

Show Low News



Monthly

April 2007

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City welcomes new city manager

With that winning, disarming smile, the casual observer might not know he was talking to Show Low's new city manager, Ed Muder. He was appointed by the City Council to his new position in March 2007 after serving as interim manager since October 2006. Ed's unpretentious manner and easygoing style make him equally accessible to the city council, staff, citizens, developers and other organizations.

According to Mayor Rick Fernau, "The City Council chose Ed Muder because of the exceptional contributions he has made as a proven public servant. His exemplary judgment, dedication, diplomacy and personal and professional integrity have furthered Show Low's rise as the economic hub of the White Mountains. We ask our citizens to share our unanimous support and for City employees to continue demonstrating the loyal service that has become their trademark."

This newest challenge comes after an almost 19-year tenure with the City. Ed was hired in 1988 after reading a Help Wanted advertisement in the White Mountain Independent for a zoning administrator/assistant building inspector. After earning an electrical degree and spending nine years as an electrician on construction projects, where jobs ranged from one week to a few years, he wanted more stability and less travel. With a wife and two small children under his care, he wanted to remain closer to home.

When he joined the City, there were two other employees in his department, one of whom was his superior. In 1990, after the departure of the community development director, he stepped into the role almost by default. In the absence of a department head, the lead building inspector answered building-related questions and Ed responded to planning and zoning inquiries. In 1993, with a new city manager at the helm, Ed was officially recognized

as the planning and zoning administrator. In addition to hands-on training, he became a certified planner, a designation earned after passing a rigorous examination. He eventually became community development director as he pursued economic development opportunities for the City.

His charisma and keen negotiating skills have helped attract several nationally recognized retailers to Show Low. In 1998, he was instrumental in landing the state's first Wal-Mart Supercenter. Many more Supercenters followed after Wal-Mart's highly lucrative entry into Arizona. Several years later, The Home Depot followed suit. In addition, Ed was instrumental in locating a multiplex auto mall at the northeastern corner of the Deuce of Clubs and SR77. The 12 lots in the new mall available for vehicle dealerships and services will draw customers from across northeastern Arizona. Mayor Fernau said, "This is an excellent track record for a City that currently boasts a full-time population of slightly less than 10,000. Customers flock to these retailers from across the region, boosting sales tax revenues that fuel our growth."

Ed has an equally successful track record with developers, resulting in an array of aesthetically pleasing, master-planned communities as well as workforce housing in Show Low. However, he believes strongly that, "Although it is important to keep up with the growth that's coming, we shouldn't lose sight of our City's maintenance needs or the needs of all our citizens, especially those

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Project Clean Sweep kicks off in June

The highly successful Project Clean Sweep, the annual community-wide cleanup and beautification program, is scheduled for June 2007. *Proof of residency within the City of Show Low is required through presenting a current utility statement or a valid driver's license listing a street address.* Components of the program, now in its ninth year, include:

- ❖ **Free Excess Garbage Collection** during the week of May 28 through June 1. The City contracts with Waste Management to pick up excess trash—at no charge to residents—four times a year. Normally, residents would pay \$50 to have Waste Management haul away excess trash.
- ❖ **Cash for Trash** on Saturday, June 2, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Earn

cash for delivering large, unwanted items to a City facility.

- ❖ **Free Bulky Item Pickup** from June 4 through 8. Citizens must sign up for this free service provided by City employees.
- ❖ **Free Dumpster Drop** from June 4 through 8. Citizens may deliver and dump acceptable items at no charge at the Lone Pine Transfer Station. The list of acceptable items will be announced in the May newsletter.
- ❖ **Abandoned Vehicle Pickup** from June 4 through 8. Citizens who sign up for this service can have their abandoned vehicles removed by a contracted business.

Detailed information will be included in the May newsletter. Direct questions to Cari Bilbie at 532-4100.



Calendar of Events

Family Aquatic Center & Recreation: 532-4140
Public Library: 532-4070

- 04/03 7 p.m., Council Chambers
City Council Regular Meeting
- 04/04 6–8 p.m., City Park tennis courts
Drop in Doubles play begins
- 04/04 3–5 p.m., Aquatic Center
Craft a-POOL-ooza (ages 6-12)
- 04/06 7–9 p.m., Aquatic Center
Underwater Easter Egg Hunt (ages 11-17)
- 04/10 5:30–6:30 p.m., Aquatic Center
Foundations of Drawing classes begin
- 04/10 7 p.m., Council Chambers
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
- 04/12 10 a.m., Public Library
Show Low Library Friends meeting (public welcome)
- 04/14 2 p.m., **Penny Carnival** (all ages), Aquatic Center
- 04/15- **National Library Week**, Public Library
- 04/21 Get a special bookmark & add your name for prizes!
- 04/17 7 p.m., Council Chambers
City Council Regular Meeting
- 04/18 **Memorial Day Softball Tournament** registration begins
- 04/18 1:30 p.m., Public Library
Book Discussion Group (book: Going back to Bisbee)
- 04/19 3:30–4:30 p.m., Public Library (book: Weedflower)
Cool Kids Book Discussion Group (ages 8+)
- 04/19 5:30 p.m., Show Low Intermediate School
DEAL Extravaganza
- 04/19 7 p.m., Public Library
Show Low Historical Society meeting ("History of Show Low's Law Enforcement," JoAnn Hatch; cowboy poetry, Paul Hatch)
- 04/21 10 a.m., **Kite Fly'n** (all ages), Frontier Fields
- 04/23 **Coed Softball** games begin
- 04/24 7 p.m., Council Chambers
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
- 04/28 1–3 p.m., **April Pool's Day** (all ages), Aquatic Center
- 04/30 9–11 a.m., Aquatic Center
Water Wee Play (ages 5 & under with parent)



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To our utility customers using the City's online banking system: Please change your records to 180 N. 9th Street, Suite B, Show Low, AZ 85901 to reflect our new payment mailing address and avoid any delays with mail forwarding.

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Show Low Monthly News is produced by the City of Show Low, 550 North 9th Place, Show Low, AZ 85901. Direct comments to the City Clerk's office at 532-4061. For general information, call 532-4000. Office hours are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

New city manager...continued from front page

of our long-time residents who have seen their small town change. After all, it is our 'small town' atmosphere and values that continues to draw so many people here."

Ed served as interim co-city manager from October 2001 through January 2003. During the catastrophic Rodeo-Chediski Fire in 2002, the largest wildfire in Arizona's history, his demeanor served to calm all of us facing possible devastation. He also served as interim city manager for four months in 2003.

A hometown boy, Ed's family lived across from City Park, which he and his brothers used as their playground. His father, Bob, was a general contractor and Ed learned construction techniques at an early age.

In terms of growth, Show Low was in its infancy when Ed went to school. He attended Snowflake High School in his freshman year since there was no high school in Show Low. He and his classmates were Show Low's first graduating class.

Having started as a line employee, Ed knows the value of hard work, resourcefulness, hands-on experience and a team approach. In his words, "Being Show Low's city manager will be an exciting challenge but this position isn't about me because I can't do it alone. It's about surrounding yourself with good people, working as a team and doing a good job. Although comprised of separate departments and divisions, our common purpose is to serve our citizens."

He and wife Kathy, a native of Show Low, have two children, Stephanie (currently attending Northern Arizona University with husband Derik) and Kraig (a Show Low High School senior). Ed is a family man and loves to fish and hunt when he can find the time.

Donations accepted

Little League — The City of Show Low is accepting donations for a monument at the Little League field in City Park. The monument will honor the many individuals that contributed their efforts and funds to build a ball field and bring Little League to Show Low in the 1950s. The field was completely renovated last year solely through donations from the Arizona Diamonds Back Foundation and Matt Williams, retired third baseman of the Arizona Diamondbacks. The monument's backers envision a plaque and public art. Send donations (make checks payable to the City of Show Low with a note designating it for the Little League monument) to City Hall, 550 N. 9th Place, Show Low, AZ 85901. Checks or cash will also be accepted at City Hall and the Administrative Services department, 180 N. 9th Street.

Senior Patrol — Our dedicated Senior Patrol officers provide their services Monday through Friday without any expectation of payment. They fund their own uniforms and programs. All the City provides are the vehicles, fuel, maintenance and repair costs. Does the Senior Patrol watch your house at your request or helped you in some other way? To show your appreciation, you may wish to make a donation to the Senior Patrol and send it to City Hall, 550 N. 9th Place, Show Low, AZ 85901.