



TOWN OF CAVE CREEK NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2024

NEW TOWN MANAGER SPOTLIGHT - GRADY MILLER



forward to working with the Mayor and Council and the talented employees in the Town of Cave Creek. Retiring Town Manager Carrie Dyrek has left the organization in a very strong position, and I plan to implement the Council's priorities and initiatives to build on her past successes," explained Miller.

Grady Miller has over thirty-five years of experience in cities and towns in Arizona, California, and Rhode Island. From July 2015 to June 2023, Miller was the Town Manager of Fountain Hills. Just prior to being appointed in Cave Creek, Miller had served as interim City Manager of Kingman, Arizona, where he helped the City Council address a number of important issues.

Miller grew up in Huntington Beach, California, and started his career in public service working for the City of Santa Ana in Orange County after graduating from San Diego State University. He went on to work for the City of Burbank in the Los Angeles area before relocating in 1990 to Peoria, Arizona. While at the City of Peoria for nineteen years, he held the positions of Assistant to the City Manager, Communications Director, and Deputy Community Services Director before becoming Town Manager of Narragansett, Rhode Island, in 2010.

In addition to his career in local government, Miller has been a leader

in the region and the community. He previously served on the Management Committee of the Maricopa Association of Governments, a metropolitan planning organization for cities and towns; he has been the chair and vice-chair of the board of directors for the Arizona Metropolitan Trust, a nonprofit organization providing group medical benefits to municipal employees in Arizona; and is currently a member of the Four Peaks Rotary Club and a board member of the Four Peaks Rotary Foundation.

Miller holds a Master of Public Administration degree from ASU and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Administration from San Diego State University. In 2020 Miller received his Credentialed Manager designation from the International City/County Management Association, one of the highest professional achievements a city manager or town manager can attain. The Credentialed Manager designation is awarded to less than five percent of city managers nationally and only 9 city and town managers in Arizona have the distinction. In 2023 the International City/County Management Association also recognized Miller for his distinguished local government career by granting him an ICMA Life Membership.

Miller' first official day with the town is February 5.

On January 16, 2024, the Cave Creek Town Council unanimously appointed Grady Miller as Town Manager to manage and oversee the day-to-day operations of the town. "Grady is a local government professional who is known and respected by his peers in other cities and towns and regional organizations that interface with Cave Creek," stated Mayor Robert Morris. "His experience will benefit the residents by improving services from our strong financial base. The Council and I are delighted to have him as our Town Manager and representing Cave Creek."

"I am very grateful to the Mayor and Town Council appointing me to serve as their manager," stated Miller. "I look

FIRE STATION REMODEL

Good news! Work have finally officially begun on the remodel of the Town of Cave Creek's primary fire station.

The building was originally a car-wash that was re-purposed to be a fire station. This remodel will bring the fire station up to the current fire safety standards. Anticipated completion is by the end of the 2024 calendar year.

Note: Cave Creek Fire Department's emergency fire and medical services will not be impacted by this remodel.

UPDATED AGENDAS PAGE

Our Agendas page is more user-friendly. It's now easier than ever to pull up the agenda, submit Online comments, and visit the page to view the Zoom meetings as they happen!

To access the Agendas page, click on the boot icon on our home page or click the link below.

CaveCreekAZ.gov/Agendas

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TOWN TRAILS DOS AND DON'TS



This is one of the best times of the year here in the Sonoran Desert and one of the best ways to experience it is on one of the Town's many beautiful trails. The Town of Cave Creek maintains a network of multi-use trails that connect portions of Town, providing access to Cave Creek Regional Park, Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area, the Tonto National Forest, and linkages to the 314-mile Maricopa Trail and the Desert Foothills Land Trust properties. These trails offer hiking, biking, and horseback riding.

We wanted to let you know about some trail's dos and don'ts, where the trails are, and the best places to park while you enjoy them.

Trails within the Town of Cave Creek boundaries include:

- Cave Creek Regional Park
- Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area
- Desert Foothills Land Trust
- Tonto National Forest Cave Creek Ranger District
- Maricopa Trail - more than 300 miles of connected trails that encompasses Maricopa County and links to 10 regional parks.

Here is a link to the Cave Creek Trail Network map which will show you all the trails in the Town.

CaveCreekAZ.gov/TrailsMap

The map also points out where you can (and should) park when enjoying the trails. Most have dedicated parking lots. A tricky one for many is the Black Mountain Trail parking. When hiking Black Mountain, please go up School House Road and turn right on Mark Way. There is dedicated parking there. Begin your hike by walking the rest of School House Road to the trailhead.

Each year, many people have to be rescued while hiking in our local parks and Preserves. Please follow these basic guidelines that will contribute to you having a safe and enjoyable day.

Here's a list of Trails Dos and Don'ts to keep in mind.

DO:

- Stay on marked and designated trails.
- Know before you go - Use maps and know the trails or terrain that you will be encountering.
- Pick up your trash.
- When you can, leave it better than you found it.
- Keep wildlife wild - Leave the wildlife and animals alone.
- Share the trail and manage your pet.
- Let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Carry a fully charged cell phone with you. Do this even though cell phone service may be spotty throughout the Preserve. Turn on Airplane mode to save on the battery.
- Carry something to signal with like a whistle, small mirror, and/or brightly colored bandanna.
- If you get lost or disoriented and/or suffer any type of hiking injury, call for help right away. Don't delay the call or wait until it gets dark for assistance.
- Hydrate early, often, and remember to bring enough water for you, your children, and pets.
- When your water is half gone, turn around and return to the trailhead.
- Wear appropriate footwear, clothing, eye protection and sunscreen for your adventure.

DON'T:

- Cut through private property to get to a trail.
- Use motorized vehicles on any Town trails.
- Use trails when they are wet or muddy. Wait for trails to dry before using them. Remember: If you make a track, please turn back!
- Start fires.
- Overestimate your abilities and/or underestimate the difficulty of the hike.
- Hike alone (not recommended).

Equipped with this information we hope you enjoy the Town of Cave Creek trails. They truly are one of the crown jewels of the Town.

Happy Trails!

FEBRUARY 2024

THE TOWN OF CAVE CREEK WELCOME SIGN RETURNS

A few days after Thanksgiving last year we all got something to be thankful for. A replacement Cave Creek Welcome sign was installed in the same spot it was before.

The new sign is an almost exact replica of the previous one which was accidentally destroyed when it was hit by a vehicle. The mold was kept and another sign on the east entrance to Town is being considered.

We're happy to have this iconic symbol of the Town of Cave Creek back where it belongs!



COMMUNITY GRANTS

Non-profit organizations serving the perimeters of Cave Creek and Desert Foothills will now be able to apply for grants from the Town of Cave Creek with more ease, speed, and transparency. The Town provides financial support for non-profit, 501c(3) organizations to help protect the health, safety and welfare of its residents, and encourage arts, history, education, science, technology, humanities,

preservation, heritage, and culture of our community.

Grant applications will be available from February 5 on our website and social media. Applications will be due back to Town Hall by March 4.

LOCAL LANDMARKS

The Town of Cave Creek will now be working with the Cave Creek Museum on the Local Landmarks Program!

Throughout the year the following places will be inducted as local landmarks: Black Mountain Summit Preserve, Cave Creek Memorial Arena, Cave Creek Regional Park, Desert Awareness Park, and Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area.

Please check our website for upcoming presentation dates.

CaveCreekAZ.gov/Landmarks

ELECTION INFORMATION



Election Day for the Town of Cave Creek is Tuesday, August 6, 2024.

Are you interested in contributing to this community by serving on the Town of Cave Creek's Town Council?

For more information and a helpful video on how to become an official candidate, visit our Elections page:

CaveCreekAZ.gov/Elections

CAVE CREEK RODEO DAYS

The 47th Annual Cave Creek Rodeo Days are March 21 -24, 2024.

The Cave Creek Rodeo is the signature event in Town each year. The rodeo kicks off on Saturday, March 16 with the Cave Creek Rodeo Days Parade on Cave Creek Road at 9:00 AM. More events that day include Mutton Bustin', a Cornhole Tournament, and Kick-off dance. Thursday March 21 - Sunday, March 24 is the Rodeo itself. We hope to see you there!

For more information, visit CaveCreekRodeo.com.





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TOWN OF CAVE CREEK CONTACTS

Town Hall Main Line: 480-488-6600
Utilities Main Line: 480-488-6620
Utilities *after hours* (emergency line only): 602-667-4574
Engineering/Public Works: 480-488-6625
Development Services Department
Permits: 480-488-6622
Zoning: 480-488-6633

For Emergencies Dial 911

Public Safety (Non-Emergency) Numbers:

Town Marshal's Office: 480-488-6636
Maricopa County Sheriffs Dept: 602-876-1000
Cave Creek Fire Station: 623-465-7400
Cave Creek Fire + Medical Services Information: 480-437-3583
Maricopa County Animal Control: 602-506-7387
Snake Removal: 602-253-1191

SIGN UP FOR EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS

It's easier than ever to stay in touch with us by signing up for email updates with the Town.

Via this QR code or link below, you can sign up for general Town News emails, Town Council Meeting Information, and/or emails of interest to Town Business owners and managers. More email lists will be added in the future.

[CaveCreekAZ.gov/
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