



July 2018

Vol. 5, No. 7

For Housing Feasibility Consultants

Lively discussion, field trip

By Ákos Kovach

Richard Merritt and Danny Court from the Elliott D. Pollock Consultant Company were treated to a lively discussion on their first day of their boots-on-the-ground investigation into the Housing Feasibility study.

Over 40 participants crowded around the video screen in the meeting room of the Greenlee County Golf Clubhouse. Larry Catten, SEAGO Economic Development Planner, asked everyone for a brief self-introduction.

There were ranchers, farmers, home builders, business owners, numerous elected officials, two bed and breakfast operators,



RV Park managers, investors, an architect, educators, a nurse, Freeport McMoRan officials and nearby local residents.

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Addressing the local group, at left, is Eric Swanson of Hague Creek Properties. At right is Richard Merritt of Elliott D. Pollock Consultant Company.

Sometimes, even locals aren't aware of all we have

**By David Gomez
Supervisor, District 1**

A good feasibility study requires a great framework of stakeholders in stage one. The second stage required these stakeholders to take on the tough task of good planning, goal setting and outcome tracking. Thanks to Freeport-McMoRan, SEAGO, the Towns of Clifton and Duncan and of course Greenlee County, the first stage is now well-established.

Stage 2 of the process got well under way yesterday. An excellent turnout of stakeholders gathered at the Golf Course Clubhouse with lots of open discussion and candid conversation among all. The open session was followed by a bus tour

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Supervisor David Gomez, center, discusses potential for housing development during tour.

DEVELOPMENT

Housing tour . . .

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Much was said about where the housing demand might come from, but mostly the largest segment would likely be mine employees. This led back to the age-old risk topic of copper prices and the sometimes up and down nature of employment in the area.

Who keeps lists?

Royce Hunt wondered if there was a list kept of available land, lots and homes in Greenlee County. Because there are no real estate agents or real estate agencies in Greenlee County, local residents rely on internet sites, word-of-mouth and bulletin board posts.

The County Economic Development Department maintains a roster of land owners and land availability upon request. It is difficult to track homes for sale, land and lots for sale because the market changes so quickly and sales are not always filed of record.

Finding mortgage money

County Assessor, Linda Durr, wondered if finding home financing was an issue which was



Supervisor David Gomez, in foreground, had the opportunity to show off his county to those who participated in the afternoon bus tour.

answered by Heather Zink from OneAz Credit Union. Appraisals in the past were more difficult than they are today and even with comparable sales from nearby Graham County, finding mortgage money is not difficult.

Duncan Vice-Mayor, Denise Ice, replied to an inquiry to the audience by consultant Richard Merritt about rental costs.

Vice Mayor Ice stated she thought rental fees were too high,

only the consultants and builders, but also for the local residents who had a chance to see the county with new eyes.

One individual commented that the tour was very educational and showcased aspects of the county unfamiliar to them until yesterday, this being the subject of this article.

What investors look for

Even local residents don't always know what home builders and investors look for or want

a sentiment echoed and supported throughout the audience. Duncan Town Council member, Doug Barlow, pointed out the low rents offered by FMI in Morenci also had an impact on both the rental and home buying housing market in the County.

Rental prices

Comment was made that rental prices in the Clifton area were

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from an area before they invest. For this reason we invite you to join us on this journey. Attend meetings of the Board of Supervisors and Town Council meetings to stay informed.

With that said, the official newsletter for Greenlee County is the *Greenlee Clarion*.

It is published once each month and we do our best to keep the public aware of news, events and things that matter to our residents as well as the region and world around us. We welcome feedback

All we have . . .

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with participants, stakeholders and consultants to view possible sites for housing development.

This tour has been provided many times over the last 4 years. Although, this time local residents joined the tour.

The result was an eye opening experience for not

Housing tour . . .

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often very high and that the B&B market was strong. These valid comments and several others helped point out to the consultants the wide range of opinions and viewpoints represented in the audience.

Questions were asked if this was a study just about FMI employees interested in buying homes and the answer was quickly given that this study was intended to cover all buyers, renters, etc. regardless of their employment.

Gomez' experience

Greenlee County Supervisor, David Gomez, spoke about two previous Housing Summits and years of his personal experience when he worked for SWGas Corp.

'We have learned that mine employees want to live as close as possible to the mine. Clifton, Table Top, Verde Lee and Loma Linda are the closest properties according to distance and drive time.

"Some have a different preference and prefer living in nearby Duncan. The local retirees have wanted to stay in Greenlee County but all the available housing has been in Graham County."

Bobby Pollack from FMI mentioned that approximately 100 employees retire from the mine annually.

What about blight?

Another animated conversation revolved around the subject of blight and blight mitigation. Several people spoke up about the ongoing mitigation efforts in Duncan.



Afternoon bus tour show available or potential housing areas.

Councilman Doug Barlow added another part of that problem is out-of-state property owners. 'They don't live here, they let these properties degenerate. It's a shame'.

Clifton Mayor Luis Montoya said 'Clifton has about 180 properties with and without homes on them. Some can be fixed up, others should be torn down but the lot is ready to build.'

Bus tour

After a short lunch break and additional networking, a bus tour of available and or potential housing areas was given.

John Basteen Jr., Duncan Town Manager, gave a detailed description of points of interest along the way in Duncan Valley. Basteen pointed out where service lines for water and waste water ran and plans for future expansion.

The tour began at the weigh station in Franklin on Highway 70 where County-owned land surrounded by leased State Land Trust property was available.

This area could serve as a focal point for bringing in diverse economies, jobs and industries. This would also enhance the demand for housing.

The Duncan tour was very thorough and several stops were made to point out lots and land parcels.

Property along Highway 75 was also pointed out because they had good access to utilities.

The tour stopped at Greenlee County Airport as the topography there lends itself nicely for a large housing subdivision.

On to Clifton

Parcels in the Loma Linda and Verde Lee areas were pointed out as well as a stop at the peak of Table Top, where the Town of Clifton owns 120 acres that are within the Town limits.

The tour continued to Morenci where participants disembarked at three sites

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DEVELOPMENT

AOT to present to Tourism Council

The Rivers, Valleys, Mountains and Trails Tourism Council has something BIG in store for members and guests at its meeting on July 10.

Kiva Couchen and Benjamin Stewart will be our featured speakers.

Their presentation will focus on: “The value of tourism to Greenlee County and what this part of Arizona means to AOT”.

The meeting will begin at 11:30 sharp at the Greenlee

County Golf Course Country Club. Lunch will be provided by the Tourism Council, RSVP’s are requested.

We encourage you to bring a friend and experience first-hand the telling of the Greenlee County story by a statewide authority.

The Greenlee County Tourism Council is an active and vibrant part of events throughout Greenlee County, to learn more follow them on [Facebook](#) or their [web-site](#).

Housing tour . . .

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and went through two homes and an apartment. It was impressive to see the size of these rentals and to understand rental pricing and eligibility requirements.

On the way back south, the bus drove down Chase Creek Street to see some of the lots mentioned earlier by Mayor Montoya as well as the original business district where many rooms are rented on the first and second floor of the restored historic buildings.

Stop at Three Way

The final stops were at Three Way and County owned land in York Valley adjacent to the Golf Course.

The attendees were very impressed with the quantity and quality of the land and lots available for housing.

For more information contact: economicdevelopment@co.greenlee.az.us

Rural Policy Forum

The Arizona Rural Policy Council’s 2018 Rural Policy Forum will be held in Wickenburg this year from Aug. 8-10.

The event will provide an opportunity for skill-building, networking, building relationships and educating each other about the needs and services in rural Arizona. Activities include capacity-building sessions, receptions, workshops, and keynote presentations all of which culminate with the Grant maker Roundtables. Here, grant makers host tables where rural nonprofits have the opportunity to describe their organization’s mission and present a project for the host to consider for potential future funding.

- › Grow rural advocates
- › Develop new strategies for building resilient communities.

A keynote speaker will be Charles Marohn, lead author of Thoughts on Building Strong Towns — Volume 1, Volume 2 and Volume 3 — as well as the author of A World Class Transportation System.

DEVELOPMENT

Goals and Outcomes

- › Increase the community capacity of rural towns
- › Improve regional collaboration between nonprofits and public entities such as businesses
- › Build relationships and facilitate networking between rural stakeholders

An excellent resource point can be found at the Growing Greenlee website
<http://growinggreenlee.org>

Including current County-wide Asset Inventory data, archived Clarion Newsletters as well as interactive maps, and other valuable links.

Greenlee's development pipeline

By Ákos Kovach

One would think that bringing a large number of new homes to Greenlee County should be headline news, right? But no – investors, builders and developers all have their own way of ‘getting things started’. So much of the current ‘discussion’ regarding new development is painted with a broad stroke of the brush, as it were.

The good news is there continues to be a brisk demand for housing (as reported by Graham County realtors) almost anywhere in Greenlee County. And thanks to a recent grant by FMI to SEAGO, a housing feasibility study has begun by the Elliot D. Pollack Company.

Study results soon

The results of that report may be available in a few short months. An exhaustive interview and boots-on-the-ground study commenced June 26 involving builders, Greenlee County personnel, DVEC, FMI, employers and many additional stakeholders. (See related articles that start on page 1.)

The outlook includes new small businesses stepping up, while others close their doors.

Changes and plans are in the works to bring much-needed changes and improvements to the Greenlee County Airport. Plans include bringing fuel to the airport to encourage more pilots to hangar their aircraft in Greenlee instead of other nearby locations.

Once a roster of at least 10 interested aircraft owners show viable intent to park their aircraft at Greenlee County Airport plans for new hangars would follow with hard numbers for up front construction costs, rental agreement rates, etc.

What about a hotel?

And finally, what about a new hotel for Greenlee County? It is a well-documented fact travelers and guests, big groups and small groups mostly stay in Safford motels.

Clearly the two mid-sized motels (in Morenci and Clifton) stay very busy during the week. Spikes in visitors at Hannagan Meadow Lodge depends a lot on the season and weather.

Area bed and breakfast options have increased and report brisk business. Many RV parking spaces are once again filling up throughout the Clifton, York Valley and Duncan neighborhoods.

Stiff competition

One challenge we face in attracting home builders is ‘business is good everywhere’. Greenlee County is not alone in facing a housing shortage.

Very large developments and large infill projects are underway in neighboring Graham County. One such development in Graham County will generate a reported \$1.2m in water meter hookup fees in Safford. (Greenlee County does not charge any impact fees, each utility charges their own connection fees, permits to build or add-on are handled by Clifton and Duncan within their town limits, anything outside town limits is permitted through the County.)

Progress is incremental, but at least visible signs can be seen with wood frames going vertical in Clifton and out beyond Loma Linda.

Other pluses for this area are low property tax rates and other low cost of living expenses, as well as the quality-of-life factors, recreational opportunities, good highways, low crime rate, etc.

The dollar-for-dollar value of living in Greenlee County is exceptional.

Questions? Contact economicdevelopment@co.greenlee.az.us.

DEVELOPMENT



Photo courtesy of Dustie Robinette.



Greenlee Community

July 4 events

Duncan

Duncan Valley Rural Fire District is sponsoring the 2nd annual pancake breakfast on Wednesday, July 4, from 7-10 a.m. at Centennial Park, 207 SE Old West Hwy. It is open to the public.

Watch the annual Independence Day parade, eat pancakes, and let the kids play in the water. After the parade, the firetrucks will be on display.

Clifton/Morenci

The theme of the July 4 parade this year is "Freedom in Motion." The event starts at 9 a.m. (See poster at right for details.)

To sign up to participate in the parade call 928-865-6598.

Greenlee Gives Back gala

The purpose of this Gala is to raise money for the Greenlee County Community Fund. This is an endowed (forever) fund from which investment earnings go back into the community via annual grants to local nonprofits.

Grants are competitive and selected each year by a local committee. The fund opened in 2013 with gifts from Duncan Valley Electric Coop, Greenlee County and contractors working at FMI. The current value of this fund is \$36,230 and the distribution rate in 2017 was 4.25% equaling



\$1,540.00 in awarded grants. There are much greater community needs, but to be able to give more in grants we need to increase the assets of the Fund.

Additional purposes for this event is to share the stories of how our grants impact local residents and increase awareness of our local affiliate of the Arizona Community Foundation.

Arizona Community Foundation of the Gila Valley:

Founded in 1997
Assets: \$4,815,365
Funds for Scholarships: 5
Funds held by Nonprofit Organization: 5
Total to date in grants: \$407,482
Total to date in scholarships: \$355,891

Learn more about the event on its [Facebook page](#).
Get [tickets for the event here](#).

COMMUNITY

Supervisor Lunt honored by coops

From The Copper Era

BENSON — Richard Lunt, a former director on the Duncan Valley Electric Cooperative (DVEC) and Arizona Electric Power Cooperative boards of directors, is being recognized for his outstanding record of service to the cooperatives and the communities and members they serve, with the 2018 AEPCO Distinguished Service Award.

Lunt served as a member of the Duncan Valley EC Board of Directors for a total of 25 years, including three years as board vice-president. He served as an AEPCO board member for 14 years, including three years as board president.

Lunt served on the Southwest Transmission Cooperative board for two years, and on the Sierra Southwest Cooperative board for four years, including three years as board president.

In announcing the award, AEPCO said that,

[Click here to read more](#)



Greenlee County Supervisor Chairman Richard Lunt, right, shown here with former state Rep. David Gowan, at a Republican meeting on water issues in York Valley, was recently honored with the 2018 AEPCO Distinguished Service Award.

COMMUNITY

Counting one's blessings

By Richard Lunt,
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

As I was thinking of what to write this month, I began to count my blessing and to consider all the things I am thankful for.

I have been blessed to be born in this wonderful country, in this beautiful county, and in the valley of Duncan. I was born to wonderful parents who taught me to work, to treat others with love and kindness.

They taught me that by helping and serving

others is the way for true happiness. To succeed in life you must help others succeed, and when you are discouraged, help someone else and soon you will realize your problems were not as bad as you thought.

They taught me to make sure my service boots were well used and not my ego. I can truly say; I was born to goodly parents.

There are so many good people in this area, people who are willing to help others who are in need, and I love them for it. I appreciate the good men who sit on the Board with me; we have your best interest in mind when we make decisions on your behalf.

I appreciate the good employees that work for the county, and how well they do their jobs, when you see them; tell them 'Thank you.' I love this area, I love its people, and I am so glad to be a part of it. When you are discouraged, just count your blessing and soon you will realize just how blessed we are.

The Greenlee Clarion

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A recruitment banner for the Arizona Department of Corrections. It features the state flag logo on the left and a photograph of a man in a uniform on the right. The text reads: 'NOW HIRING CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS GREAT PAY & BENEFITS APPLY NOW! CALL 1-888-545-RUSH'. Below the logo is the text 'ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS An Important Job. A Better Life.'

Upcoming activities

7/3 8-11 a.m., Greenlee Board of Supervisors, Clifton Annex, BOS Conference Room.

7/4 Happy July 4! See page 6 for details.



7/4 and every Wednesday, 10-4, Clifton Farmer’s Market, Clifton Train Depot.

7/6 and every Friday, 10-noon, Tech Talk, Clifton Library.

7/17 9-noon, Duncan utility assistance.

7/17 9-noon, Clifton utility assistance.

7/17 noon-5:30, American Legion, Red Cross blood drive, call 928-432-1457 for info.

For more calendar items, [click here](#).

See Morenci School District calendar at [its website](#).

Primary Election August 28, 2018

Voter Registration Closes	July 30, 2018
Early Voting Begins	Aug. 01, 2018
Last Day To Mail Ballots	Aug. 17, 2018
Last Day to Vote at Recorder's Office by 5:00 pm	Aug. 24, 2018
Emergency Voting (Only)	Aug. 27, 2018

General Election November 6, 2018

Last Day to Register	Oct. 09, 2018
Early Voting Begins	Oct. 11, 2018
Last Day to Mail Ballots	Oct. 26, 2018
Last Day to Vote at Recorder's Office 5:00 pm	Nov. 02, 2018
Emergency Voting (only)	Nov. 05, 2018



Understanding distracted driving

By Brendan Timothy Lyons
Executive Director
LOOK! Save A Life

Distractions are real. Every day, distracted driving kills and families are left to bear the burden of preventable losses.

Distracted driving is defined as anything that takes your eyes off the road, hands off the wheel, or mind off the task of driving. Humans cannot operate a vehicle while multitasking without risking doing damage to public safety.

Yes, distracted driving takes the shape in many forms. There are those who manipulate their phones, but there are also those who eat, put on makeup, or engage in other distracting activities while driving.

The key difference is the level of distraction and how often people are doing it? The three major factors to consider are our exposure to risk, the prevalence of use and the degree of distraction.

Cell phones are off the charts when it comes to this. The National Safety Council estimates that about 10% of all drivers on our roadways are using cell phones at any given time.

And in the most recent survey

Top volunteers

Nominations are now open for the 17th Annual Governor's Volunteer Service Awards. Please nominate a deserving individual or group in your community for what is considered to be the highest volunteer award in Arizona. For more information, please visit: GetInvolved.AZ.gov

Nominations are due July 20.
[Go here](#) for forms and info.

CURRENT STATUTES AND ORDINANCES IN ARIZONA

Year	State	Type of Restriction	Offense Type
2018	Arizona	Teenage Texting Ban 6 months post license; or until reach age 18	Secondary Offense

Year	County	Type of Restriction	Offense Type
2014	Coconino	Cell Phone Ban (Hands-Free) ban	Primary Offense
2016	Pima	Cell Phone Ban (Hands-Free) ban	Primary Offense

Year	Cities / Municipalities	Type of Restriction	Enforcement Type
2017	Clifton	Cell Phone Ban (Hands-Free) Ordinance	Primary Offense
2014	Flagstaff	Texting Ban	Primary Offense
2016	Kingman	Cell Phone Ban (Hands-Free) Ordinance	Primary Offense
2017	Oro Valley	Cell Phone Ban (Hands-Free) Ordinance	Primary Offense
2007	Phoenix	Texting Ban	Primary Offense
2015	San Luis	Cell Phone Ban (Hands-Free) Ordinance	Primary Offense
2015	Tempe	Cell Phone Ban (Hands-Free) Ordinance	Secondary Offense
2018	Tucson	Cell Phone Ban (Hands-Free) Ordinance	Primary Offense
2016	Yuma	Cell Phone Ban (Hands-Free) Ordinance	Primary Offense

conducted by AAA, over 40% of drivers polled said they often send texts or emails while driving. This dangerous behavior happens daily across Arizona.

According to the Governors Highway Safety Association, 47 U.S. states, not-to-mention Washington, Puerto Rico, Guam, & the Virgin Islands all have a ban on texting while driving.

Fifteen states have a more comprehensive, hand-held ban (also known as a hands-free ordinance/law).

You might be aware, just last year, Arizona passed a "secondary offence" texting ban aimed at teenagers. Unfortunately, teens are getting a bad rap when it comes to this growing epidemic.

Studies have shown that adults are far worse at using their phones on the road. The current law is sending the wrong message, and that is, "It's okay to text and drive, as long as you are not a teenager."

As you might also know, AZ remains one of the last states in the nation to adopt a texting

ban for ALL MOTORISTS. In the meantime, two Arizona counties and seven cities - municipalities prohibit all motorists in their respective jurisdictions from using handheld cell phones while driving.

Some municipalities prohibit specific handheld cell phone uses (like texting) while driving, but permit other uses. The majority, however, recognize that a hands-free ordinance mitigates this behavior and is more enforceable. Currently, the City of Surprise may be the very next Arizona jurisdiction to adopt a ban on handheld devices while driving.

The consensus from most Arizona citizens, as well as local elected officials throughout the state is calling for a statewide prohibition on cell phone use while driving. Individual jurisdictions are now being forced to create their own ordinances because the Arizona legislature has been in the past, unwilling to act.

COMMUNITY

Nominations for Game & Fish awards

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission is soliciting nominations for the 2018 Commission Awards. The award categories are listed below, and the submission deadline is Sept. 6, 2018.

The purpose of these awards is to recognize Arizonans who have contributed significantly to the conservation of the state's wildlife, its outdoor heritage, and the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Nominations may include individuals, organizations, clubs, foundations or



government agencies. Arizona Game and Fish Department employees are not eligible for nom-

ination.

The [nomination form can be found here](#).

The Commission will select the 2018 award recipients at its Sept. 21-22, 2018 meeting. The awards will be presented at the annual Arizona Game and Fish Commission Awards Banquet on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2019, at the Pointe Hilton Tapatio Cliffs Resort, 11111 N. 7th Street, Phoenix.

[Click here](#) to see last year's winners.

Gov. Ducey visits Greenlee County

An audience of approximately 200 attendees packed the meeting space at the Greenlee County Golf and Country Club, on Saturday June 23 to hear from Arizona Governor Doug Ducey (a video of his remarks are here: <https://www.facebook.com/greenleeclarion/>) and several other prominent speakers.

Initially the event was incepted by Rancher Dick Kaylor as a forum to discuss water rights issues affecting farmers and ranchers in the Greenlee, Hidalgo & Grant County area. Sometime later after Gov. Doug Ducey RSVP'd he would attend and the Conservative Business League began to manage the forum.

Governor Ducey landed at Greenlee County Airport and was greeted on the tarmac by Eric Ellison, Chief Deputy Sheriff and Jeromy Vaughn, Lieutenant Sheriff (see video at <https://www.facebook.com/GreenleeCountyArizona/>).

Governor Ducey was

escorted by his security team and Greenlee County Sheriff personnel. Over 150 vehicles were parked outside the Greenlee County Golf Course Country Club, many with New Mexico license plates.

The Eastern Arizona Courier and Copper Era newspapers were present along with a well-spoken videographer.

Among others present were Tom Powers, Greenlee County School Superintendent, Greenlee County sheriff Tim Sumner, State Representative Drew John, State Senator Steve Smith, and Cochise County Supervisor Peggy Judd.

Several candidates running for

office were also present.

Although billed as a waters rights discussion the event seemed to lean more towards a campaign event. The audience represented voters from mostly the party represented by the Governor.

Water rights

Before the Governor arrived some heartfelt comments were presented to the standing-room-only crowd by farmer Jennette Tyler about losing water rights for their farm.

After the Governor left to get back to Arizona's capitol lively discussion continued until well past 1 in the afternoon.

Lions Club seeking hosts

Both Graham and Greenlee Counties will be visited by international students who will tour the mines and many scenic sights while in the area during July and August.

Interested in becoming a Host family for 2019? You can make

inquires now. arizonayouthexchange@gmail.com

Host Family Stay Dates:

Start: 07-21-2018 End: 08-03-2018

YCE Chairperson Info

Name: Anthony Luick

Phone: 520-850-6725

Libraries continue to evolve

This is a summary of a report made to the Greenlee County Board of Supervisors at its June meeting. The [complete report](#) can be read online.

By Karen Soohy County Librarian

I am so glad to be able to join you again to report on the successful year that our Greenlee County Public Libraries have had.

While some areas showed some decrease in use from last year's numbers, others showed significant growth.

The libraries are continually evolving to serve our county's needs in a variety of ways.

Grants received this year totaled \$71,955. This includes \$23,000 in State Grants in Aid funds. The SGIA funds are 42% of our county operating budget.

Grants are vital

Library Services and Technology Grant (LSTA) requests for \$32,455 were funded. These grants included \$10,000 for Clifton Library to do the digital literacy programming which will finish in December of this year, \$4,000 for Duncan to create an early literacy area and story time programming, and \$18,455 for the county library system to purchase backpacks filled with equipment for rockhounding, birding, stargazing and geocaching which can be checked out. It also provides funds for programming in all those areas.

StoryWalks will also

be installed in 5 areas around the county with these funds. Other grants included the Rural Innovation and Activation Network (RAIN) grant for \$4,000 to do Fun With Math and Science programming in Duncan and Clifton. Our two libraries were 2 of the 10 rural libraries chosen for the grant in the state.

Two United Way grants were received. One for \$2,500 for the county library system allowed us to purchase consumable items to be used in the Fun With Math and Science programming and one for \$10,000 for Duncan Library was used to replace flooring in the back room, purchase of a con-ex box for extra storage and for a projector/screen setup.

Volunteers give 700+ hours

Volunteers in the three public libraries gave over 700 hours of service to the county and 67 meetings were held in our libraries with 390 people in attendance. 20 different groups use our libraries meeting rooms on a regular basis.

163 programs

163 programs were held in all the libraries. Some examples of programming in the county libraries included Early Learning

Story Time, Craft Time, Teen Reading/movie Program, Fun With Math and Science, Lego Club, Crazy 8 Math Club, Adult Nutrition Workshop, Forest Service programs, STEAM Week, Kids' Cooking Programming, Summer Reading and Book Club. Children's Programming attendance increased by 55% this year.

Large program turnout

There were 454 adults and 1,074 children in attendance at these programs.

Over 15,000 items were circulated from the libraries this year which included 541 Audiobooks and over 3600 DVDs. 315 new library cards were issued in the county this year.

The libraries have added 2,168 new books, 127 new audio books and 216 new DVDs to their collections.

GED testing has been a great success. 32 pretests and 103 final tests were given locally. This is a 40% increase from last year.

These are just some of the highlights from the report you have in your packets.

I commend our librarians and their staff and volunteers in making the past year such a success.

I also appreciate the support of the Board of Supervisors, the local communities and the county.

The libraries are here to serve the public in any way they can.



COMMUNITY

Taste of Greenlee?

Here's the concept:

Invite every restaurant, each home based baker, our local caterers to showcase their talents in a 4 – 5 hour long event, mostly likely at the Greenlee County Fairgrounds.

From the research we've done this far one of the biggest obstacles for restaurant owners is not being able to run a booth and their restaurant. But the initial concept goes something like this:

One entry fee gets you a 'taste' of each entered business, or individual. One standard sized cup will be issued. Each store, entrepreneur, etc. would only place a portion that fits the cup.

This would NOT be a full meal on a plate, NOT a full pizza, NOT a full sandwich. Instead guests would buy one ticket – get a wrist band or similar easy to identify 'pass'. Everyone would pay one fee. Tickets, like raffle tickets may also be utilized.

So a vendor comes in, pays a small nominal entry fee and lets organizers know of they will have their own staff or need someone to hand out their samples. There would only be one drink vendor, beer, water and sodas would all be handled through the same place.

Depending on how much support there is for this 'Taste of Greenlee' will affect the date the event could be held as well as entertainment.

Your feedback is important – please reply to economicdevelopment@co.greenlee.az.us by July 19 if you have interest, suggestions or questions.

Attention aircraft owners!

The Greenlee County Airport is looking at new ways to serve the public.

More aircraft housed at the airport means more funds from the FAA for upgrades and improvements.

County staff is currently calculating the costs associated with constructing 10-12 hangars, enclosed structures.

Also being examined are short-term parking stalls with canopies and

tie downs.

Best of all aircraft fuel may soon be one of the features offered by the Airport.

If you have any interest in buying, renting or leasing hangar space, parking space or similar uses at the Greenlee County Airport please contact: economicdevelopment@co.greenlee.az.us or call 928-865-4762.

Thinking about water rights

Anyone living in a desert or arid area such as Southeaster Arizona thinks about water every day.

Now compound that concern with drought, water adjudication, water rights claims by metro areas, ancient Native American water rights claims mixed in with farming, ranching, housing and other industrial and military users of water and it is easy to see why Water Rights are so often discussed, locally, regionally and statewide.

Our neighbors in Cochise County are worried about the possibility of privately owned wells dug since 1988 that could be plugged. <http://www.keepourwells.info/>

But that is not all, nor the least of the water rights discussion . Is this a political problem, a matter of national security (think waters rights at Ft Huachuca), farmers and ranchers rights – who holds

the claim?

In New Mexico leadership back in the 1970s saw the looming subject of water rights and began to address water allocation.

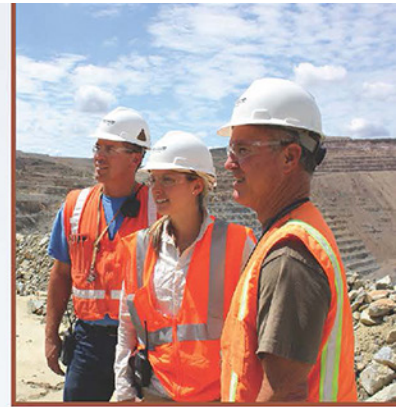
But more and more legal actions filed regarding who has 'water rights' is expanding the political hot potato subject into a matter of huge concern to land owners, industry and rural Arizona.

According to the Superior Court of Maricopa County Arizona is undertaking a general stream adjudication of both the Gila River and the Little Colorado River systems.

The *Greenlee Clarion* will showcase additional material contained in this important topic in the coming months but for your reading please see: <http://www.azwater.gov/AzDWR/SurfaceWater/Adjudications/default.htm> and <https://new.azwater.gov/laws-rules-policies>



Freeport-McMoRan is a leading international mining company with headquarters in Phoenix, Arizona. Our skilled and versatile team finds, extracts, processes and provides the raw materials that connect the world. From our mine sites and processing facilities to our corporate office, explore the career opportunities available to you!



We are currently hiring for the following positions:

Chino Mine: *Grant County, New Mexico, 15 miles east of Silver City*

- Truck Driver I

Morenci Mine: *Greenlee County, Arizona, 50 miles northeast of Safford*

- Laborers
- Truck Driver Trainees
- Support Equipment Operators
- Diesel Repair Employees
- Diesel Diagnostic Mechanics
- Diagnostic Electricians
- Lineman (Line Electrician)

Safford Mine: *Southeast Arizona, 170 miles east of Phoenix*

- Support Equipment Operators
- Drillers
- Diesel Diagnostic Mechanics
- Diesel Repair Employees
- Diagnostic Electricians/Industrial Journeyman Electricians

Sierrita Mine: *20 miles southwest of Tucson, Arizona*

- Diesel Repair Employees
- Diesel Diagnostic Mechanics
- Truck Driver I
- Crush/Convey Diagnostic Mechanics
- Diagnostic Electricians
- Support Equipment Operators
- Mill Laborer II

For additional career opportunities, please visit our website: FMJobs.com

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