

City of Willcox Newsletter July 2011

No Fire And Delayed Fireworks

Pat McCourt, City Manager

I want to thank all the people of Willcox and the surrounding area for helping make July 4th, 2011 a safe, 'no fire' holiday.

I missed watching the fireworks display. I watch it every year from my back porch. What I did not miss was watching a wildfire ignite and burn our community.

I feel the 4th of July and fireworks are like mom and apple pie – they just go together. This year, 2011 was different. There was very little rain during the winter, and virtually no rain in the spring. The fire danger is still extreme. The people of our community recognized the danger and did not risk a wildfire to celebrate with traditional fireworks.

The City has not cancelled the fireworks show. The fireworks have been purchased and we are now waiting for appropriate conditions to have the display – if the rains ever get to Willcox (it has been raining in Tucson). Tentatively, we are planning for Labor Day, September 5, 2011. Please watch the Arizona Range News or visit the City of Willcox website for updates.

Thank you for your patience, for your understanding, your wisdom, and for your good judgment.

WILCOX SOLID WASTE COLLECTION RATES

Ruth Graham, Finance Director

On May 16, 2011, the City Council approved new rates for refuse (trash) collection, the first rate increase since 2006. The new rates went into effect on July 1st, and all residential and commercial accounts with water service are required to have trash service. The rate for residential customers is \$23.49 per month, and collection will continue twice a week on Tuesdays and Fridays. Refuse is to be placed in leak proof plastic bags that are tightly secured prior to being placed in the refuse container. Willcox now offers an option for commercial customers to use a 96 gallon container (the same size as the residential containers) with two pickups per week at a cost of \$24.72 per month. Commercial rates vary by size of container and number of pickups. Residential customers will continue to have services with Southwest Disposal; commercial customers have the option to contract with a Hauler of their choice that is licensed by the City. Commercial services will continue through Waste Connections, Inc. doing business as Southwest Disposal, unless the customer makes arrangements with another Hauler licensed in Willcox. If such arrangements are made, the customer will need to notice the City of the change and let us know which Hauler has been selected. Additional information and a list of licensed Haulers can be found on our website at CityofWillcox.com. If you have a question about commercial rates or would like to make a change in your service, please call City Hall at 520-766-4207 or 520-766-4202, or e-mail us at rgraham@willcoxcity.org.

ACRONYMS CAN SPELL \$ FOR YOUR LIBRARY!

Tom Miner, Library Director

July 18, 2011 was another great day for your local Library! Why? Because the City Council approved **two** agenda items at their regular scheduled meeting which will have a major impact on the Library. What do the acronyms ASLAPR, AZSOS, LSTA, IMLS, ARRA, NTIA-BTOP II, MOU, AzJAC and VWW have in common with ESHL? Allow me to explain. Grab your pencil and hang on; you are in for a fun ride! The first acronym you should know is: ASLAPR, which stands for AZ State Library, Archives, and Public Records, a Department of the AZ Secretary of State (AZSOS). They are our single largest provider of funds each year – Yep, your AZ State Income Tax dollars at work for you. They in turn, get and give Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant funds through IMLS – the Institute of Museum and Library Services (Feds), and under the current Administration, we also have ARRA - the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (aka “Stimulus plan”). Now, ARRA gave ASLAPR a federal grant known as NTIA-BTOP II, which stands for National Telecommunications and Information Administration – Broadband Technology Opportunities Program, Phase 2. ASLAPR immediately implemented a plan to use those funds, and called it AzJAC, which stands for AZ Job Assistance Center, and drafted a MOU. Now that’s an easy one. Everyone knows that means Memorandum of Understanding, right? Right. In this case, between Elsie S. Hogan Community Library-ESHL and ASLAPR, whereby they offered us a VWW! No, that’s not an automobile, a typo or a sticky keyboard. It stands for Virtual Workforce Workstation! The MOU offered us a **free** CPU (central processing unit), monitor, mouse, keyboard, and an all-in-one monochrome laser printer, aka state-of-the-art computer workstation, valued at over \$3,000, for job-seekers in Willcox, AZ!

That was the first agenda item the Council approved. The second agenda item approved was the Council’s acceptance of our 2011 LSTA Grant award, in the amount of \$8,923, for children’s Early Literacy materials, programs, and equipment – another major component of our Library 5-Yr Strategic Plan. And that, ladies and gentlemen, is how acronyms can spell **dollars** for your local Library! See? You are never too old to learn something new! Have a really great day, everyone!

From the Office of the City Clerk...

Cristina G. Whelan, CMC

City Council Meetings

Monday
Aug 1, 2011
&

Monday
Aug 15, 2011
7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers
300 West Rex Allen Drive