

## 2009 Fall Newsletter

Another year has nearly come and gone. It seems like only yesterday that we were doing a spring newsletter. This has been an unusual year with lots happening on a local, state, national and world stage. The economy and our new president continue to grab the headlines on the big stage, and at the state level, it has been the economy and a new governor grabbing most of the news. Locally, the economy is having a negative effect. However, we are surviving better than most. As I have talked to local businesses, it varies from being a good year to being off by as much as 40% from a year ago.

The weather is always an interesting subject and 2009 is no exception. A wet cool June was a welcome relief, and we did not have our normal heavy frost. The summer, however, was hot and dry, and we never did get our normal rainstorms in July and August. We need lots of winter moisture if we are to have water for next year's crops. Overall crops and gardens did very well in 2009, and we even have some 3<sup>rd</sup> crop hay being harvested. As I type this newsletter it is beautiful outside, but they are predicting a cold front moving in within a few days. So get some firewood gathered, a deer hanging in the garage, and the potatoes dug as we settle in for a long Panguitch winter. Following are a few Panguitch activities and information items.

### **Elections**

Panguitch recently had a primary election where 4 candidates for mayor were narrowed to 2 candidates. Art Cooper and Janet Oldham will run against each other for Mayor. Tim Smith, Nick Reynolds and Rick Miller are running for the 2 available city council seats. The general election will be held on **November 3<sup>rd</sup>** at the city office at 25 South 200 East. Please come out and vote. Utah Election Laws now require every voter to provide valid identification before being allowed to vote, so please remember to bring identification. We only had 25% turnout for the primary election. Let's do better for the general election.

### **Swimming Pool.**

A committee has been organized to work on Pool issues and help with the use of the pool. Brandon and Sandie Smith are doing an excellent job at the pool and use of the pool has increased significantly. The city and the school are working together to make some minor improvements to the pool. The pool can be an important asset to our community. Please support it in any way possible.

### **Water-Culinary-Secondary**

Thank you to each of you for your help in getting through a long hot summer. Our secondary water held up well, even though we continued to have some problems during the hottest part of the summer. Culinary water also held up even though we needed to run the well much of the summer.

As the cold weather sets in, please disconnect hoses from the house and blow out your sprinkler systems. It will save you money and time later on. Please open secondary lines so they will drain properly.

### **Budget**

Panguitch was able to hold the line on our budget for the 2009/2010 year. We are trying to do our part to keep costs in line. The city has 3 main budgets: the general fund, the water budget, and the sewer budget. The water and sewer budgets are paid from your water and sewer payments on a monthly basis.

The general fund pays for all other expenses in the city. Income for the general fund comes from sales tax, resort tax, class c road tax, and a few misc. other income sources. Sales tax is down about 10 % so far this year, so the economy is having a negative impact on the city. A vast majority of the city expenses are fixed, but we will continue to cut where necessary to keep our budget in line.

### **Events**

Panguitch had another successful year of major events. Thank You-Thank You to all who volunteered and helped to make these events successful in our community. We still have a few events planned for fall and winter. Come out and support them. We continue to need volunteers and participants to become involved with our events. Remember, the City, County, and Panguitch Utah Stake will again host the annual New Year's Eve Party at the Triple C Arena on Thursday, December 31. Please plan to come and have great fun.

### **Census**

Since 1790, the US Constitution has required a national census once every 10 years to count our population. Census data are used to distribute Congressional seats to states, to make decisions about what community services to provide, and to distribute over \$400 billion in federal funds to local, state and tribal governments each year.

The Census will be a count of everyone residing in the United States on April 1, 2010 (all citizens and non-citizens alike). You will receive your questionnaire in March 2010 either by US mail or hand delivery. Households complete this simple 10 question form by listing all people who live in the home as their "usual residence", where they live and sleep most of the time. Federal law protects all your personal information you share during the census for 72 years.

Visit [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov) to learn more about the census. If you are interested in working for the 2010 Census you may call the Census Jobs Hotline at 1-866-861-2010.

### **Library**

We have completed another successful Summer Reading Program with 145 children participating. They completed a total of 792 hours of reading. Eight fun story time programs were presented with an average attendance of 38. A big thank you to all who helped with the Summer Reading and Story Time programs. We are involved in preparing for a new circulation and catalog program. We have put a new barcode on all materials and are preparing to build a new patron database. This program should be completed sometime this winter.

We have added many new books and audios to our library through a grant from Utah State Library. For a complete listing of our new books and audios, visit our website at [www.panguitchlibrary.org](http://www.panguitchlibrary.org). Library hours are 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. For any questions you may call the library at 435-676-2431.

### **Landfill**

The landfill will stay on summer hours until October 31, 2009. The new hours during the winter will be on Wednesday from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Remember no household garbage at our landfill. All household garbage must be picked up or hauled to the green garbage cans in our industrial park. Remember you can be ticketed for dumping garbage on the ground at the green garbage can site. We need to all work together to keep that site as clean as possible.

### **School Activities**

We have many outstanding students participating in many sports and other activities through the fall and winter. We encourage you to get out and support them. Panguitch High School, Middle School and the Elementary are doing a great job of educating our children. Please offer your support and thanks often.

### **Natural Gas**

After many years of paying a surcharge of \$30.00/month for an extension charge on natural gas, it was eliminated as of Sept 1, 2009. This is approximately 3 years earlier than originally projected. There have been many people working behind the scenes to get this surcharge eliminated, and even though it took a while, it is now gone, and we pay the same price for natural gas as everyone else in the state of Utah. Thank you to those who have testified in hearings, written letters and been involved in this issue.

### **Panguitch Main Street:**

#### ***Thank You For Shopping Locally!***

Let's face it, we all have to spend money, we all need stuff! Have you ever thought about what else your money buys besides the gallon of milk, or gallon of gas you just purchased? In Panguitch it also supports the important services that we all rely upon...the Fire and Police Departments, Hospital, Schools, Roads as well as employment for many of our citizens. It is estimated that a dollar spent in Panguitch turns over 4 times.

***And...***our local merchants and businesses are great supporters and sponsors of our local events and school programs! When we spend our money in Panguitch we all win!! A Panguitch resident recently related a story to me about shopping in a nearby city and looking all over for a remote control car only to come home and find what she was looking for in Radio Shack right here! Panguitch Main Street is launching a "Shop Local" Campaign and want to remind everyone to think ***Local First.***

#### ***Coming Soon....***

Now that Fall is here, we will once again be hosting Business Luncheons. These are for anyone who is interested to attend. Please watch for dates and times posted in town. The Merchant Drawings will be held December 5, 12 & 19 at 1:00 p.m. at the Social Hall.

Tickets will be available starting November 19<sup>th</sup>. The new edition of the Panguitch/Hatch phonebook is currently underway and will be available by the first of 2010.

***With Great Appreciation...***

Panguitch is such an incredible place to live. I would like to thank the many people and businesses that support the community and the Main Street Program. I would also like to thank the Mayor, the City Council, Panguitch City and Garfield County Travel Council for their continued support. This community has wonderful businesses and people who are so willing to donate of their time, merchandise and money to the good of the community.

The Main Street Program could not function without it's fantastic volunteer board. They are: Bobbi Bryant, Michelle Crofts, Brian Hartsfield, Pete Larson, Gayle & Scott Long, Deanna Moore, Janet Oldham, Linda Rabin, Lori Talbot, Randy Yard and Shelley Yardley. 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](mailto:cherylchurch@gmail.com).

**Upcoming Events:**

Little Britches Rodeo at the Triple C Arena on October 16 – 18

Craft Fair at the Fair Building on November 14

Christmas in the Country on December 5

High School Wrestling Tournament at the Triple C Arena on December 4 & 5

New Year's Eve Party at the Triple C Arena on December 31

**Sub for Santa**

Once again the Sub for Santa program will be available to help the families of Panguitch and Hatch. The age group is under 18 as long as the kids are in school. No college kids or parent gifts. The program provides new shoes, pants, shirts, and coats if needed. In addition the child receives a "Santa" toy. The funds that make this project available come from the Lions Club, Panguitch City, Beehive Beemers Motorcycle Club, South Central Communications, Home tours, candy booth at the craft fair, Angel Tree, donation jars, city merchants, and all three schools as well as private citizens. Without their help this would not be possible. Thanks to you all!!! A form is available for those families who need help. This is done as privately as possible. Forms are available from the City, churches, Pat at 676-2418 or Elaine at 676-2403.

**Christmas in the Country**

The first Saturday in December, which is December 5<sup>th</sup> is the kick off season for the Christmas Holidays. Everyone is encouraged to have their Christmas decorations up and light on!

Santa visits the children	Social Hall	10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Santa visits the Extended Care	Noon	
Merchant Drawing	Social Hall	1:00 p.m. each Saturday:
	December 5 <sup>th</sup>	
	December 12 <sup>th</sup>	
	December 19 <sup>th</sup>	

Christmas Home Tour December 5<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
The Christmas homes are to be announced. Pat (676-2418) is always looking for willing Christmas-spirited people to show their homes....call her. There is a \$5.00 donation that goes to the “Sub for Santa” program.

### **Thanksgiving Dinner**

The Lions Club will be cooking and serving dinner at the Senior Citizens Center on Thanksgiving Day, November 26<sup>th</sup>. Dinner will be served at 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. The dinner is “FREE”. Everyone without family or everyone who didn’t get an invitation to a Thanksgiving Dinner has one now. Come and celebrate your blessings and the season with us. Call Mack at 676-2418 if you have questions.

### **Website**

You can check the Panguitch website at [www.panguitch.org](http://www.panguitch.org) for information about the city, upcoming events, information about the surrounding area, etc. City Council minutes are also available on the website. We appreciate Panguitch High School for designing and hosting the Panguitch City website.

### **Social Hall**

The Social Hall will be open beginning approximately November 2 for use by the youth from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday except holidays and home athletic events. Youth ages 11 and under may use the Social Hall from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Youth age 12 and older may use the Social Hall from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

If you would like to use the weight room at the Social Hall, keys are available at the City Office for \$20.00 with \$10.00 refundable upon return of the key.