TOWN MANAGER'S EXECUTIVE REPORT

Town of Oro Valley | OCTOBER 2019

TOWN MANAGER'S MESSAGE

The Town of Oro Valley is pleased to welcome Town West Realty and partners to another property in our community with their purchase of the Oro Valley Marketplace. Staff has met with representatives of the firm to discuss their ideas and preliminary plans for the future of the shopping plaza, and we look forward to working with them in the coming months to bring the plan to fruition. As stated in the news release by the firm, Ashley Furniture HomeStore is slated to fill the spot left behind by Dick's Sporting Goods, which moved out to relocate to the Tucson Mall last year. Staff is optimistic about the new energy and ideas Town West Realty has to reinvigorate the plaza.

I enjoyed spending a morning with the office team of the Transit Division in September. The complicated grant funding, federal and state recordkeeping requirements, and ride dispatching process is handled smoothly by the small but mighty dedicated "central brain" Transit staff led by Supervisor Mike Alexander. Assistant Town Manager Chris Cornelison spent several hours on a Transit bus with one of the Town's many exceptional drivers. Many of the customers served by the Town-operated Transit system are regular riders who use the service to get to work, to medical appointments, and to do errands like grocery shopping. The employees take pride in providing the best customer service possible to clients, and go the extra mile to accommodate clients as best they can when plans change at the last minute.

On September 20, the ADOT Board finally abandoned the stretch of Tangerine Road from Oracle to First Avenue. After nearly four years, this action will pave the way for the construction of ingress/egress to the Safeway shopping plaza from Tangerine. The Town will now begin the process of securing a contractor for this budgeted project.

- The roundabout project is progressing on schedule. The Police Department reports few issues with the detour route. Staff is doing an excellent job keeping the community informed on the progress, and reminding travelers of the detours and safety messages. Education on driving in a roundabout will start in the near future as well.
- With Commander Kara Riley, I had the pleasure of co-presenting a session on career growth and leadership at the Arizona Women's Initiative Network conference last month. This state-wide organization is focused on supporting women in Arizona law enforcement leadership positions.
- The Sun Corridor luncheon was well attended by Oro Valley elected officials and key staff, including Vice Mayor Barrett and Council members Jones-Ivey, Nicolson, Piña and Rodman. The regional economic development focus continues to be on attracting primary employers, and Sun Corridor unveiled the long-term plan for the Tucson International Airport to maximize its role in helping be a lynchpin in securing future employers.
- Sahuarita held its annual State of the Town program in September. I was honored to join Mayor Winfield and Council Members Piña and Rodman to represent Oro Valley.
- Novak and Associates has begun their recruitment for the Police Chief recruitment, and has scheduled phone and in-person meetings in early October with members of the Town Council and other key stakeholders. An Executive Session has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 9 for the Council to discuss the Chief process with the firm. The firm has been asked to also assist the Town staff with the recruitment of the Chief Financial Officer, pending a successfully negotiated fee.

If you have any questions regarding the content of this month's Executive Report, please let me or appropriate members of Town leadership know TO COUNCIL









Inside

Events Calendar	. 2
Police Department	. 3
Community & Economic	
Development	. 5
Public Works	.8
Parks & Recreation	11
Water Utility	<u>13</u>
Administration	<u>1</u> 6
<u>Golder Ranch</u>	
Fire District1	9

Mary Jacobs Town Manager

OCTOBER 2019 EVENTS

Monster Mash

Friday, October 4, 4 – 9 p.m. Steam Pump Ranch, 10901 N. Oracle Road This free, family-friendly event includes booths, pumpkin decorating, Halloween crafts, food trucks, a DJ and much more!

Haunted Hayrides at Steam Pump Ranch

Fridays and Saturdays, October 4 through 18 5 to 9 p.m. (except Oct. 4, 6 to 9 p.m.) 10901 N. Oracle Road Ages 13 and up \$5; Children 12 & under \$3 The Haunted Hayride is uniquely themed to Arizona and border community haunts, scary stories and spooky lore.

Oro Valley Kids Concert Series

Saturday, October 5, 10 a.m.

Oro Valley Council Chambers, 11000 N. La Cañada Drive The Interplanetary Adventures of Peppy the Poodle's Traveling Circus

OV Marketplace Concert Series

Thursday, October 10, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Oro Valley Marketplace, 12155 N. Oracle Rd. (Century Theatres courtyard) Music by **Bouncing Czechs** (Oktoberfest). Admission is free. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own chairs to enjoy the concert.

Second Saturdays at Steam Pump Ranch

Saturday, October 12, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 10901 N. Oracle Road Live music at 10:30 a.m., plus tours, garden activities, Heirloom Farmers Market and more!

Halloween Spooktacular

Friday, October 25, 5 to 8 p.m. Oro Valley Community Center, 10555 N. La Cañada Drive Enjoy themed activities, costumed staff, games and more. Event and candy are free. Food available for purchase.

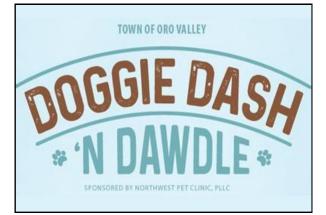
Doggie Dash 'N Dawdle

Saturday, October 26, 5 to 8 p.m. Riverfront Park, 551 W. Lambert Lane Dog festival is FREE; registration fee for race participation.









POLICE DEPARTMENT

Cases, Incidents and Stats

Organized Retail Theft

In September, OVPD Patrol investigated several thefts from the Walmart at the Oro Valley Marketplace involving the same two suspects. The male subject was armed with a handgun during the commission of the crimes. The investigation led to the arrest of both subjects on charges of organized retail theft, weapons misconduct and trafficking in stolen property.

Recognitions

Weather Ready Nation Ambassador of Excellence

On September 10, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Weather Service (NWS) recognized OVPD's Char Ackerman for her work to ensure Oro Valley and residents are prepared for any and all weather emergencies.

First Responders Appreciation

On September 11, Chief Sharp was a guest speaker at the 8th annual First Responders Appreciation Block Party. The event was held at the Mountain View Retirement Village at 7900 N. La Cañada Drive.



National Police Foundation

On September 19, Chief Sharp was an expert panelist regarding roadside safety in Washington, D.C.

Distracted Driving Summit

On September 25, Chief Sharp presented "How to Police without State Law" at the 7th annual Distracted Driving Summit in Virginia.

Community Involvement

Citizen Academy

OVPD members hosted four sessions of the Police Department Citizen Academy in September. Topics covered included Community Policing, Public Information Officer, Patrol Functions, and the Traffic Unit.

Special Olympics Coronado Area Fall Games On September 14, OVPD members had the privilege of handing out medals to Special Olympian athletes from across Southern Arizona. The annual Fall Games were held at the Edith Ball Adaptive Recreation Center in Reid Park.



Regional Support

911 Tower Challenge

On September 11, OVPD members participated in the Tower Challenge held at the University of Arizona football stadium. The Tower Challenge is sponsored by the 100 Club of Arizona and was organized to honor those who lost their lives in the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.



Special Events

Upcoming Special Olympics Fuel of Dreams

On October 24, OVPD will be participating in the third annual "Fuel of Dreams" in Oro Valley from 3 to 6 p.m. OVPD members will be working alongside Special Olympians cleaning vehicles to raise funds and awareness for this worthy cause. This event will be held in connection with the Fry's gas station at Oracle and 1st Avenue in Oro Valley.

Leman Academy Hometown Heroes

On September 11, the OVPD Color Guard kicked off the first annual Hometown Heroes assembly at the Leman Academy of Excellence. The event recognized local heroes of public safety from the Oro Valley Police Department, Golder Ranch Fire District and included several parents of Leman Academy students who are federal, state and local first responders.



COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Highlights

SFR Activity – 13 new single family residential (SFR) permits were issued for the month of September compared to 19 SFR permits issued in August. Year to date, 209 SFR permits have been issued since the beginning of January compared to 262 issued during the same period in 2018.

Permitting Activity – 180 total permits were issued during the month of September compared to 186 permits issued in August. Year to date, 1,802 total permits have been issued since the beginning of January compared to 1,991 issued during the same period in 2018.

Business Retention/Expansion and Attraction/Marketing

During July and August, three storefront and four home-based businesses were licensed.

Oro Valley Marketplace

Town West Realty and affiliated companies have acquired the 100-acre parcel Oro Valley Marketplace from long-time owner Vestar. They announced a new furniture store tenant and an intent to redevelop portions of the property. The Town has not received plans; however, a permit request is anticipated from Ashley Furniture HomeStore to move into the space formerly occupied by Dick's Sporting Goods.

Those interested in learning more about this pending development should visit their website <u>www.townwestrealty.com</u>. Senior town staff will be working with the Town West Realty team on several project considerations and pending proposals that will be forthcoming to the Planning and Zoning Commission and Town Council.

Completed Projects (Certificate of Occupancy Issued)

- Earth MD Wellness Products; 400 W. Magee Road
- Havven Salon; 10110 N. Oracle Road, Ste. 140
- Jewish Federation of Southern Arizona; 180 W. Magee Road, Ste. 140
- Santa Fe Leather; 12925 N. Oracle Road, Ste. 111
- Spencer Construction; 10132 N. Oracle Road, Ste. 160
- Blessings Through Action business office; 12450 N. Rancho Vistoso Blvd., Ste. 120
- Chabad of Oro Valley; 1171 E. Rancho Vostoso Blvd., Ste. 131.

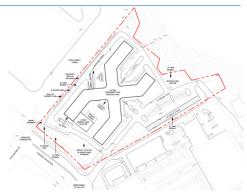
Business Closure

Nadine's Desert Fashions, 11931 N. 1st Ave.

Meetings (in Council Chambers unless otherwise noted)

Neighborhood Meeting on October 8

A proposed rezoning of a property located north of Tangerine Road and east of Rancho Vistoso Boulevard (immediately north of the Safeway shopping center) - this application involves two related requests to permit development of a senior care facility (pictured right).



Town Council on October 16

A Grading Exception application to establish a new homesite within the Valle Del Oro subdivision will be considered. The property owner wishes to grade and/or fill the site beyond code requirements due to extreme terrain. It is located at 945 W. Valle Del Oro Road, Oro Valley Estates lot 6 (image below).

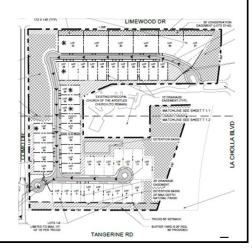


Planning & Zoning Commission on November 5

- Proposed zoning code amendments to the Commercial and Technological Park zoning districts to primarily expand opportunities for research, development and light assembly uses.
- Potential zoning code amendments to the Economic Expansion Zoning Overlay District to enable "shovel ready" projects.
- Zoning amendments to existing noise standards.
- Update regarding new State Law decreeing that Town Council "may consider the testimony of any party aggrieved when making its decision", and defines "party aggrieved" as "all property owners, as shown on the last assessment of the property, within three hundred feet of the property to be rezoned."
- Review of Sept 4, 2019 Town Council action to amend Town Code Section 3-6-6 Liaison and Town Council Policies 5 and 8 regarding advisory Boards and Council liaisons.

Town Council on November 6

The property owner has proposed a General Plan amendment & rezoning for the northwest intersection of La Cholla Blvd. and Tangerine Road (pictured right). The site, commonly referred to as Cresta Morado, is adjacent to the Episcopal Church of the Apostles and abuts Tangerine Road, La Cholla Blvd., N. Como Dr. and Limewood Dr.



Permitting Major Activity

New Businesses

Block Fitness Collective at Canada Hills Marketplace, 10420 N. La Cañada Dr., Ste. 120 Building TI Permit applied for a new personal training studio

Oro Valley Synagogue at Mountain View Plaza, 1171 E. Rancho Vistoso Blvd., Ste. 131 Building TI Permit issued

Street Tacos at Rooney Ranch, 10785 N. Oracle Rd., Ste. 135 Building TI Permit issued for new restaurant in previous Starbucks location

Other Permits

Kai Drive, Phase 1 for Villages at Silverhawke, SE Corner of Tangerine Rd. and 1st Ave

Grading Permit issued for first phase construction of new road to serve Villages at Silverhawke (pictured right)

NW Allied Physicians at the Oro Valley Shopping Center, 10370 N. La Cañada Dr. Building TI Permit applied for office expansion

Pusch Ridge Christian Academy, 9500 N. Oracle Rd. Grading Permit issued for site improvements to support a new building



Sigma Technologies at Foothills Business Park, 10960 N. Stallard Pl. Building TI Permit issued for interior modifications

Southern AZ Endodontics Dental at Oracle Executive Plaza Condominiums, 7493 N. Oracle Rd., Ste. 217 Building TI Permit applied for interior modifications

Arts and Culture

Free tours of public art in Oro Valley have returned after a summer break. Residents of Sun City joined an Art Ambassador on the first two-hour tour. For registration information, please visit www.orovalleyaz.gov/business/artsentertainment.



PUBLIC WORKS

Other Updates

Regional Coordination – Transit Services

The Town has a strong 10-year partnership with the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA). The RTA provides funding to the Town to manage, operate and perform all administrative functions supporting the Oro Valley Sun Shuttle Dial-a-Ride. Annually, staff and the RTA meet to discuss current operational achievements, costs and other transit oversight and management issues. This year's meeting (pictured right) focused on the upcoming need to renew the current Intergovernmental Agreement which expires on June 30, 2020.



This will be amendment number 5 of the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for FY 2021 to FY 2023 IGA. The new draft is for a three-year horizon making it the second to last needed under the current RTA authorization. It also assumes a cost reimbursement rate with an annual increase of 1.5% for the first year and 2% thereafter. The plan is for the Town to proceed with taking the IGA to Town Council so that the RTA can place it on the RTA Board agenda for December. By January 2020, an active agreement will be put in place prior to the expiration date of amendment number 4 on June 30, 2020.

Project Updates

La Cholla Construction

The contractor's crews continue to work on storm drains and catch basins. Over excavation and recompaction are ongoing, with about 50% of the work north of Lambert complete. The intersection of Cañada Hills Drive will be closed for the over excavation and removal. The area will be paved in early October. Work is in full swing on the frontage road and retaining wall. Utility installations are complete, with minor adjustments remaining. Traffic signals are under construction at both Naranja and Glover. Pathways and safe crossings for students at Wilson K-8 and Ironwood Ridge High School were in place prior to the start of school and coordination with the schools is ongoing. Contract completion date (as of September 10, 2019) is September 9, 2020.

Public Works/Community and Economic Development Safety Counter

The Town staff and project team has received 50% design plans. The project is anticipated to wrap up design this fall, bid with a JOC contractor in November or December and start construction January 6. The construction is anticipated to last through May.

Project Updates (Cont.)

Moore & La Cañada Intersection Project

Now that construction is underway, much has been accomplished. The detour was fully implemented the first day. And now, the demolition of the existing intersection is complete. From here, the contractor will concentrate on utility underground work, then foundations and grading, transitioning to curbing, lighting and finally, paving. This project is fast-paced and one day makes a huge difference. Even though there has been some rain, the contractor is still on schedule to finish on time on November 22.



Project Updates (Cont.)

Town Campus Roof Rehabilitation Project

Last year, the Town Council approved capital funding to replace the tile roofs on the Town Administration, Magistrate Courts and Police Station buildings. The tile sections of these roofs were quickly degrading and had already experienced leakage. The current condition of the flat roofs and the parapets are also in need of immediate repair. Thus the original contract is being increased by roughly \$85,000 to perform the work now. This will complete the roof repairs needed for the main campus and the roofs should be in good shape for the next 15 years.



Town Administration Public Restrooms Get into Compliance

Public restrooms are getting a facelift and becoming Americans with Disabilities Act compliant. Providing accessible restrooms and removing barriers for our community is essential to ensuring access to meetings and services.

Street Operations

In addition to larger CIP Stormwater projects, the Street Maintenance crews regularly perform smaller erosion control projects throughout various older town subdivisions. Although seemingly minor, these projects are important to the overall preservation and sustainability of our older town subdivisions by redirecting storm water runoff to specific areas in order to eliminate or control where erosion occurs. Pictured right is an example of such a project being performed in the Rancho Catalina subdivision.



PARKS & RECREATION

Administration

Strategic Plan implementation

- Norris Design was awarded the RFQ bid for the Playground Project at Naranja Park. Staff will be working closely with Norris to develop the scope and time line for this project.
- Four firms submitted proposals for the Request for Proposal for the Needs Assessment and Master Plan Project. Staff has shortlisted a firm to be interviewed early October. Once the firm is selected, the implementation schedule will be developed.

Aquatics

- From **September 13-15**, the Oro Valley Aquatic Center (OVAC) hosted the Patriot Swim Meet. This swim meet grew from the projected 350 to over 400 athletes. The event was produced by home team FAST and attracted teams from across the State.
- On **September 28**, the OVAC hosted the Find Your Fins All Aquatic Triathlon. This event was open to all but is targeted towards the disabled, veterans and former addicts.
- On October 5, the OVAC and James Kriegh Park will host the Mighty Mujer all-female triathlon.
- On **October 12**, the OVAC will be hosting the CDO High School Swimming Invitational. This event will attract many high school teams from across the state.
- The OVAC was recently awarded the 2023 US Masters Synchronized Swimming Championship. This event takes place in October and attracts 300 adult athletes.

Community Center

- The Pickleball court construction project is complete! The Community Center now has six total courts, which allows for expansion of programming, including leagues, clinics, pickup games and everything Pickleball!
- On September 21, the Community Center hosted a member engagement event to provide a fun opportunity for members to socialize and interact with other members. The event was a tailgate-themed event, with lawn games and a corn hole tournament and free ice cream! More than 40 people attended. The Community Center will continue to provide member events to promote member engagement, including a free outdoor movie this December to celebrate the holiday season!
- The Community Center will be hosting a fall break camp for kids ages 6-12, October 14—18. The camp will include games, sports, arts and crafts and swimming!



Recreation and Culture

Looking back

August 31: Yoga in the Park

Yoga in the Park began at Steam Pump Ranch in conjunction with the Oro Valley Farmers Market. It is now held every Saturday morning with an average of 30 to 40 people in attendance.

Sept 6: Friday Night Concert Series

The Friday Night Concerts Series at Steam Pump Ranch kicked off with music from *The Hot Lizards* to a crowd of about 500. There were several fun games in the grass, food trucks and tours hosted by the Historical Society of the Pusch House.

Sept 14: Second Saturdays at Steam Pump Ranch

September was the final month of Steam Pump Ranch's "Summer Art Projects for Kids" Second Saturdays summer series. Children used their creativity to create people out of pine cones. Tours were also available by the Oro Valley Historical Society and Hands-on Archaeology was on in the Prehistoric garden.

Sept 26: T'ai Chi Chuan

Wu Style T'ai Chi Chuan began. It will be held on Thursday mornings at 10 a.m. at Naranja Park.

Park Management

Landscape improvements at the Community Center continue to be a priority. Removal of old, lifeless material has been removed and replaced with native plants that are both beautiful and require less water.

Overseeding will be done in all the parks this month. User groups have been arranged to move them around and/or assist in arranging alternative space. Overseeding is typically completed in late September through early November.



Troon

<u>Golf</u>

- Golf moves into overseed season in October. The Conquistador course will be closed from September 23 through October 14. The Cañada course will be closed from October 14 through November 4. The annual transition from Bermuda to Rye grass is a critical component of the entire upcoming season.
- Daily fee play with weekly and monthly specials will continue to be promoted.
- The tee time inventory on the members preferred course is now available to the public five days in advance. It is anticipated that the additional daily tee times will create additional revenue. There will be a print ad in the Explorer this month.
- In October, membership renewals are in full swing, while membership sales also continue to be a main focus. The membership documents have been revised to protect the member count and encourage members to renew their memberships. The Cheaper by the Dozen promotion continues to attract new members. Marketing for members, golf and the Overlook can be found on Facebook, in print and through numerous e-mail campaigns.

<u>Overlook</u>

• The restaurant began fall hours effective October 1. The Overlook will serve lunch daily from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. with a new menu implemented on Tuesday, October 15. Dinner service will be facilitated every Friday night this fall beginning Friday, October 4.

WATER UTILITY

Meter Operations

For the month of August, Meter Operations installed 21 new meters. The Utility had a grand total of 20,238 service connections as of the end of August.

La Cholla Roadway Widening Project

The water main relocation part of the La Cholla roadway widening project is underway and on schedule. The waterworks portion of the work included approximately 1 mile of 12-inch transmission main to be installed. The contractor is approximately 97 percent complete with the water main installation work. Asbuilt documentation is being prepared for approval of construction certification from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.



Hunter Contracting installs a section of 12-inch PVC water pipe

Cartegraph development and implementation

Utility's Engineering and Water Operations team are working with the Town's Information Technology team to develop a tiered approach to task development and field implementation of the Town's asset management system. They are also collaborating with the Marana Water Utility to share experiences on methods of task development as well as implementation strategies to increase efficiency in program management and implementation.

Nakoma Sky well site

Drilling and testing is complete. Riprap work is completed. The utility is currently designing and preparing for power to be installed to the site in addition to well equipping.



The access road and slope stabilization riprap work is completed for the Nakoma Sky well site

Main Valve Replacements

The Water Utility continues to reinvest in its distribution infrastructure by identifying, prioritizing and replacing faulty buried water valves. Most recently, a faulty valve was replaced on El Milagro and Linda Vista.



Water utility staff replace a faulty buried water valve.

ADMINISTRATION

Public Records Requests

Time Period	Number of Requests	Staff Time To Process (Hours)
September 2018	36	23
September 2019	41	31



The October Vista can be viewed

<u>here</u>.

Press Releases Issued in September

- Haunted Hayrides, a Monster Mash, a Spooktacular and something for dogs!, 9-24-19
- Community Academy 2019—Reserve your seat today!, 9-23-19
- OVPD: High Visibility Enforcement (HiVE) September Deployments, 9-17-19
- Oro Valley Water Utility celebrates one-year anniversary of WaterSmart, 9-16-19
- Update: Roundabout construction begins September 18-additional detour route added, 9-13-19

Youth Advisory Council

The Youth Advisory Council's last Summer Dive-in Movie for 2019 was held on September 21 with 142 teens in attendance.

Regional Partnerships

- The Town is partnering with the University of Arizona College of Humanities on their 10th Annual Tucson Humanities Festival: NEXT.
- Oro Valley will host a free seminar, titled "Space and Wonder: Humanity's Endless Quest for Answers" on Thursday, October 17 at 4 p.m. in Council Chambers.
- Vice Mayor Barrett spoke at the September 19 Greater Oro Valley Chamber of Commerce mixer. Pictured right.



Administrative Professionals Lifetime Achievement Award

Sheila Moeur of the Oro Valley Prosecutors Office was recently awarded the Administrative Professionals Lifetime Achievement Award by the Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys Advisory Council. Sheila started with the Town of Oro Valley in 1988 as a part-time legal secretary. Since that time, she studied and became a full-time Paralegal, rising up through the positions of Paralegal, Paralegal II and finally Senior Paralegal in charge of all non-attorney legal staff.

Sheila is in charge of all the non-attorney staff, case management systems and office processes, and also handles the claims submitted to the Towns Risk Management. Her work ethic is always exemplary, her personality and good humor is infectious, and her devotion to the job and to the victims of crimes is unparalleled.



State of the Town

On Tuesday, October 15, Mayor Winfield will deliver his first State of the Town Address to a sold-out crowd at the Hilton El Conquistador. This annual event is hosted by our friends at the Greater Oro Valley Chamber of Commerce. The Mayor, along with some special guests, will speak about the Council-adopted Strategic Leadership Plan. To make sure that all Oro Valley residents have access to this important message, staff will be producing a video of the event that will be posted to the Town's website and social media later that week.

September FlashVote survey: Tourism

The Town's September FlashVote survey focused on tourism. Results are here.

Educational videos for Roundabout Construction

The Town's Communications team partnered with OVPD and Public Works to produce three educational videos focused on the roundabout construction at Moore and La Cañada. The videos featured cameo appearances by Public Works and OVPD staff and have been a big hit on social media.

Roundabout construction FAQs with Lt. John Teachout—Reached 5,533 people on Facebook.

<u>Roundabout construction Week 1 update</u>—Reached 4,551 people on Facebook.

<u>Roundabout construction Week 2 update</u>—Reached 1,063 people on Facebook.

Employee Recognitions

On September 3, Town staff recognized four employee promotions in Community and Economic Development and Water Utility. We will be recognizing Employee Promotions on the first Tuesday of every month when applicable. Congratulations Milini, Hannah, Gracie and Page!



GOLDER RANCH FIRE DISTRICT

Fire Prevention fall programming is in full swing! This year's Fire Prevention Month theme is, "Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!". The theme is created and rolled out nationwide through the National Fire Protection Association and is generally observed in the month of October. The Town is gracious enough to once again sign and adopt the proclamation for Fire Prevention Month and will be presented to Golder Ranch Fire District (GRFD) staff at a meeting in October. Additionally, GRFD has been visiting area schools to teach 2nd graders the importance of fire safety through their interactive and fun mini muster field exercises. The schedule for this year:

- Coronado K-8: September 3
- Butterfield: September 19
- Wilson K-8: September 20
- Mesa Verde: September 27
- Harelson: October 2
- Painted Sky: October 3
- Copper Creek: October 4
- Ironwood Elementary: October 10
- Innovation: October 11

In the event of inclement weather or a calendar conflict, GRFD will allow a school to re-schedule their event for sometime in the spring.