

THE FRIENDLY NEIGHBOR

CITY OF ST. JOHNS, ARIZONA

2012 YEAR-IN-REVIEW LOOKING FORWARD TO 2013

By Councilwoman Kay Hauser

2012 YEAR-IN-REVIEW

Community members and City staff gave great service during the past year. We have a city staff who, over the past three years, have stepped up and performed more work with less labor hours than ever before. Thank you.

Events that were held:

Memorial Day Program at the City Cemetery:
Karen Brown, Chair

Multi Cultural Centennial Celebration:

Donna Hauser, Laurette Platt, Evan Nelson, Chairs.

A fun 4th of July Celebration:
Kay Hauser, Chair.

Halloween Trunk-or-Treat:
Tiffany Blank, Chair.

Christmas Light Parade and Community Gathering:
City Staff.

I am grateful for the fates that brought the Hauser Family to this great community in 1964. I love this community and all who live and work together to make this a great place to raise our children and grandchildren and have the opportunity to participate in every aspect of rural, small-town life.

An adequate supply of water, for our current needs

and for future growth, is now complete and available. The Council is committed to pay off the loan as quickly as possible. The goal of the Council is that the additional financial burden is paid in 10 years. The City is well on its way to accomplishing this goal.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2013

Four major projects lie ahead for our town.

1. *Potash Mine* - Projected jobs, business growth, and increased revenue to St. Johns are expected with the development of a Potash Mine 20 miles north of St. Johns in Apache County.

2. *Downtown* - Lighting, façades, and landscaping of the historic downtown area and development of a park and trail system at the historic El Vadito (Little River Crossing).

3. *City Hall* - Renovation and completion of new City Hall facilities.

4. *Pool* - Repairs and maintenance of the City Swimming Pool.



I believe, together, our community can strengthen, grow, and prosper. I believe we must do all we can to strengthen our families and financial resources to weather any circumstances that happen in our state and country. I believe, together, we can become proactive in volunteering and becoming involved in the needs and success of St. Johns. If you are not asked, call and volunteer in any area that you have an interest.

As we no longer have a Chamber of Commerce or economic development agency, I believe we can, together, become involved in these two areas. Call now to help. Don't wait to be asked. And you will be asked!

Thank you to each home in helping to create our wonderful town and united community.

CITY HALL

(928) 337-4517
75 W. Cleveland
M-Th 6:30am to 5:30pm
www.sjaz.us

CALENDAR

City Council Meeting	Feb 6 6:30pm
City Council Meeting	Feb 14 6:30pm
Valentine's Day	Feb 14
President's Day City Hall Closed	Feb 18
City Council Meeting	Mar 14 6:30pm
St. Patrick's Day	Mar 17
Good Friday	Mar 29
Easter	Mar 31
City Council Meeting	April 11 6:30pm
Arbor Day	April 26

TOWN OF FRIENDLY NEIGHBORS



CITY PURCHASES NEW FIRE ENGINE, RETIRES OLD

St. Johns Emergency Services is the proud recipient of a brand new structural fire engine. The recent purchase was made possible through an *Assistance to Firefighters Grant* and revenue generated from the Fire Department's involvement in Wildland fire fighting. The new truck allows the Department to retire an aging 1978 engine.

The new engine has been built to custom specifications to meet the needs of our Fire Department, including the ability to carry additional personnel, meet water flow requirements, and carry sufficient tools and equipment to perform the work of the Department.



New white fire engine beside old red retired engine.



STATE ONE-CENT SALES TAX SET TO EXPIRE

In May of 2010, Arizona voters approved a temporary, three-year, 1% sales tax increase in order to bolster dwindling State revenues. The increase is set to expire May 31, 2013. Governor Brewer, in her recent State of the State Address, explained:

"In 2010, we asked the people to increase their own taxes, and promised them it would be temporary. That promise will be kept when the Proposition 100 sales tax expires in May."
(www.azgovernor.gov)

This change will decrease the State rate from 6.6% to 5.6%. County and City rates will remain unchanged, bringing the total retail rate back down to 9.1%. Tax rate tables are available on the State Department of Revenue's website at www.azdor.gov.

The Governor has also established a Transaction Privilege Tax Simplification Task Force to address the complexity of the Arizona tax system and to prepare for the possible implementation of tax collection on internet sales.

ST. JOHNS I-40 SIGN TO GET FACE LIFT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

This sign on Interstate 40 has helped to attract travelers to our area for decades. However, time has taken its toll and it has also been vandalized with graffiti. An estimated 300,000 people each year see the sign while traveling west on I-40 near the St. Johns exit. As it is, the sign gives the City of St. Johns a poor first impression. We would like to restore the sign and are looking for help.

Volunteers are needed to repair the structure, scrape and sand the surface, and repaint the sign. The refurbished sign will improve the image of St. Johns and the surrounding area and encourage travelers to visit our community.

If you have some time to help out, please contact Steve Barcak at:

(480) 899-7873 or
steve@pontiacheaven.org

