

December 2022



Yarnell Regional Community Center

Serving the Weaver Mountains' Communities

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Believe

How many of us believed in Santa Claus growing up? How many still do? :-). At what age did you tell your kids that Santa's not real, or that he is but it's you? It's good to believe. We need to have something to believe in. A chubby guy flying around the world delivering presents all in one night however crazy, is pretty cool. One of my favorite memories is leaving cookies and milk out for Santa with the kids, only to circle back and get to eat most of the cookie(s). And the elves working around the clock making presents for kids is a happy thought as well.

The Center has its own elves. I've come to think of our Thrift Store as a "Gift Store." For every \$10 spent you are paying for a hot meal delivered, accompanied by a great conversation and wellness check. This is vital as we fight against the isolation of those we serve. Our community works tirelessly, year-round, to make "presents" for folks. Hopefully you're alright with me equating us and what we do to the elves at the North Pole, but you get the gist here. The reason we exist is to "Improve the Quality of Life" of those we serve. I think it is fantastic that so many people in our area want to help others. In the context of a selfish world that cares more about the next "selfie" our folks choose to focus on others. We're more "other-ly" than selfie. A selfie is more or less a self-portrait, but our portrait is a family photo that is very inclusive.

This little Community in which we live is something special. One measuring stick is our snowbirds. Many of these people can't wait to get back to Yarnell so they can get involved in our mission. Some of the neatest folks you will ever meet. At the Center we depend on these folks. We anticipate their return, and it fills my heart to think about what they do. In a world where many are more concerned about leisure time, they care, period. And they let their actions speak for how much.

I say all that to set up these next few sentences. This next year is going to be a tough year as the task seems overwhelming. Although we are being good stewards of donations and income it will still be challenging as we project 2023 numbers. So, I'm suggesting that you help play Santa to so many in our community in need. There is no better way to get into the holiday spirit than giving back. Please consider giving to Meals on Wheels this month and during this next year to help meet the need. Time, talent, and treasure will come together as we continue to make our Community the treasure that it is...for everyone!

Jimmy

"Being humble means recognizing that we are not on earth to see how important we can become, but to see how much difference we can make in the lives of others." – G. Hinkley