

August



Yarnell Regional Community Center

Serving the Weaver Mountains' Communities

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More Than a Meal

- From stone soup to rock gardens -

Hi Friends!

If there's one thing I've learned in the last couple of years, it's that this community is built on shared strength—rooted in collaboration, growing with intention, and grounded in enduring resilience; “like a rock”. Organizations, businesses, relationships, you name it, small town living isn't for the faint of heart!

Last fall, the YRCC was faced with a sudden budget cut, and our community came together with incredible generosity around the timeless story of Stone Soup. We hosted a unique fundraiser where individuals purchased symbolic stones to help us fill the financial gap. Each stone represented an ingredient of hope, and together, we raised ~ \$26,000 to offset our NACOG budget cuts which fund Meals on Wheels, an essential community service. Stone soup was truly a recipe for resilience!

We are happy to report that we have a new, four-year contract with NACOG. There was no reduction in our contract amount, however, the grant funding is still considerably under budget. So, this year's fundraising effort is also based in stone, as that is the beauty that surrounds us! We started with beautiful flowers at the front of the Mid-Day Cafe, through a donation from a long time YRCC friend. Continuing in spirit of do more with less, we're planting something new—literally. Our next community fundraiser supports Meals on Wheels with the creation of painted rock gardens in the soon-to-open Legacy Park, which will be on the reclaimed property adjacent to the YRCC. Earlier this year, the YRCC was gifted a donation for a legacy project, and when we realized the property was almost an acre, the idea for a community park sprung to life.

Just as last year's stones represented ingredients for hope and financial recovery, this year's fundraiser will symbolize growth and renewal. Think about it like this, we're planting inspiration and sustainability in a whole new way with the creation of rock gardens ‘Buy a rock – Build a garden’. Everyone is welcome to participate and personalize stones of varying sizes, whether it's as an individual, a family, a business, an organization, a group, you name it; the opportunities are endless! These gardens will be spaces of interest, beauty, reflection, and connection for generations to come.

Look for more information on *More than Meal*, the rock project and the grand opening of the park in the upcoming weeks. In the meantime, let the idea roll around in head for a bit, how would you paint a rock to commemorate something or someone? What idea or creativity do you want to add to the gardens? Let's gather again—this time not to overcome adversity, but to celebrate progress and plant something enduring. ❤️

Sue



Fun and Fresh Programs – Starting July 1st

In my first month, I've teamed up with our awesome crew to re-energize some of our programs. We're super excited to roll out initiatives that are all about wellness, learning, and having a blast together. Check out these highlights:

- **Mindful Mondays, Winning Wednesdays & More:** Unwind and recharge with summertime fun! From stretching & meditation to nutrition classes and some lunchtime fun, we've got your mental and physical health covered, not to mention your sense of curiosity!

- **Club Yarnell:** Whether you are new or one of our "experienced" community members, you are in for a treat! Club Yarnell is all about connecting, sharing stories, learning and having fun. Whether it's game nights, craft sessions, or just a good chat, there's something for everyone.



- **People for People (P4P):** Moving out of its pilot phase, P4P is delivering "More than a Meal" and its recipients are eating it up! This is a new wonderful service focused on helping reduce the stress of life, which can be quite overwhelming. Whether it's a friendly visit, in person or a regular phone call, or light housekeeping/maintenance, it's a comfort to know that there is someone there to help.

- **Morning Coffee & Pastries:** Starting July 1st, we'll be open Mon – Fri 7:30am to 9:00am for coffee and pastries. It's a great way to start your day, catch up with friends, or just enjoy a quiet moment.



- **Legacy Park Walking Trail:** Phase 1 of the "Legacy Project", being built through a generous donation as Jimmy's legacy. Currently, the Legacy Park Walking Trail, is available for you to enjoy and pairs perfectly before or after your coffee stop. It's a beautiful way to get some fresh air and exercise and watch the progress as we bring the Legacy Park to life!

Teaming Up & Looking Ahead


One of the things I'm really excited about is teaming up with local organizations and businesses. We're working on some great collaborations with local schools, healthcare providers, and other groups to bring more resources and opportunities to our community. These partnerships are going to help us reach our goals and support **"More than a Meal"**. Our community is truly loved, not just by those of us who live here, but by many others who have been somehow touched by this special place!

As we move forward, the YRCC will continue to be a go-to spot for community activities, friendship, support and then some! I am passionate about sustainability and I want to work together with all of you to ensure a strong foundation for the YRCC. Let's make sure we can celebrate the next 50 years as a thriving community!

So, Dive Right In

There are so many ways to be part of the YRCC community! Whether you want to volunteer, join our programs, or share your ideas, your involvement is what makes our community center thrive. Here are a few ways you can do that:

- **Volunteer:** We always need helping hands! Whether it's for our core purpose or for our events and programs, it's a great way to give back and meet new people. Stop in and fulfill your passion in the thrift store, dining room, meal delivery, event planning, P4P, etc.

- **Mid-Day Café:** From Mindful Mondays, Winning Wednesdays to Walking the trail or sipping coffee, there's something for everyone. Dive in and enjoy!
- **Thrift Store:** Best thrifting around, just ask anyone! 100% of proceeds support Meals on Wheels 
- **Share Your Ideas:** Got a cool idea for a new program or event? We'd love to hear it! Your feedback helps us grow and improve.
- **Attend Events:** Come to our community events, workshops, social gatherings. It's a fun way to stay connected and engaged.
- **Spread the Word:** Tell your friends and family about YRCC. The more, the merrier!
- **Subscribe to our You Tube Channel:** [Yarnell Regional Community Center - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/yarnellregionalcommunitycenter)
- **Check out our Facebook page:** <https://www.facebook.com/yarnellregionalcommunitycenter/>
- **Visit our Website:** <https://www.yarnellrcc.org/>

Thank you for your warm welcome and for being part of the YRCC community. I am honored to serve as your Executive Director and look forward to working with you to make YRCC the best it can be. Your involvement is what makes YRCC a vibrant and supportive place for everyone.

Let's make great things happen together!

Sue

YRCC Board of Directors



New sign donated by Yavapai County

