

ASH FORK DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Nov./DEC. 2019



ASH FORK WATER SERVICE

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By Lewis Hume, Manager

- Cold weather is already upon us. Your exposed water spigot is probably not liquid anymore. It could be more like an ice spigot. Its time to cover those exposed pipes, Drain
- that irrigation line. Check those heat tapes and get ready for cold weather on your water system. If you have had trouble in the past maybe you should fill a 5-gallon bottle to
- have in house. A little is better than none.

Congratulations go out to Joe and Jose here at the water company for successfully passing the recent Operator Certification Exam. For Joe, with this recent completion he is

- now certified at Grade-2 for both Water Distribution and Water Testing. For Jose this was his first certification test and he now a Grade-1 Water Treatment Water Operator.
- Ash Fork Water Service is required under ADEQ Operator Certification program to

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)WATER



YOU ARE INVITED—FIRST SMALL TOWN CHRISTMAS LIGHTING CEREMONY

NOVEMBER 22ND @ 6PM—EAST ENTRANCE TO ASH FORK!

Looking forward to seeing many of you there. This could possibly become an annual event.

This being the first attempt, seeing our neighboring communities beautiful lighting, why not see what we can do. The other communities such as Williams are incorporated so they have tax money to go toward their decorations, etc. Ash Fork, being an unincorporated community, has no such luxury. However, we checked out what a professional decorator would charge, and though it was not a budgeted item we went ahead and

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have a Grade-3 Distribution/ Grade-2 Treatment Operator for the system. Joe is working on that level-3 and Jose is scheduling to test again soon.

All is good down at Ash Fork Well #2 and the new Arsenic Treatment Plant. Our first scheduled filter change and backwash operation went well. This is an operational procedure that will need to be preformed every 6 to 8-weeks when the well is in operation. All feels good.

All Backflow Preventer Device Testing has been completed for the year. This is an annual event. Ash Fork Water Service has over 50-of these backflow devices

within the system. Maintaining these backflow devices is the customers responsibility. Ash Fork Water System installs, tests and repairs these devices as a service to its customers. Ash Fork Water has a certified Backflow tester on staff.

Ash Fork Water Service is currently supplying water to Fisher Construction for its material operation at Crookton. This is for a I-40 Job West of Seligman. It appears that BNSF Railway will be starting their construction project soon. They are adding or replacing one of the yard tracks. Water will also be needed for this project.



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Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, is once again collecting shoeboxes filled with gifts to be delivered to children in need around the world.

Things like toothbrushes, school supplies, and hygiene items may seem small and commonplace to us, but to children affected by war, poverty, famine, and disease, they can be a life-changing treasure. These carefully packed shoeboxes may contain the first gifts these children have ever received, a demonstration of God's love in a tangible way that reminds them they are not alone and not forgotten.

Since 1993,168 million shoebox gifts have been delivered to children in need in over 160 countries. Enthusiasm for this project has grown here in Ash Fork, and our Drop-off Center receives an increasing number each year. Thanks to the generosity of local donors, our community sent 459 boxes in 2018.

Some suggested items to pack would be: "Wow" items (stuffed animals, dolls, clothing), personal care items (combs, toothbrushes, washcloths, soap), school supplies (pencils, pens, notebooks, scissors, erasers, sharpen-

ers), toys (balls, yo-yos, hacky sacks, Etch A Sketch), to name a few.

Some items that cannot be included: candy, gum, toothpaste, used or damaged items, war-related items, or anything liquid or breakable.

If you would like to participate and need shoeboxes, brochures on how to pack a box, or further information on how you can help bring joy and hope into a hurting child's life, contact Carol Cox at: 928-606-3437.

National Collection Week this year will be November 18 - 25. Our local Drop-off Center is located at the First Southern Baptist Church (at the corner of 1^{st} and Lewis) and will be open at the following times:

Monday	Nov.18: 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.	Friday	Nov. 22: 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Tuesday	Nov. 19: 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.	Saturday	Nov. 23: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Wednesday	Nov. 20: 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.	Sunday,	Nov. 24: 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Thursday	Nov. 21: 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.	Monday	Nov. 25: 10 a.m. – noon

Ash Fork Development Association sponsored the Annual Ash Fork Town Hall meeting on September 30th. The purpose is to give our community updates on what is happening in Yavapai County and its' government. This year those in attendance from the county were District 4 Supervisor Craig Brown, Lt. Tom Boelts from the Sherriff's Department, Dan Cherry, Director Yavapai County Public Works, David C. Williams, Director Development Services, Ron Sauntman, Manager Emergency Management and Judge Sarno, Justice of the Peace for Ash Fork and Seligman.

Attendance was large this year, well over 50 people. It is our hope that some of you have had your interest in the community piqued and will attend AFDA's regular monthly meetings (schedule on the back of this Newsletter). Someone from the Sheriff's Department is usually in attendance as well as Mary Conner, Supervisor Brown's assistant who gives updates on matters pertaining to us from the county perspective.

Some highlights from the meeting included Dan Cherry stating that the \$32 vehicle registration fee has been repealed and will go away in two years. However, the legislature will be discussing what the fee will be after that. These fees go toward airports, solid and emergency management. Public Works is looking to have another Community Clean-up in 2020. This cost of \$60,000 is split between Yavapai and Coconino Counties.

David Williams stated that this calendar year they will see 4,000 building permits. He also spoke about the new permitting system. This is a new one-stop permitting software system that is now live for Development Ser-

Ash Fork Post Office...The community of Ash Fork with Ash Fork Development Association taking the reins, expressed their concerns regarding the Ash Fork Post Office. Many agreed by signing the agreement that Ash Fork Post Office is outdated and the community has outgrown it. As the community continues to grow, all 1200 boxes, which include the portable turn-around boxes that take up most of the lobby space, are all rented. New residents are told they have to go to our neighboring communities 20 to 30 miles away to get their mail.

More than 100 signatures all agreed we are outdated and outgrown. These signatures were sent to Senator Paul Gosar's office, which has agreed to help us in this endeavor. Stay tuned, this will not happen overnight.

vices, Flood Control District and Public Works—CitizenServe. With CitizenServe, property owners are able to submit permit applications, search permit records, file a code complaint, schedule building inspections, find out other department information and pay permitting fees all on line from the comforts of your homes or anywhere else using your phone or other electronic device. Citizen-Serve is entirely web-based and paperless, starting with the permit application and all the way through issuance of the permit. Permit application can be submitted along with all required plans and documents, which are uploaded through the web portal. The customer does not even have to come to the office to pick up their permit.

NOTE: As of July 1, 2019 Yavapai County has adopted the 2018 Building Codes. Yavapai County Web Portal is at this link: www.citizenserve.com/yavapaicounty.

Ron Sauntman from Emergency Management talked about Code Red and hopes that everyone has signed up to be notified in the event of an emergency in our area.

Judge Sarno stated that having his jurisdiction along the I-40 corridor see 3,500 to 4,000 traffic violations in his courtroom in one year. Fees generate \$800,000 yearly with half going to Yavapai County and the other half to the State. He also stated that his court uses the language line more than any other jurisdiction. This is due to so many foreign speaking people driving the I-40 and getting violations. The judge hears mostly civil cases, as felony cases go to Superior Court. He also handles small claims from \$3,500 up to \$10,000.



ASH FORK MUSEUM/TOURIST CENTER



Ash Fork Historical Society recently finished and placed an order for 12 additional history plaques for the History Walk and working on an inside exhibit.

Check out our gift shop for a special gift for the upcoming holiday season.

November 4th we begin our winter hours 9 AM—3 PM

It has been a busy tourist season and we have enjoyed the scheduled groups and even celebrated a surprise birthday. Never know what's coming up.

Census History... Thomas Jefferson directed the first decennial census in 1790, as required by the US. Constitution. A Census has been taken every 10 years there after. In 1840 the Census Act authorized the establishment of a Centralized Census Office. In 1902 the Census Office became a permanent organization with the Department of the Interior. A year later it was renamed the Bureau of the Census and moved to the new Department of Commerce & Labor.

The results of the Census determine the number of seats for each state in the U.S. House of Representatives and are used to draw Congressional and State Legislative District. Federal agencies use the results to distribute more than \$675 billion in federal funds each year. Your

information is protected by law, your response is only to produce statistics.

Yavapai County is partnering with local jurisdictions and the US Census Bureau to get an accurate count of every person residing in Yavapai County as of April 1, 2020. The County has received general trainings from the Census Bureau to get our Complete Count Committee formed, and will begin meeting to brainstorm with the committee in November. The big kick off and advertisements from the Census will begin after the new year in January 2020. Currently, the Census Bureau is hiring many citizens from around every community to help with the collection of data and verify homes and addresses. The Census workers are out in the neighborhoods right now and should be clearly identified with a badge. Please be kind to them as they are trying to help locate homes and other buildings that people may be living in. The benefit will be for our communities to be given our portion of the funds from the federal government to help support our community needs. The actual census will be conducted in April, 2020. Residents will be able to respond via phone, mail, or via the internet based on the preferred method of the resident. Federal Census takers will be personally visiting difficult or nonresponsive properties during the summer of 2020.



Ash Fork High School Celebrates College and Career Week

By Al Wood

Last week, Ash Fork High School students participated in our first annual College and Career Spirit Week. This was a week focused on making students think about their future careers, consider military service, and weigh their options for college, university, or technical school.

College and Career Week was kicked off on October 21 with a visit from our Yavapai College counselor, who helped students register for concurrent enrollment classes or consider a future with Yavapai College after high school graduation. All seniors also completed a college application with support from school staff and our Yavapai College counselor.

We held a FAFSA night for seniors and their parents on October 22, where representatives from Grand Canyon University, Yavapai College, and the Northern Arizona College Resource Center were on hand to help students and parents complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, which helps determine student eligibility for Pell Grants and other scholarships.

Throughout the week, representatives from Arizona State University and Northern Arizona University were also on campus to give presentations and answer student questions about attending their schools. I also met with all freshmen and sophomore students to discuss their aspirations and options, making sure they were on track to reach their desired goals.

To conclude the week, 30 students attended the Northern Arizona Region College Night at Flagstaff High School on October 24. Nearly 100 booths were available for students to meet with different college representatives, military recruiters, and scholarship coordinators. Students left the college fair energized to research their many options about life after high school.

HELP WANTED

NORTHERN ARIZONA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS 119 N. ASPEN AVE. FLAGSTAFF, AZ 86001

928.774.1895 www.nacog.org HR@nacog.org

NACOG Head Start is currently recruiting for Substitute II (Teacher) positions, and Substitute I (Aide) positions in the Williams and Ash Fork areas

These are "as needed" positions with the potential for full-time employment.

Benefits include: Substitute II \$14.77/hr. up to 35 hrs./wk., sick

Substitute I \$11.00/hr. up to 35 hrs./wk., sick pay

Visit nacog.org to complete an employment application.

Questions: <u>HR@nacog.org</u> Or 928.213.5234

Equal opportunity employer and committed to workplace diversity.

ASH FORK & WILLIAMS HEAD START ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS NOW!

We have a Center based program serving 3-5 year old's, a
Home-based program for 3-5 year old's and an Early Head
Start Home-based program serving Prenatal Moms and Children 0-3. *Family support service *Age appropriate activities
*Training for Parents *Nutritious meals & snacks
*Assistance with medical & dental services
*Transportation referrals *Services for children with different abilities *Professionally trained/licensed Early Childhood Staff
*All services are FREE

Ash Fork Head Start 450 W. Lewis Ave., Ash Fork 86320 (928)637-1027

Williams Head Start 310 W. Sherman Williams, AZ 86046 (928)635-4273

Please stop by today to enroll your child!

ASH FORK UNIFIED PUBLIC **SCHOOL**

How proud the Ash Fork community is of the Ash Fork Elementary School who were among five in the state recently named a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education.

The school is being recognized as an exemplary high performing school as measured by state assessments and nationally normed tests.

Ash Fork Elementary will be among the 362 National Blue Ribbon Schools celebrated Nov. 14 and 15 in a Washington, D.C. awards ceremony.

Superintendent, Seth Staples exclaimed "We're excited, it's great for the community".

state in January, and Staples said he and other school personnel completed a lengthy application to be considered "We do have the philosophy to keep for the award.

Staples said the organization was informance, especially as a school wide about climate and culture.

Since the 2013-2014 school year, Ash Fork Elementary has been recognized as a top performing school,

Mr. Staples said he credits the staff and students for the school's success. He said a focus on standards, high expectations, real-life applications, differentiated support and constant monitoring of each student has resulted in state tests showing significantly higher achievement than the state average. For grades three and four in 2017-2018, the percentage of students scoring highly proficient on AZ Merit tests in English was more than double the state averages of all public and charter schools.

graders passed the math portion of the students changing schools mid-year. AZ Merit as compared to 53 percent state-wide. Of those third graders, 45 percent scored highly proficient compared to the state average of 22 per-

The schedule for the school is nine weeks on and two weeks off, with a four-day school week. There are six to seven standards to be mastered in those nine weeks. It helps us break up the year and focus on those standards.

Mr. Staples stated that the low turnover and dedication of the staff is key to the success of the school. He said Ash Fork has a limited but multiskilled staff, which allows the district to pay higher salaries than other area school. The average teacher salary for 2019 in Ash Fork is \$57,250. The the core curriculum. The resources The school was nominated by the average salary for teachers in Williams if \$40,249 and Grand Canyon is dars, unwrapped documents, forma-\$43,693.

our staff minimal, but we try to empower and find areas those staff mem-Title I school. He also said they asked social studies teacher is also excellent at academic counseling, so we pay For the 2012-2013 school year, the us to do that."

> helpful, he believes that helping teachers feel good about what they teachers to do their best.

"We give them a plan and what to do-give them some ideas-and they're successful," he said. "Feeling For the 2013-2014 school year, the good about what you're doing every day in your job is bigger for those teachers than just the pay."

Staples said one of the biggest chal-

In math, 85 percent of Ash Fork third lenges the district faces is mobility, or

"Our mobility is 40 percent, but it's amazing how our elementary team is able to grab them and get them going," he said.

Staples said the demographic of the school can also pose challenges. Of the school population, 81 percent qualify for free/reduced lunch and 48 percent are Hispanic.

He said the school had been following a textbook model of teaching, but after consulting with excelling districts they decided to follow a curriculum map throughout the year and find their own resources.

The district now uses a Beyond Textbooks, a standards-based model for consist of detailed curriculum calentive assessments and teacher created resources aligned to Arizona state standards.

After a few years, the school moved terested in the school's academic per- bers are good at, and let's pay them from one of the lowest achieving for that," he said. As an example, our schools in the state to one of the top academic achieving schools.

> him an additional stipend to be an district ties for ninth place on the Ariacademic counselor. Our size enables zona Department of Education's list of top-performing districts in the Staples said although higher pay is state. In 2013, school board member Barry Sharp received the All-Arizona School Board Award, high school are doing is more important. He said math teacher Sonny Martin was the district has a rigid teacher evalua- named the overall Yavapai County tion instrument which challenges Teacher of the Year, and middle school language arts teacher Jeaneen Leach was named the county's small schools teacher of the year.

> > Arizona Department of Education named Ash Fork the number one performing district in the state, and Staples received the 2014-2015 All-

Ash Fork Volunteer Appreciation Dinner...

It's the season when we look at what has been accomplished and give thanks for the gift of giving to benefit others. That brings Ash Fork Development Association Volunteers and Ash Fork Water Service to join Ash Fork Fire Department, First Responders and guests to get together for an Appreciation Dinner. We say thanks to families who, on a minutes notice, can have their plans turned up-side-down.

Good food, good company and the anticipation of having your number called to pick a gift from the tree. A reward for all of us is to look at the great work accomplished and a happy smile.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6) SCHOOL

Arizona Superintendent of the Year award for small districts for his efforts.

On October 21st, Ash Fork Development Association along with the Ash Fork Water Service and Marshall Trimble, AZ State Historian and former Ash Fork School alumni honored the Elementary School teachers and students, presenting them with a cake, flowers and treats for each of the six elementary classrooms.





(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)LIGHTING

contracted with the decorator that creates such beautiful lighting in northern Arizona. If the community sees this as a worthwhile project, we know we will have to do fundraisers to foot the bill for subsequent years. AFDA is excited to see how this is going to be accepted. There has already been some interest and generous donations have come in to help defray the cost and more is expected,

Witness the turning on of the lights and enjoy hot chocolate and cookies, and, at the same time you can let us know what you think. There will be a container for your written comments and a donation jar if you wish to contribute. Save the date.

ASH FORK UNIFIED PUBLIC SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

Seth Staples

hough the days are getting shorter and the temperatures are dropping, there is plenty of things happening here at Ash Fork Schools.

The biggest news we have is our Ash Fork Elementary School has been named a 2019 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S Department of Education. We are only one of four schools in Arizona to receive the award. Our



schools have always ranked high in Arizona, but it is great to see our elementary school recognized as one of the best in the nation. We are so proud of the students and staff that made this award possible, and this gives our community one more accolade to be proud of. I will be traveling with Mrs. Tiedeman, elementary language arts teacher, and Mr. Holladay, elementary math teacher to Washington DC to receive the award in November.

You may have noticed an increase in construction activity near the lower softball and baseball fields. A new retaining wall is being built that will help remedy some of the issues that were occurring with the old wall constructed in 2002. The new wall will actually have a footer, mortared cells, and an updated drainage system. The project also includes additional concrete slabs and sidewalks to make the fields more accessible.

We are excited to see our first generation of students to attempt the Associates Degree Program successfully completing their last year in the program. These students attend classes on campus at Yavapai College in Prescott and upon graduating, they will receive an associate's degree along with their high school diploma. The program started in 2017, and hasn't been easy for staff or students. We learn a little more each year on how to make the program better and what students are best suited for the program. Many schools in the county are using our model to begin their own associates program at their schools. A big thanks to Mr. Wood who acts as the high school academic counselor for helping students as they maneuver through the program.

It is time for Ash Fork Schools to revisit our vision and mission statement as we finish out the 2020 school year. It has been nearly ten years since we have created a vision and mission statement, and a lot has changed since then. Creating a new vision and mission statement helps schools and communities to evaluate who we are and who we want to become as we educate the future adults of our community. On November 20th Ash Fork Schools will have a half day schedule to work on a new vision and mission statement. The first meeting will include school staff, school board members and members of the Ash Fork High School Student Council. After this meeting we are planning on including input from parents, community members and the student body. Our goal is to create a vision and mission statement that can help guide us in making decisions and leading Ash Fork School into the future.

In conclusion, it's a great time to be a Spartan. Thanks for your support and trust.

School Calendar

Nov. 11 No School—Veteran's Day

Nov. 25—Nov. 28 Thanksgiving Break

Dec. 19 End of 2nd Quarter

Dec. 23—Jan 2 Winter Break

Community Garden Coming Soon... At the last AFDA AFDA has agreed to work with her on this Produce Pro-General Meeting Carol Young addressed the Board with a ject. request to use a portion of our non-profit property for a greenhouse or raised bed farming. Carol has received a grant from the Arizona Association of Food Banks in April to grow healthy food. This venture will take in both Yavapai County and Coconino County. There are many facets in her proposal to get fresh vegetables to the local community. She will be looking for volunteers to help in the various stages of this venture.

The Head Start program will also be participating as part of their curriculum.

Carol is also asking for free water for the growing of the vegetables. This will be discussed at another AFDA General Meeting,

As more information becomes available, we will let the community know.





FIRST THINGS FIRST

By Lynda Bennett

First Things First recently launched a new resource page designed to get parents reading and talking with their child at an early age. FTF's Language and Early Literacy Development page provides ways families can help build early language and literacy skills. These include how to read with your baby and toddler, how reading helps develop life skills and videos that show the importance of back-and-forth conversations with babies.

About First Things First – First Things First is a voter-created, statewide organization that funds early education and health programs to help kids be successful once they enter kindergarten. Decisions about how those funds are spent are made by local councils staffed by community volunteers. To learn more, visit FirstThingsFirst.org or find us on Facebook.



ASH FORK DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Editor: Carole A. Popp

THE ASH FORK DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION WAS INCORPORATED THE 4TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 1966. THE GENERAL NATURE OF BUSINESS IS THE TRANSPORTATION, DELIVERY AND SALE OF WATER. IN ADDITION THE ASSOCIATION WILL RENDER CONSTRUCTIVE CIVIC SERVICES FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE WELFARE OF THE COMMUNITY AND OF THE CITIZENS OF ASH FORK, AZ, TO INCULCATE CIVIC CONSCIOUSNESS BY MEANS OF ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN CONSTRUCTIVE PROJECTS WHICH WILL IMPROVE THE COMMUNITY, STATE AND NATION.

ASH FORK DEVELOPMENT
ASSOCIATION, INC.
MEETING DATES:
NOVEMBER 20, 2019
NO MEETING IN DECEMBER
7:00 PM GENERAL MEETING
ESCALANTE MEETING ROOM @LLC BUILDING
LEWIS AVE. & 5TH STREET (BY THE MARQUEE)

Ash Fork Tourist Center
And Museum
Open
Monday thru Friday
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Operated by Volunteers
Ash Fork Historical Society



Community Church Schedules:

Ash Fork Baptist Church Lewis Ave. & 1st St.

Pathway Chapel Double A Ranch Rd.

St. Anne Catholic Church 7th St.

Gospel of Faith Church Bullock Rd. @ Cattle Guard

Emmanuel Trinity Church 47423 N. 4th St.

Sunday Services 11:00 AM

Sunday Services 10:30 AM and 6:30 PM

Wed. & Sat.: Rosary 3:30 p.m. Mass 4:00 PM

Sunday Services 11:00 AM

Sunday (Bi-lingual) 10 AM Wed. Bible Study 6 PM Information call Pastor Robert (928) 853-1122