



A research and advocacy association, supporting efficient, responsive county government in Arizona.

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New Supervisors Spotlight: Supervisor Lynn Pancrazi, Yuma County

With the county elections that occurred across Arizona in 2016, 18 new supervisors were elected to office. With the large number of new faces added to the roster of county supervisors, we would like to take the opportunity each week to introduce one of them, in alphabetical order by county, then district number.

Name: Supervisor Lynne Pancrazi

County: Yuma County

District: 5

Birthdate: January 15

Family: Supervisor Pancrazi has been married for 39 years to Mike Pancrazi and has a step-daughter, son in law, and two beautiful grand kids.



Education: She is a graduate of Kofa High School, received her bachelor's degree from Point Loma Nazarene College, and earned her master's degree from Northern Arizona University.

Occupation (other than supervisor): In addition to her various duties as District 5 County Supervisor, she is also a retired elementary school teacher, and holds a current substitute teaching certificate, substituting when she is available.

Length of time in Arizona: Supervisor Pancrazi is a second generation Yuman, and said she loves the area so much that she would never consider living elsewhere.

Civic organization involvement: She is a member of the National Teacher's Association, Arizona Teacher's Association (retired), and has been an active member of a wide variety of education committees, boards, and more for many years. In December 2016, Supervisor Pancrazi was elected to serve on the board of directors for Hospice of Yuma. She also belongs to the Arizona Historical Society, served as a member of the Heritage Park Advisory Committee, belongs to Elk's Lodge 476, is a member of the Yuma Valley Rod and Gun Club, the NAACP, and the Yuma County Farm Bureau.

What is your favorite book? Though being a county supervisor takes up much of her time, she enjoys reading for pleasure, and can most often be found with a good murder mystery in her hands.

Best piece of advice received: For Supervisor Pancrazi, there are two main pieces of advice she has tried to keep in mind over her lengthy career in state politics. The first being: don't take anything personal. She explained that no matter what side of the "aisle" someone may be on, there will always be agreements and disagreements between people, and the worst thing to do is burn bridges. Especially in politics, you may disagree with someone on a particular topic, but you never know when they may become your ally on a different issue. The second piece of advice she tries to follow is the good old golden rule of do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

Inspiration to run for county supervisor: In 2016, Supervisor Pancrazi decided that she was going to hang up her hat as an Arizona Senator and state legislator. After completing 10 years in the Arizona State Legislature where she spent 6 years as State Representative and 4 years as State Senator, she became road weary and tired of “living out of a suitcase” for 5-6 months out of the year. Especially after a few close calls during her highway commuting, she decided that it was time to stick closer to home. When a seat on the Yuma County Board of Supervisors opened, she jumped at the chance to continue serving her community and constituents, but in a different capacity. Though she explained that she misses the hustle and bustle and law making responsibility of legislature life, she is thoroughly enjoying her new role as supervisor, gives high praise for the employees of Yuma county, and works hard to do the very best she can for her community.

Favorite place in Yuma County: Being a lifelong Yuma County resident, Supervisor Pancrazi noted that there were a large number of wonderful places to enjoy, and choosing one would be difficult. She explained that the county worked hard to restore the East and West Wetlands Parks, the Yuma Territorial Prison State Historical Park is a great place to visit, winter visitors love the area, and even just enjoying the desert landscape, is something she herself appreciates.

Most admired political figure: Supervisor Pancrazi discussed two major political figures that have influenced her over the years. As a fellow Yuman, Robert “Big Bob” McLendon is someone that she has admired because of his lifetime of hard work and dedication to the state of Arizona and to Yuma County, and his service as a positive role model in the political community. He worked for many years as a state legislator, a Yuma County supervisor, and even as a member of the Arizona Board of Regents. Amanda Aguirre, former Arizona Senator, is also someone who became a mentor and friend of Supervisor Pancrazi during her time in the state legislature. She explained that the former Senator took her under her wing, taught her how to govern better, exposed her to the importance of constituent work, and helped her become a better legislator and leader.

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County Finance Officers Meet at CSA

On Wednesday, May 31, CSA hosted the County Finance Officers Organization meeting with representation from fourteen counties. Topics of discussion included an Auditor General update on Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) audit issues, a legislative and state budget wrap up, Prop 206 implementation issues, changes to PSPRS/CORP amortization timelines, county airport fuel sales tax, and federal grant indirect cost rates.

The meeting kicked off at 10:30 with a presentation from Michael Stelpstra and Taryn Stangle of the Arizona Auditor General. A good conversation developed between audit staff and finance directors about tax abatement disclosures, sole corporate member blending requirements, investment trust fund fiduciary activities, and uniform guidance on procurement requirements.

The next meeting of the County Finance Officers Organization will be held August 1 from 3-5pm in Pima County.

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CSA on the Road



Each year, after the legislative session ends, CSA staff travels the state to meet with county supervisors and professional staff.

Our outreach kicks off next week in Graham and Greenlee counties. Over the course of the summer, we will visit each of the 15 counties to brief them on the recent legislative session and our work going into 2018.

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National Trails Day

The first Saturday of every June is recognized as National Trails Day, which was established to celebrate, improve, and enjoy America's wonderful trail system. In 1968, President Lyndon Johnson signed the National Trails System Act and officially designated the Appalachian and Pacific Crest National Scenic Trails. Today, there are 11 national

scenic trails, 19 national historic trails, and over 1,200 national recreation trails throughout the country that link historic sites, wildlife refuges, national parks, national forests, and wilderness areas providing the public with vital access to the outdoors. National Trails Day is the nation's largest celebration of trails, and all that goes with it. In addition to the national trail system, there are countless miles of state, county, and local town trail systems for you to enjoy.



Even though the heat is upon us here in Arizona, there will still be plenty of fun and activities to participate in this Saturday. For example, Mohave County is teaming up with the [American Hiking Society](#) to put on fun exhibits, activities, and trail work projects to celebrate. You can read more about Mohave's planned events [in this news article](#), and [here](#) you can find out more information about events happening near you.

Whether you like to walk, hike, ride horseback, or bicycle, there is a trail for you!

Sources: [National Park Service](#); [National Trails Day](#)

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NACo Stepping Up Initiative: Panel Discussion

This week, the National Association of Counties (NACo) held a panel discussion on the progress of the Stepping Up Initiative that began two years ago. Stepping Up aims to discourage the jailing of seriously mentally ill people and the use of prison as the treatment option of "first resort" for the mentally ill. Over 300 counties, including urban, suburban, and rural counties have issued resolutions relating to the initiative.



Nationally, people with mental illness spend twice as long in jail awaiting trial as people without mental illness. However, partnerships between counties, state governments, and behavioral health specialists can reduce this disparity. The partnerships can provide policy and technological support to counties that want to adopt Stepping Up. American Psychiatric Association Foundation Executive Director, Dan Gillison, underscored the importance of partnerships and said that collaboration and shared expertise were critical to Stepping Up. Other panelists discussed the role of the media, law enforcement, and other potential partners. They also discussed state and federal funding sources that counties can utilize.

For more information about Stepping Up please [click here](#).

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This Week in Arizona History

- May 29, 1985 - The University of Arizona held its first commencement with just three graduates.
- May 30, 1910 - President William Howard Taft signed Proclamation 1043, establishing Rainbow Bridge National Monument near Page, Arizona.
- May 31, 1910 - The Maricopa Reservation was quarantined because of an outbreak of whooping cough and measles.
- June 1, 1906 - Marked the last mule-drawn streetcar run to the gates of the University of Arizona, which was replaced with the electric car that had gone into operation five days prior.
- June 2, 1935 - Three carloads of dynamite were set off and dislodged 400,000 tons of rock to open up the New Cornelia mining site in Ajo, Arizona.
- June 3, 1936 - A convict at Florence State Prison attempted to escape and elude prison bloodhounds by swimming 16 miles through irrigation canals to Picacho Lake, towing his lunch in a gallon milk pail.



Sources: [Washington Times Today in Arizona History](#); [AZ Central Arizona History](#), [Wikimedia Commons](#)

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