

PEORIA NOW

MAY 2017

www.peoriaaz.gov/news



A monthly publication of city-centered news and current events for the citizens of Peoria, Arizona.

Drinking Water Week May 7-13, 2017

Your Water

to know it is to love it!

Did you know that tap water provides us with...

A low-cost way to stay hydrated, protect public health prevent fires, and is in nearly every product that we use every day?

Because of tap water, we stay hydrated, healthy and happy.

The more you know about your H₂O, the more there is to love!

To learn more during this **Drinking Water Week**, visit DrinkTap.org



It's Complicated: State Impact on Local Government

Relationships are complicated. I can readily find words of wisdom on just about every type of relationship except for one: the relationship between states and cities. Understanding how these two government entities work and interact together is essential, as the results have lasting effects.

Every year the legislature convenes and proposes a barrage of new bills. The intent is to make each one into a new law. During the current session, and only slightly higher than the last five-year average, they determined that we needed 1,157 new laws in Arizona.

In the City of Peoria, we have a customized layer of practices that are specific to our city. The Arizona Constitution gave cities the power to adopt a charter and Peoria is one of 19 cities in Arizona that adheres to our own, voter-approved charter. The other 72 cities must observe the laws established by the legislature. Charter cities must adhere to state laws but when it comes to issues of local concern, the charter prevails. I know, it's complicated.

As a chartered city, Peoria has a proud legacy of delivering the highest quality services and amenities to residents. Whether it is the condition of our streets, the top-rated public safety professionals that protect our families, or the number of parks and trails in the city, the decisions and actions of local government touch our lives in real and meaningful ways every day.

However, when the state legislature convenes, we're fiercely protective, advocating for the citizens of Peoria. We vigilantly measure each of those 1,157 bills to determine the effect they will have on our ability to provide the level of service Peoria residents have come to expect.

I think it's fair to say there are few matters that can complicate a relationship as much as money. The State of Arizona has an agreement with cities: they will collect income tax and distribute it to cities based on population. It's called state shared revenue and it amounts to one third of Peoria's general fund. It is used to pay for core operations and services such as police, fire, refuse disposal, libraries and parks.

And, while I'd like to say this agreement isn't threatened each year, local dollars seem to be a part of many bills aimed at providing "new" funding sources. A recent example of this includes efforts to shift millions of dollars from the state shared revenues of local governments to fund Arizona's public universities.

Another example is Senate Bill 1525, which minimized the amount that cities can require new developers to pay for the impacts of the growth they create. This 2011 legislation resulted in a loss of \$7 million annually to Peoria. When we are not authorized to stop growth and it no longer pays for its own impacts, well, then it gets complicated.

State legislative decisions have a lasting impact on cities. Maintaining local control allows cities to develop the kind of environment that residents can call a hometown.

Peoria's commitment to exceptional service is deeply rooted and made possible through superior financial management. Our goal is to ensure residents enjoy the highest quality of living with the lowest tax burden possible. When the state and local branches of government work in harmony, we create the most positive good for our shared constituencies. That's not complicated at all.



— Mayor Cathy Carlat

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8401 West Monroe Street
Peoria, Arizona 85345 | 623.773.7000

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PEORIA NOW

JUNE 2017

COMING SOON

Get a Taste of Peoria on June 17



On Saturday, June 17, the City of Peoria will be hosting a unique local event — **Live, Laugh, Local** — in Pleasant Harbor at Lake Pleasant, located at 40202 N. 87th Ave. Peoria’s local restaurants, brewers and boutique eateries are the stars of this public event, featuring local entertainment, demonstrations, food, wine and beer tastings, cigar bar, and more. General admission is \$25, \$15 for designated drivers, and free for children ages five and younger. For tickets and more information, call **623-773-7137** or visit www.peoriaaz.gov/specialevents.

Mayor’s Youth Summer Reading Program Begins in June

Starting in June, Mayor Cathy Carlat will kick off the second year of Peoria Reads, a summer student reading program. The program encourages Peoria’s youth to read at least 20 minutes a day over summer vacation for chances to win prizes. Program participants can also increase their chances of winning by attending the following free activities throughout the summer: May 27 at Sunrise Pool, June 8 at the Peoria Main Library, June 22 at Sunrise Mountain Library, July 6 at the Rio Vista Recreation Center, and July 20 at the Peoria Center for the Performing Arts. For more information, visit www.peoriaaz.gov/library.

Spend Your Summer in Peoria

Sign up for summer camp now, which is available for students who are in kindergarten through 14 years old. Children can attend one to five days per week. Field trips, breakfast and snacks are included in the fees. Summer recreation is offered to those who are in first to fifth grade. This is a drop-in program, so children can sign themselves in and out of their own



volition. Field trips and special activities are planned daily for an additional fee. Transportation from local elementary schools is provided at the beginning and end of the program.

Tiny Tots is the summer program for ages 4-5. Children can get a taste of childcare or aid in the development of social skills and fine and gross motor skills through active group games, crafts and daily field trips and events.

Lastly, the Step-Out Teen summer recreation program is for teens sixth through ninth grade. Participants will enjoy a full schedule of onsite activities, trips and more. Transportation from local elementary schools is provided at the beginning and end of each day. Step Out is a drop-in recreation program. Participants are required to sign in upon arrival and sign out when they depart.

For all the details, visit www.peoriaaz.gov/summeryouthprograms or call **623-773-7137**.

FREE
to 7th & 8th grade
City of Peoria
residents
(or attend a school located
in the City of Peoria)

Join Today!
Registration Deadline is May 12th

Learn what it takes to be a Police Officer!

TOPICS

Alcohol and
DUI-Vision Goggles

Gangs

Dangerous Drugs
Equipment Demos

Ethics, Character
& Integrity

Firearm Safety

Social Media
Awareness

Police Radar

Crime Scenes &
Collecting Evidence

Team Building

Traffic Safety



City of Peoria
POLICE DEPARTMENT

Phone: 623-773-5046 • Fax: 623-773-5029
www.peoriaaz.gov/ycpa

