar panels.

You can attend Design Review Board meetings. They are usually held on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in Town Hall. Check one of the bulletin boards: meetings are always posted in advance. The public is welcome to participate in the discussions. If you want to present a subject that's not on the agenda, get in touch with Carmen Ogden at Town Hall and she will schedule you to speak during the Petitions from the Public part of the meeting.

Thanks again for your input and support.

---

## **A Note From Joey**

I will plant and take care of your live discarded Christmas tree. Drop off at Katie Lee's house at 810 Hampshire Avenue.



**APOLONY!** ~~It's not a secret~~ by your control, as well as the need to go to Chicago to celebrate my son's 30<sup>th</sup> birthday, this issue of the newsletter did not get out at the beginning of the month. - Rosemarie



## Jerome Fire Department

Rusty Blair, Chief JVFD



### Christmas Tree Fire Safety

The leading cause of Christmas tree fires and property damage was short circuit or ground fault (21%).

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), cords and plugs were the leading type of

equipment involved in the ignition of Christmas trees.

#### Safety points to remember:

- Any string of lights with worn, frayed or broken cords or loose bulb connections should not be used.
- Always unplug Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to sleep.
- Never use lit candles to decorate a tree, and place them well away from tree branches.
- Try to keep live trees as moist as possible by giving them plenty of water daily. Do not purchase a tree that is dry or dropping needles.
- Choose a sturdy tree stand designed not to tip over.
- When purchasing an artificial tree, be sure it is labeled as fire-retardant.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source and try to position it near an outlet so that cords are not running long distances.
- Do not place the tree where it may block exits.
- Safely dispose of the tree when it begins dropping needles. Dried-out trees are highly flammable and should not be left in a house or garage, or placed against the house.



### Holiday Fire Safety

The winter holidays are a time for celebration, and that means more cooking, home decorating, entertaining, and an increased risk of fire due to heating equipment.

- Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the U.S. When cooking for holiday visitors, remember to keep an eye on the range.

### Town Holiday Schedule

Town Hall will be closed Monday and Tuesday, December 24 and 25, but trash will be picked up on Monday morning.

Town Hall will be open Monday, December 31, and trash will be picked up, but will be closed on Tuesday, January 1.

- Provide plenty of large, deep ashtrays for guests who smoke and check them frequently. Cigarette butts can smolder in the trash and cause a fire, so completely douse cigarette butts with water before discarding.
- After a party, always check on, between and under upholstery and cushions and inside trashcans for cigarette butts that may be smoldering.
- Keep matches and lighters up high, out of sight and reach of children.

December is the peak month for candle fires, with nearly twice the average number of incidents.

The NFPA reported that 44% of candle fires in the home started in the bedroom.

New Year's Eve is almost here, so I would again like to point out that any fireworks that leave the ground, such as bottle-rockets, are highly dangerous and illegal in the state of Arizona, and all fireworks of any kind are prohibited in the Town of Jerome. This last 4<sup>th</sup> of July, bottle-rockets were set off here in town in the middle of a neighborhood. Besides being illegal, please take a moment to think about what could have potentially gone wrong had one of those set something on fire. Many of our buildings and homes in town are very old and in some neighborhoods, very close together. By setting off illegal and dangerous fireworks, your safety as well of those around you, neighbors, visitors to our town and the emergency workers that may have had to respond were all put in jeopardy. Please think twice and think of others before participating in hazardous behaviors.

**Thank you to all the volunteers that helped put on the Annual Halloween Dance. A good time was had by all that attended! This event as well as the Annual Mardi Gras Dance (this year's event is on February 16<sup>th</sup> 2013) and the Rock in' Rides Car Show take a lot of time and hard work by everyone involved. Extra help is always appreciated by anyone willing to lend a hand. These events benefit not only the fire department, but also the community as a whole. If you would like to help out with these and possible future events, come to an auxiliary meeting and join our group. Friendly and helpful faces are always welcome!!!**

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

**THE JEROME FIRE DEPARTMENT  
WISHES YOU A SAFE AND HAPPY  
HOLIDAY SEASON**

Thank you for your continued support.



---

## JEROME POLICE DEPARTMENT

Allen Muma, Chief of Police

We have seen an increase in incidents involving shoplifting and thefts from our local merchants. You can reduce your exposure by following these guidelines:



1. Please remember to secure any cash you may have on hand in a SAFE place, this means a locked safe or drawer that is not easily accessible to potential thieves. One of their tricks is to distract a clerk and go for bank bags in areas where they know they are routinely kept.
2. Don't let people distract you. Some of these thieves work in groups, and while one distracts you, the other steals your merchandise. Be wary!
3. Report all shoplifting incidents. While we can't catch them all, patterns are valuable, and there have been times when a shoplifting was reported, and we found the suspects at another location, or we were able to warn other businesses and reduce the chance that they would become a victim.

Additionally, some significant crimes in our town have prompted me to remind everybody to always lock your doors and take your keys out of your vehicle. Don't become a crime victim by creating an OPPORTUNITY for someone to commit that crime. While we would like to think that we can live without worry, every vehicle that has been stole in this town over the last 14 years has had the keys left in the vehicle. (And yes, there has been a few stolen.)

And finally, I will attempt to get residents to sign up for the Nixle notification system. I tried this a few years ago and only got twelve persons to sign up. Go to [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com) and you can sign up for notifications from the Jerome Police Department. These can be alerts, cautions and notifications. They can come by text message or email – there is no spam or personal information needed. This will allow us to get information out in mass, and immediately, concerning events such as the one that occurred on December 4th.

**And happy holidays from everybody at the Jerome Police Department.**

---

### Town Hall Art Collection Grows

Sedona artist, Susan Pitcairn, had attended this year's Home Tour, which included Jerome's Town Hall. Besides admiring the old building, she was impressed by the artwork on display – most of which has been donated to the town – and asked if she could donate a piece.

Ms. Pitcairn, who has participated the last few years in the Sedona Plein Air Festival, has created many works of art featuring Jerome and the Verde Valley.

She brought in two pieces: a colored pencil fantasy of a more sustainable Jerome, "New World, Jerome," and "Light Over Jerome," which was done in acrylic, and gave both to the town with accompanying poems.

Both pieces of art are available for viewing along with other art by locals Anne Bassett, Diane Geoghegan, Mark Hemleben and many others. Jerome's library also has an extensive collection.

Ms. Pitcairn currently shows her work at Gallery 527, here in Jerome.



*Susan Pitcairn with "New World, Jerome"*

### Yes, We Will

Where shall we go then,  
When the signs of the times point both ways  
And tell us, "Do not enter"?  
Straight to the top, I say,  
To the tops of our roofs  
And the tops of our minds,  
Where the sun shines bright  
And earth angels listen  
To Life's great visions for the all.  
There is none to stop us  
But our small selves,  
Cloaked in reasons why not.  
But up here,  
In the bright realms of light  
These are but vanishing ghosts.  
For Light is the bringer of life,  
The master grower,  
Lifting water to bestow rain,  
Raising the tides,  
Stirring the winds,  
Turning this world to green and good air.  
A perfect cycle.  
So enormous the light on Earth,  
Only a tiny fraction grants all we need  
If we but ask, *act* and receive.  
Could it be more clear?  
The answer is here and it is Light,  
Shining above,  
And in our hearts,  
And in our eyes.  
*Yes, we can.*  
*Yes, we will.*

- Susan Pitcairn



---

## **Jerome Chamber of Commerce, Tom Pitts, President**

As I will be stepping down as President of the Jerome Chamber of Commerce at the January meeting, I would like to take this opportunity to say a loud THANK YOU to the many Jerome volunteers with whom I've had the pleasure of working over the past few years, especially those who took a leadership role: I would like to include the Mayors, Jane Moore, Bob Bouwman, Al Palmieri, Jay Kinsella, and Nikki Check, along with all of our Jerome Town Council members; all of the Directors of the Jerome Historical Society have made major commitments to the town, but especially the Presidents, John Armstrong and Allen Muma, and Manager Jay Kinsella, who literally volunteers and helps with everything in town; Mary Wills and Sally Dryer and all of the incredible folks with the Humane Society have done amazing work; Donna Chesler and the artists

who have made the Jerome Art Walk a 'can't miss' event must be on the list; as well as our phenomenal Jerome Volunteer Fire Department.

I must add our Town Manager, Candace Gallagher, and Deputy Clerk, Rosemarie Shemaitis, our Fire Chief, Rusty Blair, and our Police Chief, Allen Muma, for always exceeding expectations. But I especially want to personally thank the business owners with whom I've worked and the Directors who have served on the Jerome Chamber of Commerce Board during my tenure for constantly rising above and beyond their commitments, year in and year out.

Our recent Officers, Donna Chesler, Coleen Hall, and Diana Martin, in particular, have continued to amaze me with their energy, dedication, creativity, and hard work for many years. Jerome has been

very fortunate to have such magnificent volunteers. They have truly made a difference for Jerome and I am proud to have been able to serve with them.

**Happy Holidays to one and all  
and may you have a happy,  
healthy, and prosperous 2013.**



---

## **Jerome's Light Up the Mountain and Holiday Dinner Events**

The Jerome Town Holiday Party on December 8, 2012, at Spook Hall was a huge success, as usual. Turkey, roast beef and ham were provided and guests brought dishes to pass – from casseroles to desserts – that pleased everyone. There were a lot of empty serving dishes proving that all was really good. Wine, beer, water and soda were available at the cash bar. As was suggested, many people brought their own dishes and utensils.



The Jerome Chamber of Commerce, the Town of Jerome and the Jerome Historical Society sponsored this Holiday event. I would like to thank everyone involved with another very successful Light Up the Mountain this year. The Mingus Union High School Jazz Band and Choir were very welcomed guests. They did a great job. Diana and Fred

Martin and their volunteers made the park look incredible. Jeff Hall for organizing the Luminaries and his volunteers, Rosemarie Shemaitis, Gary Ferguson, Donna Chesler and her brother, Jim, visiting from Pennsylvania, and Jerry and Ellen Vojnic. Tom Pitts did a wonderful reading of the "Night Before Christmas" which was enjoyed by all. Ron Chilston and Karla Gitner for their photography and "patience" while taking pictures of Santa with the visiting children. Jay Kinsella for setting up the Bartlett and all of his additional help, and the Jerome Historical Society. The Town of Jerome for the help and cooperation. This was truly a community effort. And last but not least, thank you to Santa for making this event very memorable and his 1928 Dodge Fire Truck sleigh driver, Jeff Hall.

This was truly a "Night to Remember".

**Coleen Hall  
Jerome Chamber of Commerce Event Coordinator**



## Jerome Humane Society

A big thank you is in order to the community of Jerome for an extraordinary "fundraising season". Due to the successful brunch and flea market, we have money in our coffers to stock our food bank, help our fellow citizens financially with low-cost spay, neuter and vaccinations. We can sponsor pet adoptions from both the Sedona and Verde Valley Humane Societies. If you need help in any way, PLEASE ASK!

We have placed Jimmy, the special needs Russian Blue kitty, into a long term foster home in Flagstaff, and he is doing extremely well. Due to Andrea Prince's steadfast dedication to socialize him, he is now a loving, friendly, not so damaged... adoptable guy. Thank you Andrea. We are still looking for a loving indoor-only home for 8-year-old brother and sister team Harley and Honda. They are black and white (Holstein style) long hair kitties, that have always been together and we would like to keep it that way. Do you have room in your heart and home?



Dr. Virginia wants to remind us all about some Holiday hazards for our pets. Ribbons, tinsel, yarn etc. can be dangerous to your cats. If ingested, these items can cause intestinal blockages, leading to unnecessary surgery. Rich and fatty table scraps are not good for dogs or cats but lean meats are okay. Artificial sweeteners are very poisonous to animals, as are chocolate, raisins, grapes, macadamia nuts, holly and mistletoe. Finally, it's getting colder. Do your pets have a warm dry place to go for shelter when they are not in the house?

Isn't it nice that the spirit of generosity in Jerome extends to how we feel about our pets?

### Jerome Humane Society Clinic Hours

Thursdays Noon - 5:00 p.m.

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

Appt. Phone: 639-1341

### Spaces for Rent at Jerome Civic Center

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

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

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

Studio 1 is 608 sq. ft. for \$475.60 per month, including the utility charge. Studio 2 is 630 sq. ft. for \$491.00 and Studio 3 is 661 sq. ft. for \$512.70.

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

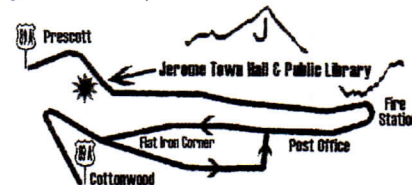
## JEROME PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

Phone/Fax 928-639-0574

Drawer I, Jerome, AZ 86331

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



The Library wishes everyone  
a Merry Holiday

Holiday Closures  
December 24, 25, and January 1



### From the Jerome Post Office

Congratulations Jerome we had the most successful and largest public Postplan meeting for AZ/NM year to date. I thank each and every one of you for your support and love. It was made clear how important it is to buy your stamps and mail your packages out of the Jerome Post Office.

Come down and purchase your Holiday stamps. This year we have the forever Santa and Sleigh books, Holy Family books, and Hanukkah stamps available. I wish everyone a very safe and Happy Holiday Season!



Town of Jerome  
P.O. Box 335  
Jerome, AZ 86331

US POSTAGE PAID  
MAILED FROM  
86331  
PERMIT NO 5

Boxholder