

Introduction

Another summer has come and gone in beautiful Panguitch, Utah. It has been an eventful year with plenty of political activities in Washington D.C. and many natural calamities around the world and in the U.S.A.

Locally, it has been an interesting year with record snowfall, a very cold wet spring and a summer with plenty of rain and cool temperatures. Fall is an exciting time as the gardens and crops are harvested, the cows come off the mountain and people start hauling wood in preparation for a cold Panguitch winter.

The Panguitch economy has not been exceptionally good. However, the events that were presented were well attended and helped bring people to Panguitch. *We would like to thank all those who take their time to volunteer with events and other activities in our community. Thousands of hours are donated each year, and this is what makes our community great.*

On a personal note, I had the opportunity to be served by the citizens of Panguitch when our home caught fire in March of this year. I will never be able to repay those who helped us during those tough times. We have a 1st class fire department (including Panguitch, Tropic and Hatch), EMTs, and citizens off the street who helped us that day. People came forward with offers of housing, clothing, food, quilts and money along with plenty of good old-fashioned hugs, and it was all appreciated. Panguitch is a great place to live!

Panguitch Lake Dam

As you know, the head gate on the Panguitch Lake dam broke, and the lake is being drained so necessary repairs can be done. This is sad to see the water rushing down Panguitch Creek, knowing we had 2 or 3 years of water stored in the lake after record snowfall last year. Everything possible was done to keep from draining the lake, but in the end it was the only solution. West Panguitch Irrigation Company has applied for funding from the State of Utah, an engineer has been hired and work will go forward as soon as the lake is drained enough to put in a temporary dam to hold the water back while repairs take place.

A big thank you to Garfield County for offering to build the temporary dam. Hopefully, the repairs will be done in early October, so we can start collecting water for next year's irrigation season.

Everyone has had plenty of water this summer, but that probably won't be the case next year unless we can have a banner water year. *Pray for snow!*

Credit and Debit Payments

For your convenience, Panguitch City is now accepting credit and debit card payments.

Culinary Water

Panguitch is fortunate to have a great culinary water system. Much time and money has been invested, so we can have clean pure water to drink.

We would remind everyone that you are responsible to contact the City Office if you want your water shut off in the fall. It is not the responsibility of the person winterizing your home to contact the City Office. If you don't contact the City Office, the water shut off will not be recorded in the computer, and you will continue to be billed.

Water bills are due the 15th of each month, and the City Council has instructed the staff to collect delinquent bills or shut the water off.

Please disconnect your hoses from outside culinary water faucets for the winter.

Secondary Water System

The secondary water is now out of the system. Please open your valves so the water can drain properly. It is also a good time to drain your sprinkler lines before it gets too cold.

Animal Control

What is a newsletter if we don't mention animal control? Please keep your animals in your yard or on a leash. Dog licenses will be due in January, and we will have an animal clinic in early spring. Remember, livestock is not permitted in the city without a conditional use permit. Contact city staff with questions on animals in the city limits.

Landfill / Green Dumpsters

Our landfill has been very busy this year. Remember, only construction waste, metal and yard waste can go into our landfill. We can also take old furniture, which the county will take out to the Johns Valley dump. All household garbage must go to the green dumpsters. ***Remember, no dumping on the ground at the dumpster site—tickets can and will be issued for violators of this policy.***

Winter dump hours will start November 1st with the dump open on Wednesdays from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Park Project

Panguitch City is excited to announce that they have partnered with the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) and Garfield County to improve and renovate our city park. The Panguitch Lions Club and Panguitch Main Street Organization and the National Mormon Heritage Area have also agreed to help get this project started. Over \$600,000 has been committed, and we are applying for a grant from the Community Impact Board (CIB) for an additional \$140,000 to complete the necessary work.

Work will include re-roofing and bricking the pavilion, replacing the cement around the pavilion, new heated handicap accessible restrooms with a lobby for visitor information, replace the asphalt at the visitor center and park area, provide sidewalks to restrooms and possibly to provide playground equipment at the Baseball Fields. UDOT will also provide additional lighting, a new turning lane on Highway 89, and other items as necessary. The existing restrooms will be torn down along with the old wood travel center building.

This is an exciting project, which will help the traveling public and our local citizens enjoy our beautiful park. A special thank you to our Partners, to Mayor Talbot, who saw the need, and our local UDOT crew for recommending this project to their bosses. Hopefully, the CIB grant will be approved this winter and work can be started next summer. Jones and Demille Engineers of Richfield have been hired to help with this project.

Elections

After 8 years of serving on the City Council, John Orton has decided to retire from the council. We thank him for many hours of community service. He doesn't want or need a lot of attention, but he is willing to roll up his sleeves and help get a job completed. Thanks, John, for your service!

There will not be an election this year as we only had 3 sign up for City Council, and one sign up for Mayor. Lori Talbot will be the Mayor, with Laura Mosdell and Eric Houston continuing on the Council and Rick Miller coming on the council as a new member. Welcome aboard, Rick.

Council meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., and the public is invited to attend.

Panguitch.org

We continue to make improvements to the Panguitch website. It is working better than anytime in the past, and we thank Shawn Caine and her computer classes for helping to keep the website up and running. City Council minutes, Events, City ordinances, and other city information are currently listed. Visit the website often, and let us know what needs to be improved.

Courthouse

The construction on the Courthouse continues, and it will be a beautiful addition to our community when completed. It is scheduled to be completed in late summer of 2012. The County has done a great job of turning the Fair Building into a functioning courthouse, and they are open for business from 8:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. They are closed on Fridays.

Library

The library has obtained some glass-fronted bookcases from the courthouse, and we are still trying to collect old yearbooks from Panguitch High School and other programs for past events as well as local family histories to be added to our collection of historical documents. Please check with the library before discarding printed items of historical value.

We are hosting court in the City / Library Conference Room for Garfield County during the renovation of the courthouse, so please remember to be quiet and respectful when you come to the library and court is in session. We remind you that the conference room is still available for public meetings. Contact the City Office at 676-8585 to schedule the conference room.

We are excited that the Multi County Bookmobile, which is headquartered at the Panguitch Library, has recently added movies on DVD and Video to the collection. We are very fortunate to house the Bookmobile Headquarters since their collection of over 25,000 materials is available to our library patrons.

Many visitors each year compliment us on our beautiful library and the services we offer. Our hours are Monday through Friday 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Triple C Arena / Baseball Fields

It was a busy summer at both facilities as many major events were held, and many people came to enjoy our fine weather, beautiful area and excellent arena and baseball fields. Activities at the baseball fields are done for the summer, but the Triple C Arena is still busy with wrestling tournaments, equestrian events and the annual New Years Eve Party. Remember you can buy passes to use the arena for \$50.00 a year, and stalls are available for \$25.00 a month.

Fall and Winter Events

There are still activities going on this fall and winter. The High School will have many athletic events and plays this fall, and we encourage the public to support our youth.

The Craft Fair will be in November at the Social Hall. **The New Years Eve Party will be on December 31st at the Triple C Arena. This year's theme for the New Year's Eve Party is "Fun on the Beach." We will have top-notch entertainment, great food, and plenty of games for everyone.**

Main Street

Coming soon...

Now that Fall is here, we will once again be hosting Business Luncheons for anyone who is interested in attending. This is a great opportunity to network and visit with other business owners in town. Please watch for dates and times posted around town.

New Panguitch Arts Council is being Formed

If you are interested in bringing the arts, dance, music, or theater to Panguitch and would like to be involved in this new council please contact: Linda Rabin at 676-2080.

Thank you for Shopping Locally!

We are so fortunate to have many of the things we need so close and conveniently at hand. This past August we sent out coupons from our local merchants ~ we hope you have taken advantage of the deals and discounts offered. We are sending out coupons again in the Spring ~ please watch for them in the Garfield Insider. The Merchant Drawings will be held December 3, 10, & 17, and maybe the 24th at 1:00 p.m. at the Social Hall. Tickets will be available starting November 17th. Thanks to our local merchants for their generous donations and thanks to you for shopping in Panguitch and supporting our local economy!!

We are all in the "tourism business"...

Did you know that about 70% of our economy in Garfield County is from tourism? Because this is such a critical part of our economy, we are all in the tourism business. First impressions matter how the town looks and especially how people are treated! Let's always be mindful of how tourists will talk about the time they spent here. Panguitch is such a great place, and the people here are so friendly and helpful. Everyone we come in contact with should leave with only positive things to say. Let's make sure they do!!

It was another busy summer season, and we would like to thank the community for their support of Panguitch Valley Balloon Rally, The Big Fish Fiddler Festival, and Taste of Panguitch that are brought to you by Panguitch Main Street. We are also working to add more events to the town. We appreciate those committees and volunteers that make these things happen. All of these events are not only enjoyable for those who live here, but they also bring needed revenue into our community.

The Main Street Program could not function without its fantastic volunteer board. They are: Bobbie Bryant, Heather Childs, Brian Hartsfield, Pete Larson, Gayle & Scott Long, Deanna Moore, Linda Rabin, Laura Mosdell, Randy Yard, Shelley Yardley, Dave & Rochelle Mitchley and Dianne Sheridan. Thanks to all of you for your hard work! Any comments, questions, or if you are looking to volunteer please contact: Cheryl Church at 435-676-8197, 435-590-2892 or cherylchurch@gmail.com.

Airport

Panguitch City has received a grant for a building and to purchase snowplow equipment for the airport. The building will house the snowplow and provide a small office and a much needed restroom at the airport. Work will be completed in the summer of 2012.

Rights-of-Way

Panguitch City still has concerns with use of the city rights-of-way. Parking is allowed on the rights-of-way. However, the rights-of-way are not to be used for storage, running a business, or storing junk or unregistered vehicles. Every winter we have issues with vehicles and misc. equipment parked in such a way that it causes issues with the plowing of snow.

Old Fire Station

Panguitch City is selling the old fire station on Main Street in Panguitch. The minimal bid is \$148,000, and bids must be turned in to the City by November 7, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. If you are interested in purchasing this building, please contact the City Office for details.

Swimming Pool

The swimming pool is currently closed and will remain closed until the end of October. Recently over \$50,000 of Garfield County School District and Panguitch City money was invested in the swimming pool to make needed repairs and improvements. The pool is on the school board agenda for October 27, 2011. If you have concerns about the pool, please contact your school board member and attend the school board meeting in Panguitch on October 27, 2011.

Conclusion

The staff of Panguitch City is here to serve you, and if there is anything we need to do please contact us at the City Office. We appreciate the opportunity to work for the City and want to do the best job possible. Our City Council is committed to doing the very best job to make the City a great place to play and work. Contact them with questions and concerns.

We hope our citizens have a great fall and winter and wish you a happy holiday season!