

Fall Newsletter 2006

MAYOR'S CORNER: 2006 has been a good year in Panguitch. Dedicated employees and enthusiastic volunteers made our annual festivals and other events most successful. Thousands of visitors enjoyed the unsurpassed hospitality of our citizens. On September 14, 2006 the Board of State History voted unanimously to recommend Panguitch City (all of it) as a historic district in the National Register of Historic Places. Sixty-two percent of all buildings in Panguitch meet the criteria for listing in the National Register. We are a unique city!

It is a real pleasure to work with you Panguitch residents to improve our city while maintaining its unique character. I am grateful for the opportunity to live among you. May you all enjoy a happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and a prosperous New Year.

SPRING PROJECT: Most of you know of the spring improvement project currently underway. The project will include some very important improvements to our springs, which will help insure a safer and more plentiful supply of water in the future. The money for this project came from grants from the Drinking Water Board, a loan from the Drinking Water Board, a contribution from Panguitch City, and a grant from the Rural Development Fund Board. The total cost of the project is approximately \$273,000. The grants and loans are all in place, and the work will be completed during the early summer of 2007.

EVENTS: Panguitch again had a very busy summer with many events throughout the community. These events were all successful. These events help our business community and provide quality entertainment for each of us. Many of these same events are again scheduled for 2007, and a calendar of all of 2007 events will be published in the spring.

Even though things slow down through the winter months there will still be plenty to do. The upcoming holiday season will be especially busy this year. Dec. 2, 2006 will be CHRISTMAS IN THE COUNTRY, which includes a visit from Santa Claus at the Social Hall, home tours, the annual Panguitch holiday prize drawings and other activities. Please see the posters around town for the specific times and places. The Christmas drawings will start December 2 and will be held each Saturday through the 23rd. Most of the businesses in our community participate in this activity, so shop locally, fill out your slips, and come win a nice prize.

The Triple C Arena will be busy during the month of December with a wrestling tournament scheduled for December 1 & 2, the elementary school Christmas program on December 14, and the annual New Years Eve party. Of course, winter in Panguitch includes plenty of basketball, wrestling, and other activities to keep us entertained. NEW YEARS EVE PARTY: The New Years Eve Party, which will be held on December 29, 2006 has become a must attend event with

great food, entertainment, and plenty of time to visit and have fun. This is an event for the whole family. The theme of the New Years Eve activity this year is Chinese New Year, and many delicious Chinese dishes will be served. We also have a ventriloquist coming to entertain, plus the Red Rock Wranglers from the Cedar City area will play music while we eat and visit. Please plan to attend this special event.

TAX TIPS FOR BUSINESSES: Panguitch Main Street Organization is sponsoring a seminar to help local businesses with tax tips and other useful information on November 16, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the City / Library Conference Room. Everyone is invited to come.

VOLUNTEERS: You can't talk about events without talking about the many hundreds of volunteers who help put on the many events in our community. Please take the time to thank those who help, and please take the time to volunteer to help with one or two activities a year. If we all pitch in we can have a great time without overworking anybody. Many of the very fun events held throughout the year are run by just a few people. They need all the support they can get to help these events to continue. Thanks again for your great help. If you would like to volunteer, you can contact the City Office, a member of the Main Street committee, members of the City Council or others who head some of the important events taking place during the year.

LANDFILL: With the end of daylight savings time our landfill hours have changed. Our landfill hours

are Wednesdays 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Remember no household garbage can go to our class 4 landfill, but we now can take furniture, all kinds of metal, grass clippings, tree limbs and construction waste.

Other items can be taken to the green dumpsters on the west side of town by the dog pound. Items that can go to the landfill should not be put in the dumpsters. The City Council has approved an ordinance which has set a fine for illegal dumping at the green dumpsters. Please be considerate of the many people using the dumpsters. Big bulky items such as tree limbs should be taken to the landfill. Only household garbage should be taken to the green dumpsters. Nothing should ever be put outside the green dumpsters.

HOSPITAL: There has been much attention given to the remodeling project at the Garfield Memorial Hospital. This is an exciting project. Some inconveniences will occur during the project, but it will be great for our community to have a much improved hospital, clinic, and emergency room area. We congratulate the county and the hospital staff for being foresighted and looking to the future for our health needs.

SPONSORSHIP OF YOUTH AND ADULT

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS: It has recently come to the attention of the city that all of our youth and adult sports activities and events using Garfield County School District facilities would be eliminated if they did not have proper liability insurance. After much discussion and meetings with various groups in the community, the City has

approached our insurance company and they are willing to provide the liability insurance for these activities. These activities will be co-sponsored by Panguitch City, which will allow our youth and adults to continue to use the school district facilities to run the many programs offered in the city. Thank you to the many volunteers that make these programs work.

WATER VALVES / WATER BILLS: It is critical that the secondary water valves be opened so they can drain properly. Last year we had dozens of water valves broken and split after the winter months, because they had not been drained. If you have not opened your secondary water valves, please do so. The City Council has approved a policy requiring landowners to pay for damaged valves if the damage is due to neglect. If you have any questions about this, please contact the city office. Recently the city office reviewed past-due water and sewer accounts within our city and found there were over \$16,000 owing in water bills. Consequently, upon advice of our auditor and council, the city will take a strict stand on water bills. Any bill more than 90 days past due must be brought current, or the water will be shut off. Please pay your water and sewer bills in a timely manner.

DOGS / ANIMAL CONTROL: Every newsletter contains a reminder of the importance of taking care of animals and pets. We continue to have many animal issues in our city. Our laws are very clear. Dogs must be on a leash and under the control of the owner, and they must be licensed. Licensing includes proof of a rabies shot. The

rabies vaccination is very important to the health and welfare of our citizens and must be completed. Each year the City has a dog clinic for the vaccination and licensing of your pets. This is usually held in late January or February.

We have had recent concerns about people having 3 or more dogs within the city limits. A few years ago the City Council decreed that only 2 dogs per household are allowed within the city limits. Three or more dogs would constitute a kennel, which requires additional permits from the City. We encourage people to obey the law, license their dogs, and take good care of their pets.

Livestock (sheep, cows, and horses) are allowed in Panguitch under very limited circumstances and only with a conditional use permit from the City Council. Goats, and pigs are not allowed in the City. Please know the law before you bring livestock into the city.

RIGHTS-OF-WAY / CLEANUP: We live in one of the greatest areas in the whole world. We have a beautiful community and great people. We should all help do our part by keeping the city right-of-way free of junk vehicles and other items that could cause a safety problem or be a nuisance. Remember, rights-of-way belong to the city; they do not belong to the landowner. You are allowed to park your functioning vehicles on the right-of-way as long as they are not parked so they cause safety hazards, but junk cars, trailers, and other items should not be put on the right-of-way. Panguitch does have a nuisance law that could affect some properties in our community. All of us are encouraged to do our part to make

our yards and our community a more beautiful place to live.

ELECTION: By the time you receive this newsletter the election will be over. Congratulations to those candidate willing to put their names on the ballot and run for election. We are lucky to have good elected officials in the city, the county, and the state. The only time we can have much influence in the government is on election day, so hopefully you took the opportunity to vote.

WELCOME HOME: Even though it has been several months since our 222 boys came home from Iraq, we would like to once again welcome them home and thank them for a job well done. I have had the opportunity to attend many homecoming celebrations in connection with the 222 and many of the leaders on the state and national level are amazed our boys came home without a single loss. We are grateful they are home, and we wish them the best as they resume their normal activities. It should be remembered we still have soldiers from the Panguitch area in Iraq or going to Iraq who are with different military units. We should pray for them and support their families while they are away.

ANNEXATION / GROWTH: There are indications that Panguitch will grow somewhat over the next few years. There have been some annexations and several more areas are in the process of annexation. We have received a final plat on a subdivision on the north end of town, and other subdivisions are in the planning stages. This growth will have some impact on our community.

We will work with developers so growth can be done in a planned, orderly fashion, preserving the lifestyle and culture of our community

CHIP SEAL: The streets on the south side of Panguitch were scheduled to be chip sealed this past summer. However, due to conditions beyond our control, this task was not completed. We will try to chip seal all the roads in 2007.

LIBRARY: If you enjoy listening to books on tape or would like to try listening to your favorite books, there is an exciting new service offered at the Panguitch Public Library. In partnership with Utah State Library, Panguitch Public Library now offers an eaudiobook service. Eaudiobooks are downloadable audio books that can be listened to from your home computer or on an MP3 player. This service allows FREE access to over 1200 audio books. For more information on this great new program, call Donna at the library 676-2431 or come in for a demonstration.

We have purchased a new 26 volume 2007 edition of the Compton's Encyclopedia by Britannica. This beautiful set of books can help with your information needs.

NATIONAL MORMON HERITAGE AREA

(HIGHWAY 89): You may have read about this in the newspaper. There has been a dedicated group working on this for years, and it was finally approved and signed by the President of the United States of America in October. This could eventually have a big impact on our community. Heritage tourism is big business, and we have the opportunity to benefit from this important

legislation.

HIGHWAY 143 (PANGUITCH TO BRIAN HEAD TO

PAROWAN): A group has been working for well over a year to have this highway declared a National Scenic Byway or an All American Road. The Corridor Management Plan has been completed and application can be made in 2007.

The Mayor has also been invited to sit on a committee considering the possibility of making Cedar Breaks a National Park. There are many challenges and opportunities with this proposal. We will keep you informed as this develops.

Another newsletter is now finished. We hope you find these newsletters informative and helpful in bringing you up to date on the activities going on in our community. The city staff is dedicated and hard working and do all they can to make

Panguitch a better place to live. If there are any questions or problems please come to the city office, or talk to the mayor or a member of the City Council. We strive to solve problems as they develop.

Panguitch is a wonderful place and each of us should do our very best to make sure that it continues to be a great place to live, a safe place to live, and a fun place to live. May the Holiday Season be happy for each of you. It is a great time to reflect on our blessings and the good things we have in our lives. We commend our citizens for the good things you do and hope the winter season is a good time to relax, review, set new goals, and prepare for the coming year.

Hope you had a