

# POINT OF VIEW

## JEROME'S NEWSLETTER

November-December 2023

### Home Sweet Jerome: from the Mayor's Desk

Greetings! Jerome's Town Council, Boards, Staff & Crews have been working diligently to make positive changes for our Town. Here is a list of some of the things we have accomplished so far in 2023!

- ◆ Completed drainage improvements to Douglas, Hampshire and Holly with grant funding
- ◆ Purchased affordable employee housing to attract and retain employees
- ◆ Implemented no and low cost-effective employee benefits to attract and retain employees, and as a result, for the first time in years the Town is fully staffed and has remained fully staffed
- ◆ Completed repairs to Tank #2 (Cleopatra Hill) to allow for more storage and enhanced redundancy
- ◆ Utilized grant funding to procure a new Town shuttle van
- ◆ Received grant funding for technology enhancements to the Council Chambers
- ◆ Received grant funding for an agenda and records management system which saves staff time, money and is an environmental friendly initiative
- ◆ Implemented staffing efficiency changes at Town Hall
- ◆ Implemented a system for ease of paying for parking
- ◆ Implemented the transit PILOT program providing round-trip, low-cost bus service to the Cottonwood and access to all CAT stops
- ◆ Constructed public restrooms in the center of town
- ◆ Enacted policies to enhance efficiencies for special events and short-term rentals; comprehensive wastewater system management; and providing cost-effective options for public safety responses to citizens outside of Town limits
- ◆ Utilized grant funding for court security enhancements and technological efficiencies
- ◆ Implemented a professional Clerk, financial and records management software system
- ◆ Utilized grant funding for the purchase of a fire department brush truck
- ◆ Added enhanced security measures to ensure the Town's vital water supply is secure
- ◆ Sold unused Town land for enhanced commercial development
- ◆ Engaged with the first ever semi-permanent financial advisor for the Town of Jerome's fiduciary stewardship and fiscal effectiveness
- ◆ Enhanced communication protocols between the court system and public safety
- ◆ Utilized obsolete resources to ensure all students are transported to MUHS in light of the school district canceling the bus route to / from Jerome

To everyone in Jerome, your Friends & Families, from Mayor Alex Barber, Town Council, & the Town Staff, we wish you all

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

### Scheduled Meeting Dates for November-December of 2023, & January of 2024

*All of the regularly scheduled meetings will take place on Tuesdays. Council on the 2nd, P&Z on the 3rd, & DRB on the 4th.*

**Special Council Meetings: Utility Rates-** Monday, Nov. 13 at 6:15 pm; **Goal Setting-** Monday, Dec. 11 at 6:00 pm; **CDBG Public Hearing-** Tues. Dec. 12 at 6:00 pm

**Regular Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, November 14 at 7pm

**Regular Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, December 12 at 7 pm

**Regular Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, January 9 at 7 pm

**Planning & Zoning**  
Tuesday, November 21 at 6pm

**Planning & Zoning**  
Tuesday, December 19 at 6 pm

**Planning & Zoning**  
Tuesday, January 16 at 6 pm

**Design Review Board**  
Tuesday, November 28 at 6pm

**Design Review Board**  
Tuesday, December \*26 at 6 pm

**Design Review Board**  
Tuesday, January 23 at 6 pm

\* Subject to date/time change due to holiday



# Jerome Humane Society

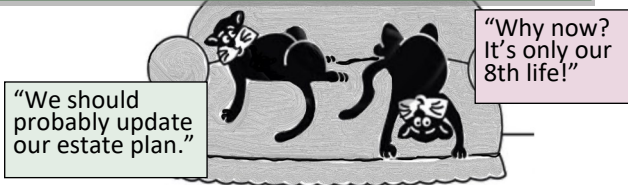


A huge THANK YOU to everyone who worked, donated, placed bids and helped carry out our most successful Jerome Humane Society Brunch & Auction ever! Here are some of the happy faces who attended.  
Photo credit: Carolyn Bennet.



ESTATE PLANNING. When you're drawing up your Last Will and Testament please keep JHS in mind. There are many templates on line to help you plan. Thanks!

The feral cat TNR effort is going great thanks to the efforts of Will Blodgett (Jerome Planning and Zoning). Will is creating a haven for the released cats should they choose to accept it. Please let JHS know if you sight any new ferals along Holly Street.



## BLESSINGS FROM HAVEN.

Every Wednesday we (you and me and others) gather at the food pantry and are always thankful for the abundance of food. We all look forward to shopping. But the greater joy has to do with the friends we encounter!

Some of the food we receive sustains our physical bodies but the other food brings hope to one another through sharing our heart stories. Time has blessed us with more and more shared stories of who we are. Stories of life's ups and downs, and stories of hope for the future. This is the nourishment of loving friendships.

Many generous commitments have been made that help our lives flourish through this food pantry. My deepest gratitude to all who participate and who quietly give to make a difference year after year. People like Richard Spudich, whom I have neglected to thank enough. Thank you.

My point here is that thanksgiving and gifting are what is done here in Jerome all year long. That is who we are. I'm humbled to be part of this community for such a time as this. With the holidays ahead we are more aware than usual of the need to share the gifts we have received, love, joy, peace and hope, to a starving world.

Haven will have a Sunday Christmas Eve worship at 5:30. I know many of you are blessed with musical gifts and I would love to put together a celebration we can all participate in, if you are willing, let me know.

Remember, you are loved,  
Pastor Vicki  
928 713-1991



**JEROME FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
P.O. BOX 1025 \* JEROME AZ 86331  
(928) 649-3034 [blair@jeromefire.us](mailto:blair@jeromefire.us)

## November/ December Newsletter



*Jerome Fire Department  
would like to wish everybody  
a Happy Thanksgiving,  
a joyous holiday season  
and a Happy New Year.*

We were finally able to finish, the switch over to the new brush truck. This will provide the Fire Department with the ability to go out on wildland assignments for the next 20 years. Since the wildland program has begun the truck has brought in hundreds of thousands of dollars into the town's budget. What a great asset to the town.



Please remember that if you need assistance with Firewise activities you must fill out a Firewise application and submit it to the Fire Department before work can be approved. Applications can be obtained at Town Hall or the Fire Department.

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

If Fire and EMS doesn't interest you, but you would still like to help your fire department, the Jerome Fire Department Auxiliary is always welcoming new members as well!! Come join us!!

Thank you for your continued support.

Rusty Blair, Fire Chief JVFD

# The 48th Annual Jerome Fire Department Auxiliary Halloween Dance

**Saturday, October 28th marked the 48th year of the Jerome Fire Department Auxiliary Halloween Dance and fundraiser.**

Once again, this year the event was held at the sliding jail area on the basketball court. It was well attended with over 800 participants in attendance, a lot of them being residents.

We would like to thank all who attended to support the Fire Department and thanks to all the hotels, B&Bs, and restaurants that provided gift certificates for the costume contest. We were able to provide lodging and meals for five prizes for the costume contest. Also, thanks to Jerome PD, the Town of Jerome, Jerome Public Works and so many others. Special thanks to Mark Krmpotich for providing the funding needed for the tent rental.

First place in the costume contest went to Chewbacca and second place winners were the Spaceballs group, congratulations to both. There were so many great costumes it was hard to pick the winners, thanks so much to our judges.

This year we also were able to have a raffle thanks to the generous gift from the Jerome little Daisy, of a one-night stay plus dinner for up to 16 people to the lucky winner. This year's winner was Sally Murphy of Jerome; congratulations.



## Calling all Children for the Annual Jerome Christmas Party!!

This year's Jerome Christmas Party is scheduled for **Saturday, December 16th!** We are looking for all children, ages 0-12, who reside in Jerome (or whose parents/grandparents work or live here) as they will receive a special gift from Santa! Expecting mothers are also welcome to participate. The annual party will begin at 10:00a.m. and refreshments will be served as well as rides in Jerome's vintage fire truck!

Please reach out to Scout Butcher at [scoutina.b@gmail.com](mailto:scoutina.b@gmail.com) or Kate Butcher at [butcherness@gmail.com](mailto:butcherness@gmail.com) and let us know the following:

- Your child(ren)'s names, ages, interests/desired gifts.

Please also include your contact info, phone and/or email. You may also sign up at Town Hall or the Spirit Room.

We are asking for raffle items from local merchants to be displayed in Spook Hall's window leading up to the event. Donations can be dropped off at the Spirit Room. This year we are in need of additional funds in order to cover the expenses. Please consider making a cash donation to help us buy gifts (last year we had 67 children!) and continue this amazing tradition; we would greatly appreciate it.

Raffle tickets can be purchased in advance at Town Hall or the Spirit Room.  
\$1/ticket or 6 tickets for \$5.

Please contact Kate Butcher @ 928.301.6655 or Scout Butcher @ 928.910.3192 with any questions, donations or other information!

**Here's to a happy holiday season! Thank you Jerome!**



**HISTORIC MAHOGANY BAR FROM JEROME**

Many historical items from Jerome have left the town over the years, having been looted, stolen, or sold, but one extraordinary piece, a historic mahogany bar, is not far away and can be seen now at The Pioneer Museum in Anthem AZ. According to museum records, the bar has quite a history of travel.

Having been manufactured in Iowa in 1878, it was transported to New York and journeyed around Cape Horn to San Francisco and then by wagons via Nevada, arriving in Jerome in the 1880s.

Having suffered fire damage, possibly from the great Jerome fire of 1898, the bar was sold to Joseph Mayer of Mayer, AZ in 1900. Fire damage is still visible today. The Pioneer Museum acquired the bar in 1963 and you can now see it along with other interesting exhibits at Anthem.



Don Feher  
Jerome Historical Society

Become a member and support our JHS. Maybe we can answer your Jerome history question.  
Phone our office at: 928 634 1066



**JEROME COMMUNITY  
ART WORKSHOP**

**NOVEMBER ART WORKSHOP CLASSES**

**Nov. 11th**, 10 AM to Noon– Learn to Use Alcohol Inks \$40.00

**Nov. 18th**, Noon to 3 PM– Making Handmade Paper \$40.00



**Nov. 25th**,  
10 AM to Noon–  
Folded Paper Lanterns  
\$30.00

**CHRISTMAS CLASSES**

**Dec. 2nd**, 10 AM to Noon–  
Paper Ornaments \$10.00

**Dec. 9th**, 10 AM to Noon–  
Tye-Dye Paper \$10.00

**Sign-up by calling the Library, 928-639-0574  
or e-mail: jeromeartworkshop@gmail.com**

# JEROME CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

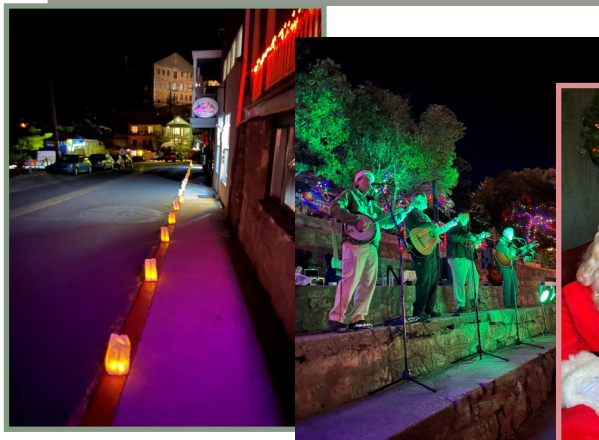
Greetings and a big thank you for all of the support this past year. We are working hard to highlight our amazing unique and vibrant businesses as well as promote our art and music vibe. We've been able to do some cool events like the Arts and Music Festival, Art in the Park and Art and Wine Walk. One of our main goals this past year has been to get locals coming back up to Jerome. We have been on the cover of Kudos three times this year and have also promoted our local events on KNAU and press releases to local papers and the other chambers! We have added around 15 new businesses to the chamber and we redesigned the map to be easier to read. Businesses are now in sections to be easier to find thanks to the help of MaryBeth Barr.

We are looking forward to working with the town and the Historical Society on our 125th Jerome Birthday in March of 2024. It's going to be an exciting event for the whole town with live music in the park, a parade and a few other surprises!

**Please join us for these fun upcoming community events!**

**Light up the Mountain - November 25 3-8 PM**

Mingus Union Choir & Thunder and Lightnin' on the steps of Jerome Luminaries throughout town and of course Santa and Mrs. Claus posing for photos and counting down to the lighting!



The purveyors of community fun!

Ginger Mackenzie - President  
Jerome Chamber of Commerce

Dylan Jung - Board Director  
Jerome Chamber of Commerce



**Art and Wine Walk - December 2 4-7 PM**

Live bands throughout town showcasing our amazing galleries and businesses



**Town Christmas Party and Dinner at Spook Hall - December 16 6-9 PM**

Potluck with DJ Lounge Lizard D - Luau theme - So bring your island vibes  
All residents and businesses are welcome!

## UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

**Veteran's Day Observed**

Friday, November 10th  
(Normal Trash Pick-Up)

**\*Thanksgiving Day**

Thursday, November 23rd  
(Town Hall Closed)

**Day after Thanksgiving Day**

Friday, November 24th  
(Normal Trash Pick-up, crew off the rest of the day)

**Christmas Day**

Monday, December 25th  
(Dumpsters & Cardboard picked up on Sunday the 24th, all other trash on Tuesday the 26th)

**\*New Year's Day**

Monday, January 1st  
(Town Hall Closed)

*Note: for National Holidays falling on a MONDAY (asterisks), Cardboard, Dumpsters & trash on Main street will be collected that day. All other trash on the regular Monday route will be picked up on Tuesday.*

**Jerome Chamber of Commerce**  
Special Event celebrating local businesses



**Join us every**  
**FIRST SATURDAY**  
of the Month  
from 5 to 8 PM

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

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