SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2020

VOLUME 23 ISSUE 1





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#### **ASH FORK WATER SERVICE**

From the Water Desk

By Lewis Hume, Water Manager

(928)637-2774

Stone Dam

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A recent trip up to Stone Dam saw the area in good shape. The

gravel road is still in great shape, Old Rt. 66 is about the same old rough. Port-a-potty available and clean (might bring paper). Fresh

load of Channel Catfish just off-loaded. All is good for a Saturday

afternoon.

The water is receding about normal for the season and the old boat

someone left for us is starting to show. The tent ring appears to have

hosted a few tents set ups.

The site gets many visitors. With the increase in visitation comes the increased possibility of trash getting away.

So, when you're there picking up your trash after a day of fishing and relaxing, pick up an extra can or bottle as a way of doing your part in keeping this great site clean.

Remember to report any safety concerns or maintenance issues to the Ash Fork Water Service. Thanks for helping! Enjoy our Stone Dam!



#### WHERE ARE THE MONSOONS???

By Fayrene Hume

Leven without the rains, it seems there is plenty of landscaping maintenance work. The weeds keep growing. I'm sure you have noticed the community work accomplished by the part-time youth group working on Fridays. Jobs this year have been very limited—NO NACOG PROGRAMS. AFDA was only able to offer some part-time work. The young high-schoolers, Angel, Dom, Tanner, Owen and Zack, accepted the five hour weekly work schedule showing up each Friday, learning, doing and growing, setting goals and seeing them accomplished.

The group began at the Community Center/Sheriff's Sub-station, then on to the Water Service, Park, Library, Monument, Clinic, medians, Fire Station, Water Fill-up Station, Water Tank Site, Sidewalks. History Plaques and Stone Dam Lake are priorities and lastly the entrance of town.

It's a lot of slow and tedious work and such few hours to get it all done, but looks great at the end. Some folks have graciously commented on the appearance of their workplaces and that makes the boys even more proud. Also noticeable that some pri-



vate properties have made changes for the better—Good Job. Our community shines with what effort is put into it. A big thank-you goes out to ADOT for chipping the piles of limbs throughout town.









#### ASH FORK DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

August 2020 Annual Elections did not have much interest shown. Carole Popp's term was up and she was reelected. There are empty seats on the governing board ready when there is interest in the work and giving of time to serve. These are elected volunteer positions.

The Board consists of: Fayrene Hume, President; Frank Cedillo, Vice President; Carole Popp, Secretary, David Cox, Treasurer, Carrie Sotelo, Member, David Payne, Member representative for K.E.W. and Lewis Hume, Water Service and Property Manager.

#### Priorities on the table include:

- Medical provider for Health Services for our area to be housed at 112 Park Ave. facility, which North Country vacated after serving for 25 plus years. AFDA will work diligently in procuring a new provider and asks for the communities patience and support.
- AFDA is also behind the effort to obtain a new post office facility on behalf of the community. A petition was sent to Postal Supervisors and Rep. Paul Gosar who is pushing on our behalf. In this area things tend to move slowly.
- AFDA is also concerned with the Ash Fork Sanitary
  District. We ask for your support in the upcoming
  November election to vote for Lewis Hume and
  Frank Cedillo with Juan Carranza as a write-in candidate. Each candidate has shown interest in this District and have come forward to volunteer.

This is a Special District that those living in the district pay for on their property taxes. This District has been idle for some time. Property owners need to get behind these candidates so our community can grow, because without a sewer system we will not grow.

Our forefathers worked hard and gave from their hearts for us to be able to live healthier and comfortable. We need to do our part for the future.

A couple of months ago we had a guest come to our meeting excited to share news that President Trump had put out he wants to improve infrastructure throughout the country. She knew this was something Ash Fork needed as they have no sewer system. Clara, has lived in Kaibab the past seven years and she has stepped up, obtaining some preliminary engineering information that had been previously done, so she could present the needs for our town when the time came. We can hope to be chosen and thank Clara

- for her willingness to help (if not chosen the effort was made).
- Janet Dean, APS Community Affairs Manager and Brenda Carter, APS Operations and Maintenance Supervisor have been attending our meetings via Zoom and would like to do an in-person meeting once the COVID 19 is low in number, tentatively in September. Things are working out having Janet's number when there is a power outage, instead of calling Phoenix. Much faster service.
- It's not too early to be thinking of Christmas especially when there is work to be done. Some of our older wooden Christmas Cut-outs need repair work and a paint job. Anyone with talent and some free time please come forward to help out.
- AFDA appreciates our volunteers kind work and invite you to attend our monthly meetings in person or via Zoom. Our next meeting is September 16th at 7:00 pm in the Escalante Room.

#### ASH FORK—86320 ZIP CODE COVID 19 COUNT

The count is low, but wish it was zero.

During this shutdown time there have been several deaths—not to say they were all COVID connected. Benny Houghton, Josh Cain, Ted Edel, Richard Renz, Bob Wilkins, Elmer Garcia and Rosanna Merritt. God rest their souls.



Enjoy a Family Friendly Event while you explore an exciting Career on September 5, 2020!

An opportunity to meet various personnel from specialized units within Yavapai County Sheriff including:

**Animal Control Officers** 

**Dispatchers** 

Records Staff

K9 Deputies and their Partners including a demonstration

SWAT Deputies – Specialized armored vehicle and associated gear will be on display

Detention Officers will speak to the many interesting jobs within the Jail Division

Cook

**Evidence Technicians** 

Community Relations and representatives from the Fraud Intervention Team

The Right by Kids Team and Deputy
Do-Right

And more...











# SPAGHETTI DINNER SPONSORED BY ASH FORK DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2020 5:30 PM—7:00 PM \$6.00 PER PERSON ASH FORK FIRE STATION DINNER AND MUSIC INSIDE AND OUTSIDE SEATING TAKE-OUT AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

#### FUND RAISER TO BENEFIT TOWN CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

# 50/50 RAFFLE—WINNER TO BE DRAWN AT 6:30 PM OTHER RAFFLE ITEMS—TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

**FUND RAISING** is work and must be done if we branch out for the community. AFDA's yearly fund raiser is the Community Calendar, proceeds going back to the community, mostly for our youth. Thanks to all who support the calendar, not only advertising businesses, it is the phone directory too.

Last year the turnout for the Town Christmas Lighting was a success. In order to do this project professionally we have to raise money since Ash Fork is not incorporated and tax money is unavailable for our needs. Much effort has been put into a fund raiser for this project. Thanks to each of you who helped selling raffle tickets, gave support, made donations and donated prizes for the smaller raffle.

Others also do fund raisers. Coach Sonny Martin at the school prepares "Navajo Tacos" to raise funds for the sports programs and very successful too.

The American Legion purchases flags which line Lewis and Park Aves. on special occasions throughout the year. They recently raised money to replace some of these flags.

#### Have an emergency—need to call someone. Maybe these numbers will help.

Life Line Ambulance: 928-445-3811

Sheriff: 911 or Non-emergency: 928-771-3260

Yavapai County Supervisor Craig Brown: 1-800-771-2797

Coconino Supervisor: 928-678-7120

Justice of Peace—Seligman: 928-771-3358 or 1-800-771-2797 Ask for Seligman Justice of Peace

Public Works—Transfer Station: 928-771-3183

Ash Fork Post Office: 928-637-2554 Fire Department: 928-637-2533

KEW Fire Department: 928-637-2555

ROUTE 66 ROAD AHEAD PARTNERSHIP a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization is taking the lead in orchestrating the celebration of Route 66's 100th Birthday Gala Celebration in 2026. A five-year series of birthday celebration initiatives begins in 2021.

Support Route 66 through preservation, economic development, promotion, research and education projects. Be thinking "Ash Fork", we are on the historic highway.

The road continues to be a popular tourist destination for both domestic and international travelers

Ash Fork Historical Society will work with the State Route 66 Association for ideas in planning the "Party with a Purpose".

Remember "the state of Arizona" did their five year planning leading up to their Centennial in 2012 and all communities were asked to do a book on their history and a monument commemorating that history. The Monument is located at the Historical Monument site located in the center of town and depicts our Flagstone Capital status. The book "Images of America "Ash Fork" is written by State Historian Marshall Trimble and is available for sale at the Route 66 Museum.



#### **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 \$12.00/hr. up to 35 hrs./wk., sick

Visit <u>nacog.org</u> to complete an employment application.

Questions: HR@nacog.org 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!

#### **APS Program Protects Birds of Prey**

By Janet Dean, APS Community Affairs Manager

Raptors perched on top of power poles—they are a common sight in Northern Arizona. I've always enjoyed seeing them along my drives across our beautiful region. But it wasn't until I began working at APS several years ago that I understood the unintended and sometimes fatal consequences associated with that common bird behavior.

In addition to posing risks to the birds, perching can result in damage to the APS electrical system infrastructure, reliable energy delivery, and can even lead to wildfires. To mitigate those risks, APS operates an Avian Protection Program that works across our ser-



vice territory, including in and around Ash Fork. This program helps us ensure the safety of Arizona wildlife, especially large birds of prey that are more likely to come in contact with two energized lines at once due to their wide wingspans. Our customers are an important part of our efforts to protect these beautiful birds. In addition to APS field personnel identifying potential issues, we rely on our customers to alert us when they see bird nests on poles or find injured or dead birds near a power line.

Our team responds to these reports by assessing the infrastructure and determining next steps for deploying mitigation efforts. Often, when we think a bird has had an electrical contact, we install protective equipment (also known as 'bird guards') on between 5 and 11 consecutive poles depending on the species of bird. If a nest is found to be occupied, we will relocate the nest to keep the parents safe as they raise their nestlings.

The Avian Protection Program is possible, in part, with support from two key community partners, Liberty Wildlife Rehabilitation Center and Wild at Heart, which help relocate and rehabilitate injured birds found near and around our infrastructure. They also help us relocate nests and care for injured birds in a safe environment. Other partner organizations include the Arizona Game and Fish Department and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services.

If you find an injured bird or nest near an electrical power line, please call us immediately at 800-253-9405 or 602-371-7171. An APS representative will gather information regarding what you've found. Information such as a pole number, a nearby address or GPS coordinates can help us find the location. Other ways you can help include:

Keep waste disposal storage containers, such as trash cans and compost piles away from electrical poles and other infrastructure so raptors are not attracted to the area.

Consult with APS about electric poles and equipment located near small livestock and poultry enclosures to determine if the pole is able to be protected to deter perching.

For your safety, please do not attempt to assist trapped or injured wildlife on or near APS electrical equipment.

For more information on the APS Avian Protection Program, please visit:

Aps.com/wildlifeprotection.

#### **Operation Christmas Child**

By Carol Cox

With all the upheaval in our world over the past few months people have been asking whether Operation Christmas Child will continue this year as usual. The answer is yes! Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, has been collecting shoeboxes filled with gifts to be delivered to children in need around the world.



During that time, shoeboxes have been sent to more than 168 million children in over 100 countries around the world—and hundreds of those boxes have come through the generosity of donors right here in Ash Fork.

This year, more than ever, the simple gift of a shoebox filled with small, lovingly packed items can be a life-changing treasure that demonstrates God's love in a tangible way, letting children know they are not alone and not forgotten during this time of fear and uncertainty.

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, sharpeners), and toys (balls, yo-yo's, jump ropes, puzzles). And feel free to add a personal note, just to let that child know they're special and loved.

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

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

National Collection Week will be November 16-23. Our local Drop-off Center is located at the First Southern Baptist Church (at the corner of 1st and Lewis). Operating times will be listed in the November newsletter



### **#FIRST THINGS FIRST**

Lynda Bennett 480-493-6566 lbennett@firstthingsfirst.org

# Supporting the special bond between a grandparent and a grandchild

Ash Fork – Sept 2020 - Grandparents play a variety of roles in their grandchildren's lives. For many, a grandfather or grandmother is an additional loving adult who provides positive, nurturing support early in life. For other young children, grandparents have taken their grandchild into their home and have taken on the responsibility of raising them.

First Things First (FTF), Arizona's early childhood agency, knows that families can look different, but they can all help babies, toddlers and preschoolers feel safe and secure. As national Grandparents Day is celebrated on Sept. 13, FTF reminds families about programs that can help grandparents build positive relationships with their grandchildren, which promotes healthy development and learning for young kids.

FTF provides funding for programs that are having positive impacts on grandparents and Arizona's children, including a statewide resource that can provide advice and support to grandparents raising their grandkids.

The Birth to 5 Helpline (1-877-705-KIDS) is available to all Arizona families with infants, toddlers and preschoolers. This free program fields questions from families looking for advice and the latest child development information from early childhood experts.

FTF also funds training and support for family, friend and neighbor caregivers in regions across Arizona. The family friend and neighbor strategy focuses on increasing the caregiver's knowledge and understanding of early childhood development, health and nutrition, language and literacy, and safety and injury prevention, including first aid and CPR certification as well as crib safety.

This type of training is critical in Arizona, which mirrors the rest of the country, where one-third to one-half of all children under age 5 are cared for by informal family, friends and neighbors, and in many cases, those caregivers are grandparents, who are taking care of young ones during the day.

For a comprehensive list of what programs are available at no cost for children birth to age 5 in your area, visit: www.firstthingsfirst.org/resources/find-programs/.

The relationship between a child and a grandparent is a special bond and supporting grandparents in their special role will help young kids learn, grow and succeed.

###

**About First Things First** —First Things First is a voter-created, statewide organization that funds early learning, family support and children's preventive health services 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.



# ASH FORK UNIFIED PUBLIC SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

Dear Parent, Guardian, Student of Ash Fork Schools,

I'm sure the news from Governor Ducey came as just as big of a shock to you as it did to us. Having such a strange and unusual fourth quarter last year we were all looking forward to moving on and getting back to empowering. Despite our best wishes, fate would have us once again looking at a campus shutdown and a three and half week delayed school year start.

We have come together as school leaders and educators to find the best possible solution to the current executive order, and would like to share with you what will happen at the beginning of the school year. School will start on July 22. Campus will be closed for the general school population, but we will have an online platform for grades 2-12.

One reason we have decided to start the school year with our regular calendar schedule, is that we have no way of knowing how long the current campus closure could potentially last. There may be a chance that this closure could go well into the second quarter. We believe it is better to start now than wait on more potentially bad news of a later start date.

This second round of online school will be different than our first round during fourth quarter. Fourth quarter material was mainly a review with the actual introduction, practice, and learning already completed during the school year. We now have the added pressure of teaching new standards in a virtual environment. It is important to understand that the same level of expectations for completing assignments and participating will be present to students as if on campus. Students will not be allowed to make up missed work during or after the online curriculum time period. Teachers and staff are committed to work as hard if not harder than if they were actually in front of a classroom, and expect the same from our students.

We know that online learning is easier for some than others. Teachers will create lessons that are di-

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10)

vided into four day chunks. Students may choose to complete several lessons early, but must not fall behind the assignment schedule. Teachers will be on campus to answer questions from students via email and Google classroom. Please be respectful of staff's personal time and realize that you may email during non-school hours, but responses will generally be given between 8-5:00 pm Monday through Thursday. Students that are struggling with the lessons can request in person meetings with the instructor on the fourth day in order to stay on schedule. Teachers may contact students to schedule meetings if they see issues with assignments and academic progress even if a student has not requested such a meeting. We are all here to help our students. The worse thing a student or guardian can do is ignore our attempts to help. If a student is struggling we understand, but please ask for help. All safety protocols outlined in the districts reopening document will be followed. Masks are strongly encouraged and we are limiting the classrooms to 6 students in order to practice social distancing. Each school will be given the option for student appointments in order to reduce the number of individuals on campus.

The district will provide transportation from door step to door step, if possible, in order to ensure that all students can get to their instructor appointments. Students that finish early will also be given transportation back to their home. The transportation schedule runs in three blocks. First block is from 9-11:00, second block is 11-1:00, and the last block will be from 1-3:00. A student can stay for all blocks if needed. All temperatures will be checked, hand sanitizer applied, and mask given before entering district vehicles.

One of our biggest concerns is the added stress that online curriculums can put on families. It is a new level of stress to work all day and then have to help your child with learning new materials. Our vision is "We Empower," please empower your child by focusing on the ways that your child can utilize their teacher and other resources before just asking you for help. This may be somewhat challenging at first, but will pay off with huge dividends in the future. One of the biggest steps to helping your child be successful with online learning is establishing daily routines that allow students to focus on lessons throughout the day and avoid the problems of assignments piling up. If you are still struggling please contact the district office for help.

In conclusion, this whole situation is not ideal for students, educators, or parents. We hope that we can work together to one day get all of this behind us and move forward

Thank You,

Seth Staples

## ASH FORK DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 293 Ash Fork, AZ 86320-0293

Phone: (928)637-2774 Fax: (928) 637-0394

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:
SEPTEMBER 16, 2020
OCTOBER 21, 2020
7:00 PM

ESCALANTE MEETING ROOM @LLC BUILDING LEWIS AVE. & 5TH STREET (BY THE MARQUEE)

Ash Fork Tourist Center
And Museum
Currently Closed
Date to be determined for reopening!
Operated by Volunteers

Ash Fork Historical Society

Outdated Phrases we all still use.

**Blackballed:** In the 18th century, men used to belong to social clubs where gossip, politics and connections were discussed and made. You had to be voted in by committee anonymously, with different colored balls. A red ball was a positive answer, while a black ball was a negative one. To be blackballed meant you were found wanting, cast out and denied membership. We don't use the physical balls anymore, but to be blackballed still means you're getting excluded.

#### **Community Church Schedules:**

Ash Fork Baptist Church Lewis Ave. & 1st St. Sunday Services 11:00 AM

Pathway Chapel Double A Ranch Rd. Sunday Services 10:30 AM and 6:30 PM

St. Anne Catholic Church 7th St. Wed. & Sat.: Rosary 3:30 p.m. Mass 4:00 PM

Gospel of Faith Church Bullock Rd. @ Cattle Guard Sunday Services 11:00 AM

Emmanuel Trinity Church 47423 N. 4th St.

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