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**NEWS RELEASE/
PUBLIC SERVICE
ANNOUNCEMENT**

Chino Valley closes Library and Senior Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 17, 2020

CHINO VALLEY, AZ- The Town of Chino Valley announced today that effective immediately the Public Library will be closed to the public due to coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic concerns. This will remain in effect until further notice.

“This was a very difficult decision to make but one we felt was necessary”, said Mayor Darryl Croft. “But with the latest recommendations from the Governor’s office and the CDC, we just didn’t feel it would be responsible to remain open.”

The library is located at 1020 Palomino Road in Chino Valley, AZ.

Also being closed to the public is the Chino Valley Senior Center, located at 1021 Butterfield Road Chino Valley, AZ. The Senior Center closure will go into effect tomorrow, Wednesday March 18, 2020.

It was announced yesterday that the Senior Center would be limited in hours and services, including lunch only with a strong recommendation for take-out meals, thereby limiting customer contact. The decision today by staff, under the guidance of Mayor Croft, is to set the lunch pick up hours from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm, with take out only until further notice.

“This process will begin tomorrow because we realize many of our customers aren’t as active online or with social media and we wanted to make sure they were informed and could make arrangements,” said Cyndi Thomas, Assistant Community Services Director.

Thomas, who oversees the Senior Center, added that she and her staff will post notices and inform customers in person. “Quite a few of our customers get dropped off at the center, and we wanted to make sure they could make arrangements for the rest of the week and however long we remain closed.”

The Senior Center Meals-On-Wheels program is operating as regularly scheduled.

Some very limited library services will still be available, including front door and curbside pick-up for hold/reserved items.

Customers may call 928-636-2687 to request items, to alert staff of their arrival for pick-ups, or for more information.

“We ask that everyone show a little patience and understanding with these changes,” said Croft. “Our goal is to keep the public as safe as possible and hope to be back to business as soon as we can.”

For more information on the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic please visit the CDC web site at www.cdc.gov and Governor Ducey’s office at www.azgovernor.gov for more information.

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