



November 2018

Vol. 5, No. 11

## More housing is coming soon



**By Gary Dillard**

The Greenlee County Board of Supervisors heard some great news in early October, with two developers laying out plans for additional housing in the area.

And it's not "someday" housing. Housing in York Valley will be available as soon as early 2019.

Manufactured housing in the development will start at \$55,000.

In his presentation to the Board, Walter Johnson (at left) said that some 800 copper miners working for FMI at Morenci are in need of housing, adding that 8-10 workers call the current

business, a mobile home park, each day in search of a place to live.

His plans call for selling 150 modular homes in the development.

It will be more than the traditional mobile-home park, however. For one thing, it will contain a human-and-dog park.

It will have a business center, like a small Kinko's. Valley Telecom will install the phone system, and the development will have an internet system, with towers throughout working as boosters, but with each home having its **please turn to page 3**

## Colors of Copper set for Nov. 3-4

The 6th Annual Colors of Copper Art Competition and Wine Tasting will be held Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 3 and 4, beginning at 10 a.m. each day, on Chase Creek Street in Clifton.

For details and latest info, visit the event's [Facebook page](#).

The art and wine event received a writeup in [Tucson Weekly](#) this summer, getting the cover photo and the headline "Rural Revival," with a cover blurb stating that Clifton is "becoming a haven for artists and travelers."



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## Small Business Woman of the Year

# Meghan Wagley gets top honor

By Dee Porter

Meghan Wagley of Chaparral Mini Mart & Motel in Duncan has been named the top woman in business in Greenlee County.

She received the honor during the Gila Valley Small Business Woman of the Year awards ceremony at Eastern Arizona College Oct. 25.

Jenny Howard is the 2018 winner for Graham County. She is the owner of Ginaveve's Market Place in Safford.

On Thursday, October 25, 2018, the Gila Valley Small Business Woman of the Year Awards were presented at Eastern Arizona College in the Gherald Hoopes Jr. Activities Center. There were 100 people in attendance. Excellent refreshments were enjoyed as the evening started off with Charmaine Chidester welcoming the nominees and all of the guests, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation.

The two recipients from last year were the guest speakers. Susan Snyder, owner of

Chase Creek Marketplace, was the winner for Greenlee County in 2017. Susan told the audience how grateful she was to have won. She shared that the winnings were used to complete improvements to her store. Even the improvements became a community project of sorts.

Jenny Rogers, owner of the Safford Dance Academy, was the winner for Graham County in 2017. Jenny also expressed her gratitude at being chosen last year and said that she also used the winnings to make improvements to her business. Not only are these ladies busy business owners, both Susan and Jenny are very involved in their communities.

The nominees for 2018 are listed below:

### **Greenlee County Nominees:**

Cheryl Resur, York Valley Soap, Duncan

Dustin Robinette, Town & Country Supply, Duncan

Erin Anderson, ProTalk Speech



*Meghan Wagley, left, receives her certificate from EAC's Charmaine Chidester.*

Therapy, Morenci

Hilda Goeking, Hilda's Market and Restaurant, Duncan

Jackie Norton, PJ's Restaurant, Clifton

Jules Green, Noah's Ark Animal Clinic, Morenci

Meghan Wagley, Chaparral Mini Mart & Motel, Duncan

Samantha Orr, Personal Pet Care, Morenci

### **Graham County Nominees:**

Abigail Quintana, Mechy's Mexican Food, Safford

[Click here to read the rest](#)

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*Here are all the nominees for this year's honors. In the front row left to right are Margo Henrie, Meghan Wagley, Stasha Barlow, Hilda Goeking, Cheryl Resur, Jackie Norton. Back row from left are – Debbie Bass, Jenny Howard's representative, Stephanie Rios, Erin Anderson, Samantha Orr, Jill Chacon, Juanita Ornelas, Jenna Ferrin, Jules Green.*





## Housing . . .

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own secure installation.

Five spaces are now available, he said, and 10 units a months, in fives models, will be coming to York Valley.

Each will have such amenities as laminate floors, modern countertops and a quiet garbage disposal. Each also will have an option for solar.

The park will be designed so that resident will find it easy to get to know his neighbor. Every home, for example, will have a front porch.

“We’re going to build a community,” Johnson said.

With the exception of what FMI has built at Morenci, this is the first new subdivision in Greenlee County since the 1950s.

## Produce distribution comes to Morenci

### From The Copper Era

MORENCI — An opportunity to obtain up to 70 pounds of fresh fruit and vegetables is coming soon to the Morenci Townsite.

The Borderlands produce distribution program called Produce on Wheels With Out Waste helps fight food waste by partnering with local organizations of faith, education and others to distribute produce to communities.

“All of the produce distributed at each our . . . markets was initially rescued by us, Borderlands. This produce comes directly from the warehouses of produce distributors, with a majority of it having been processed for the landfill simply because the distributors were unable to market it,” Borderlands wrote.

[Click here to read more](#)



## York Valley Homes Coming in early 2019.

Welcome Home!



*This is the cover of the PowerPoint presentation that the Board of Supervisors saw on Johnson’s project. The [entire presentation](#) is available on the Growing Greenlee website.*



A large crowd showed up for the presentations about new housing, apparently indicating local interest. Also presenting was Austin VanScoyck, representing Aston Homes, in red shirt in foreground.

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# Welcome, Dee Porter!

By Ákos Kovach

It is my pleasure to introduce everyone to our new Economic Development Assistant, Dolores (Dee) Porter. Dee moved to Greenlee County in 2015 joining her husband Mark who is a resident of Morenci. Having been born and raised in the small mining town of Superior Dee felt instantly at home in the area. Dee's father was raised on a farm in York Valley until he was sent overseas to the Korean Conflict. Dee is excited to be a part of her father's former community, and still has family here.

Starting in September 2016, Dee accepted a position in Morenci with Freeport McMoRan in a clerical capacity. Dee has an extensive background in Public Safety Communications. Most recently she was the Communications Manager for the Florence Police & Fire Department. She also served for years with the Apache Junction Police Department, Peoria Police Department, and the Gila County Sheriff's Department.

Dee has an education in Public Administration through Rio Salado College, is a Certified Public Manager through Arizona State University and is a graduate of the Arizona Leadership Program. Her experience and background working for municipal and county governments was beckoning her to return to the public sector. When the position in Economic Development opened up Dee was excited and eager to be interviewed. Dee looks forward to serving the residents of Greenlee County and working hard to help promote Greenlee County's Economic Development.



*This photo was shot in Bisbee in late October. The conveyor housing for FMI's big new Lone Star project at Safford is being fabricated at [Prometal](#)'s facility in Hermosillo and shipped across the border at Naco on its way to Safford. Hundreds of these sections are crossing for the conveyor that will haul Lone Star ore down to the existing SX/EW facilities at the Safford mine. Prometal has worked on a number of projects for Freeport and other mines in the region.*

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## To the Editor

### Pumpkin carving fun

Thanks goes out to the Clifton Community Garden and Steve Ahmann for donating pumpkins for the Clifton Visitor Center Pumpkin Carving event on Oct 25. 9 children and 6 adults enjoyed a fun story about why we carve pumpkins for Halloween and then each child had a personal pumpkin to decorate. All attendees received a Halloween cup full of candy, pencils and some fun stickers.

Plans are under way for another fun event at the Visitor Center sometime in November. Children will be asked to either color a picture of why or what they are thankful for, they can also choose to write a short essay regarding same.

We are asking the community at large and people such as town county officials, school personnel etc. to send in what they are thankful for. These responses will be compiled and read to the November Fun Group, shared on social media and each child will have a cup to take home.

The idea is to introduce the kids to town officials and learn that adults are also thankful. For more information call the Visitor Center at 928-865-3313.

*Clifton Visitor Center*

### Entertainment for ED event

At this year's Rural Policy Forum we were treated to a mix of old and new by The Vibe.

Just as I once rang the bell for the Yarbrough Band to build an audience for their performance I'd like our readers to get to know this group ahead of me bringing them here for our next Growing Greenlee Summit.

<https://www.facebook.com/thevibebandnet/>  
<https://www.gigmasters.com/cover-band/the-vibe>

### Google holiday livestream

The EAC Small Business Development Center in encouraging businesses to take their business to the next level with this livestream workshop.

If you missed Google's "Holiday Livestream" to help local businesses prep for their busiest time of the year, [you can still watch the workshop](#).

It's bringing you expert advice to help your business use Google My Business and Google Ads to connect and engage with holiday customers!



### Chamber mixer in Duncan

The October Chamber Mixer for Greenlee County was held at the Duncan High School Cafeteria. Tim and Tiffani Baca of Cherry Bomb Goodies hosted the event.

Mr. and Mrs. Baca provided a light dinner and plentiful samples of their delicious baked goods. The audience was treated to samples of banana nut mini loaves, pumpkin pie mini loaves, hot cocoa cookies, and chocolate chip cookies.

You can find "Cherry Bomb Goodies" at many Greenlee, Graham, and Cochise County retailers, such as Miner's Diner, Chaparral Mini Mart, and the Ranch House, among others. More information about "Cherry Bomb Goodies" can be located on Facebook.

Doug Barlow also treated the crowd to a short history lesson regarding the famous painting which hangs in the cafeteria. It was painted in 1954 by local artist Hal Empie. It is a beautiful painting with a very interesting story.

Raffle prizes were dispersed including a 50/50 prize payout.





## Do we want Hill Climb?

By Ákos Kovach

Here is the thing – do we as a community want to bring back the Clifton Hill Climb permanently? The time to answer that question is right now.

Organizing, and paying for the upfront costs, of this event are significant. It is imperative that real support from both the public and private sectors stand up and be counted. The serious parties currently involved in the effort to bring the Clifton Hill Climb back need to know that we as a community can and will support the event – show up, attract vendors, invite family and friends, make suggestions on ways to make this as big and successful as possible.

Among the ideas that have been brought forward – turn the Ward Canyon ballfields into the vendor area and staging for a paddock area. Another aspect of the planning revolves around televising the races. The parade would remain as a highly public and visible event, as well as the Drivers Appreciation and Awards Dinner.

There is an impressive core group, mostly drivers and former drivers, many of whom reside outside Greenlee County, who want to bring this family-friendly event back to our race fans. It has been discussed that we honor Mayor Felix Callicotte in some special way, as well as Esther Tavison.

Please reply to [economicdevelopment@co.greenlee.az.us](mailto:economicdevelopment@co.greenlee.az.us).

Welcome back to Greenlee County!

### Kempton Auto Service

Address: 540 N Coronado Blvd, Clifton,  
AZ 85533

Phone: (928) 865-2350

New service manager is our own local success ~ Rolando Pucci

## Feds and banking in Greenlee

The Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System are interested in learning more about how banking is changing in America. One aspect of this is the closure of bank branches in communities, especially rural communities.

The goal of this project is to better understand the real impacts of bank closures on rural communities and residents (both bank customers and small business owners). How has this closure impacted your financial lives, if at all.

The Fed used national data to determine counties that have seen reductions in bank branches over the past 5 years. **Greenlee County stood out as having some of the most impact from a bank branch closures** within the region.

The Fed says it is interested in hearing about your personal experiences, including your financial needs and how has your life changed given recent bank closures in your area. Craig Nolte, Regional Manager for Community Development from the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco will be facilitating the discussion.

This session will be held Nov. 20 at the Board of Supervisors meeting room, following the BOS meeting at about 10:30 a.m.

Please join this meeting to share your perspectives. Snacks provided.

## Grants for worker training

The Arizona Commerce Authority is starting a competitive application round for New Employee Training Grants. The deadline for submitting a substantially complete application for this round is Nov. 28.

The maximum grant award available will be \$1.3 million per employer, up to \$8,000 in eligible training costs per employee-trainee in the case of rural employers and employers with fewer than 100 employees and in the case of all other employers, up to \$5,000 per employee-trainee. The maximum term of awarded grants will be 12 months.

Grants will be awarded on the basis of a competitive application process to the extent that aggregate new employee training grant amounts applied for exceed the amount of funds allocated to each funding round by the Authority. The allocated funds for this round is \$4 million.

The application is [available online](#) via the ACA's Electronic Application System.