

# Greenlee Clarion

February 2017

Vol. 4, No. 2

## What do the words economic development mean to you?

By Ákos Kovach

I just polled 14 people randomly and asked each one “what do the words economic development mean to you?”

Fourteen varying responses later . . .

Many thought economic development meant new jobs and new businesses. Others stated they thought it meant improving the local economy, making it healthier.

### Economic Development 101

Still others indicated that it meant developing the community and county by bringing in businesses and beefing up what we already have.

Other were convinced that it meant job creation, while others thought it meant boosting tourism, jobs and infrastructure.

Candidly, some shared they [Click here to read more](#)

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## Greenlee County Staycation Day

On Jan. 31, the Arizona Office of Tourism celebrated National Plan for Vacation Day.

The goal of the Day was to encourage Americans to not waste their vacation days, and instead commit to planning their vacations early in the year.

More than half of Americans failed to use their full allotment of vacation days in 2015.

Following this lead, Greenlee County is celebrating **Greenlee Plan for Staycation Day** on Feb. 10. It’s goal: Take all of your vacation days while getting to know your county better. Staycations

can be much shorter and much less expensive than full-scale vacations, while providing great amounts of stress relief.

Think of the opportunities around Greenlee County. Are there:

- ~ trails you haven’t hiked;
- ~ picnic spots you’ve missed;
- ~ roads you haven’t taken with your ATV or 4X4;
- ~ B&Bs you’ve always wanted to visit;
- ~ wildlife areas you’ve heard about?

If none of these come to mind, or you want more options, head

down to the Visitor Center to get ideas.

And join us on [Facebook](#) for more staycation news and to see how others are planning theirs.



*How about a day photographing Greenlee’s fabulous wildlife?*

# Reading Nook News

## Global issues in context

By Karen Soohy

We live in a global economy. Decisions made in other parts of the world affect the United States in various ways just as our decisions affect others. The database that addresses many of these issues is called Global Issues in Context.

The databases that are provided free to all library patrons is provided by the Arizona State Library and your local library.

To find the database links simply go to the Greenlee County Libraries website ([www.greenleelibraries.org](http://www.greenleelibraries.org)) and click on the State Database link on the left column.

Global Issues in Context has over 200 topics that you can search. Some of the topics include: Airline Security, Adoption, Weather, Global Warming, Flooding, Food Safety, Nuclear issues, Energy issues, Environmental issues, Obesity, Alcohol Abuse, AIDS/HIV, Oil Spills, Online Identity Management, and many more.

You can simply click on a topic to see the articles and information available or you can do your own search using the Advanced Search Engine.

There is an interactive World Map that you can search individual countries by topic also. You can save and bookmark articles of interest to you so you can go back to them when you like.

If you are an educator there is also a curriculum section to get ideas and information on how to use these global topics in the classroom.

If you enjoy reading blogs, there is also a blog section where many topics are discussed from an individual point of view. There are also current event videos and links to world news that are updated daily.

While you are on the library website, check out the link to Seasoned Times.

While this website is set up for Senior Citizens, there is a lot of valuable information on it for people of all ages. The materials found there are updated monthly.

*Library Quote: "Whatever the cost of our libraries, the price is cheap compared to that of an ignorant nation." ~Walter Cronkite*

## Clifton Council Corner

Mayor Felix Callicotte

The "Clifton Council Corner" is a place designed to keep the people in the Town of Clifton informed and up to date on current affairs. We will address concerns in the community; discuss future projects, and present ideas for improvement. We appreciate your responses to this column and are pleased by the many who have commented on their thoughts and issues. We cannot resolve an issue if we are unaware of it. We are continually looking for ways to help the Town of Clifton run more efficiently and this column will hopefully help you become involved.

## Police Department Kudos

We have good laws on our books and our town code serves us well as a document that is designed to safeguard the public health, safety and welfare. However, without enforcement, it is a meaningless document.

In Clifton, we have an exceptional police force under Chief Omar Negrete's outstanding leadership and they do a phenomenal job. Clifton's Police Department works efficiently and effectively having the full support of the Town Council and Town Manager's office but most importantly, it is our individual commitment to get involved when and where necessary.

Unfortunately, at times when we see or experience the abuse and/or repeated violations of the laws and ordinances that are designed to protect us we tend to look away and hope that someone else will call the police. The task of calling the police is not a rewarding task if the offender is our neighbor or friend, however we have to get involved if we want to maintain the quality of life in our community that we so often take for granted.

To that end, we extend a special thanks to our Chief of Police Omar Negrete, his patrol officers, Sgt. Jason Mingura, Shari Aguilar, Jamie Clark, Joseph Cota, Animal Control Officer Melodee Castaneda and the department's dispatchers in their exceptional police work that insures our well-being.

**Avoid becoming a victim of Identity Theft**

Identity theft and fraud is a growing problem.

[Click here to read more](#)

## Book Nooks in County Offices

Have you visited any of the Book Nooks in the Old Courthouse or the new Annex?

You are in for a treat! There are books on travel, adventure, romance, drama, fiction and non-fiction. Paperbacks, hardbacks – some tailored for children while others fit a reading wide audience.

Best of all? No need to return the book, it is yours to keep – courtesy of the Greenlee County Library system.



*Annex lobby near County Recorder's office.*



*Old Courthouse by Court Clerk's office.*



*Annex waiting area near Board of Supervisors' office.*



*Annex lobby near street entrance from Fifth Street.*



*Annex across from Justice of the Peace Court.*

## Javelina Chase coming fast

Bicycle racers around the country are preparing for the latest installment of the Javelina Chase, which will be held in Greenlee County on May 6 and 7.



New for 2017 will be the “Ghost Mine Rumble,” 20- and 60-mile dirt road races.

As well as the Arizona State Championship Road Races (Masters and Juniors, fondo rides and a criterium, there will be family fun events, including a 5K fun run and a kids’ bicycle rodeo.

Race headquarters will be the Greenlee County Fairgrounds at Duncan. Proceeds from the event will go to a local scholarship and other social services.

For information and registration, go to the [Javelina Chase](http://JavelinaChase.com) website.

## New Arizona@Work offices

Please note, the office location of ARIZONA@WORK-SOUTHEASTERN AZ and Arizona Dept of Economic Security will soon be different.

The offices will be relocating to a new building sometime between the middle to end of February 2017. Our new location will be one of the spaces in the old Goodman Chiropractic building on Coronado Blvd in Clifton, past Kempton Chevrolet.

The phone number will remain the same, 928-439-4632.

## The Greenlee Clarion

Published monthly by

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## Save on heating costs

Southwest Gas can help you save on your natural gas bill and make your home more energy efficient.

If you are a Southwest Gas customer in Arizona that owns or rents a home and are income-qualified, we also have a Weatherization Program that can provide money-saving improvements to increase the energy efficiency of your home, at no cost to you.

Some examples of energy-saving measures are caulking, insulation, weather-stripping, ductwork repairs and window repairs.

Additionally, Southwest Gas Bill Assistance or Energy Share Programs can provide short-term financial aid for customers who are facing a hardship, have limited income or find themselves in a crisis.

Please visit us at [swgas.com/azassist](http://swgas.com/azassist) to find out more about these programs as well as other assistance programs in Arizona or call 877-860-6020.

## Needs of older adults

Learn how primary care providers can address the behavioral health needs of older adults in a free webinar scheduled for Feb. 15 at 10 a.m. (Pacific.)

The number of adults in the United States age 65 and older is expected to exceed 82 million by 2040. Approximately 16 million of these older adults will have a mental health or substance use condition, and they’ll be turning to their primary care providers for care.

What does that mean for you? Join this webinar to learn what you need to know and steps you can take to help your team be prepared to meet behavioral health needs of the older adults you serve.

Learn how one primary care provider took steps to identify and address behavioral health concerns in older adults, and hear how integrated primary and behavioral health care can guide your patients toward healthy aging.

Register for free at: <https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1134188>



# Cash for College event big success

SAFFORD—The Second Annual Cash for College scholarship awareness night brought together more than a dozen Greenlee County scholarship providers and more than 275 Graham and Greenlee County high school students and parents to learn about scholarship opportunities.

The event, sponsored by the Arizona Community Foundation of the Gila Valley, Eastern Arizona College and the Prina Family Scholarship Fund, is part of an ongoing effort to increase awareness about financial support for higher education available to local students.

“In these uncertain economic times, any help available to aid the financial burden of higher education can be a godsend,” said Ted Prina, ACF of the Gila Valley Board of Advisors Chair.

“That’s why we introduced Cash for College last year, and continue to highlight local scholarships during our annual scholarship awareness night.”

The event, held on the evening of January 25 at Eastern Arizona College, was organized much like an activity fair. Students and families explored different scholarship opportunities and assistance available from local tech schools, met with representatives of the organizations offering scholarships, and learned about application deadlines, requirements and information about the FAFSA.

Scholarship organizations in attendance at Cash for College serving Greenlee County included the Daughters of the American Revolution, Mt. Graham Regional Medical Center, Arizona@Work, EAC Fab Lab, Eastern Arizona Academy, The Hair Academy of Safford, Gila Health Resources, Duncan Valley Coop, American Legion Auxiliary, Morenci Lion’s Club, Morenci Fire Association, MHS-CHS Alumni Association, and Copper Valley Telephone.

The Arizona Community Foundation was also present, sharing information about scholarship opportunities available to Graham and Greenlee County students and the organization’s unique on-line application portal that automatically matches students with more than 90 scholarships for which they qualify. ACF is the largest private provider of scholarships in the state and the application portal is now open.

Many of the scholarship opportunities presented at Cash for College have their application deadlines



*High school students from the area took advantage of the Cash for College event held recently by the Arizona Community Foundation of the Gila Valley.*

in the early spring. For more information, contact Angie Laskarides at [ALaskarides@azfoundation.org](mailto:ALaskarides@azfoundation.org) or 520.505.3676.

The Arizona Community Foundation of the Gila Valley is a growing and permanent collection of funds created by local residents for the benefit of communities in Graham and Greenlee Counties.

This family of charitable funds is guided by a local Board of Advisors and benefits from cost-efficient, centralized professional services provided by the Arizona Community Foundation.

Founded in 1978, the Arizona Community Foundation is a statewide philanthropy with regional offices serving communities across Arizona. Last year, ACF and its affiliates awarded more than \$56 million in grants and scholarship funding to some 3,500 nonprofit organizations, schools and government agencies. More information is available at [www.azfoundation.org](http://www.azfoundation.org).



# County begins hazard abatement work

By Philip Ronnerud

Planning Director, Greenlee County

The State Statutes outline requirements for Planning Departments across the state. One of those items is to have a Hazard Abatement program in unincorporated areas.

Several years ago a Hazard Abatement Ordinance was approved by the Greenlee County Board of Supervisors.

Duncan and Clifton are both incorporated and they have been working on their own programs to eliminate hazardous conditions.

The purpose of the Greenlee County Abatement Ordinance is to eliminate conditions that can lead to fires, pests, attractive nuisances or any other hazard. Many of these conditions also lead to decreased property values, which often depress property sales.

This condition can also lead to a general lack of pride, making some forms of economic development challenging.

As residents we become conditioned to ignore visual blight that often accompanies these hazards. Those not accustomed to seeing blight are often reluctant to invest where it is prevalent. Often a hazard is difficult to distinguish from blight because they can be the same.

As Greenlee County starts to implement abate-

ment of hazards, our goal is to help property owners to eliminate hazards. While the Abatement Ordinance allows the County to clean up private property, the process was intentionally designed to give property owners every opportunity to do the work themselves.

Removing obsolete vehicles (including mobile homes) is high on the agenda. These vehicles provide places for rodents and often foster other problems as well.

Staff has identified SEACAB (SouthEast Arizona Clean and Beautiful) and the Greenlee County Sheriff's Office prisoner work program as resources to assist people in eliminating the hazards.

The Duncan Rural Fire Department has burned old



structures as training exercises.

More good news: There is always an opportunity for any organization to assist in this cleanup process. Having the County fund a cleanup on a property is the last resort.

Removing hazardous conditions will be a lengthy process. The first step always is the most difficult. We have taken the first step.

And so you know, the County remains dedicated to working with property owners to eliminate hazards and at the same time beautifying county neighborhoods.

## Veteran Resource Fair

Graham & Greenlee Serving Veterans is a locally formed group of service providers with the main focus of bringing services to veterans and family members in rural southern Arizona.

The group has hosted a Resource Fair at the National Guard Armory for the past three years, and then next one is coming up this April.

The group is looking for volunteers, providers of services and any other support. It meets the first Tuesday of each month at the American Legion Post 32 in Safford at 1:30 p.m. For information, call Lisa Lane at (928) 432-6933.

## Business Opportunity Fair

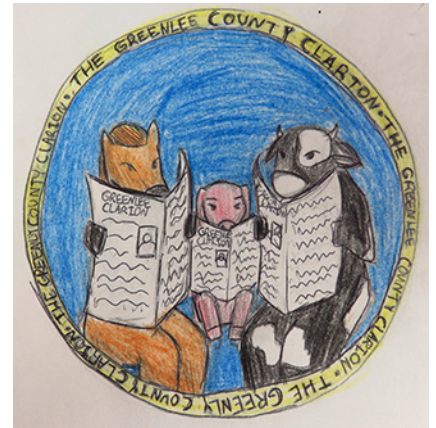
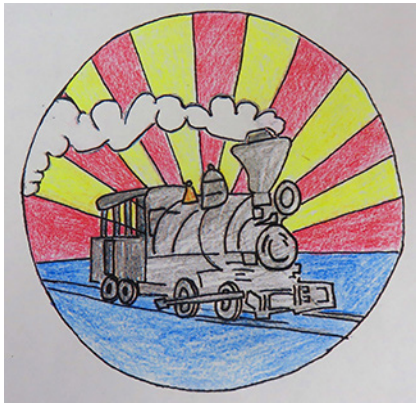
The 5th annual Business Opportunity Fair will be held Feb. 8 and 9 at the Apache Gold Casino & Resort at San Carlos.

The theme is "growing and sustaining our Native American community through entrepreneurship."

Agenda items include a business plan boot camp, matchmaking and networking, opportunity fair and craft vendors.

During the fair, participants will be able to showcase their businesses to others.

For information, call (928) 475-1781 or (928) 475-1788.



## Clarion logo competition

Here are submissions for the Greenlee Clarion logo competition, which got was announced a couple of months ago.

A group of judges will be meeting soon to determine the results and readers should be seeing a new logo on Clarion-related publications, both online and in print.



The Greenlee County Fairground at Duncan is about a lot more than just the annual county fair and horse races. Click below to like their Facebook page to keep track of all that's going on in that part of the county.

**Greenlee County  
Fair & Racing**



**Spring Rampage  
April 15, 2017**

Interested in being an Event worker?  
Want to Volunteer?  
Sell your goods as a vendor or rent a space?  
Want to advertise your company as a Sponsor?

**Don't miss the Eggcitement!!!  
Greenlee County Fairgrounds**

Kids Zone Inflatables, Easter Egg Hunt and games, Vendors,  
Decorated Egg Contest, Car Show, Horse Shoe Tournament,  
Jackpot Team Roping, Mud/Sand Volleyball Tourney, Bull  
Riding, Music and Dancing. Fun for the whole family!

For More Information contact: **Greenlee County Events**  
[fairracing@co.greenlee.az.us](mailto:fairracing@co.greenlee.az.us)  
928-359-2032

# Duncan, the town on the Old West Highway

Along the Gila River, flocks of sandhill cranes can be heard muttering to themselves. Overhead our nation's symbol, the bald eagle, can be watched sailing the breezes.

On the highway below is a 21st century Rock Shop that is spacious and clean; further down the road is an old-fashioned Emporium replete with treats and goods not found elsewhere – plus a full-fledged gun shop and gunsmith.

Across the way is a cheerful, clean and modernized drive-in motel seemingly out of a novel by Salinger, Steinbeck or Hemingway.

There are stone buildings, fun eateries, Centennial Park, a Gift Shop and visitor center known as Country Chic, a stage-stop fuel station next to a Town & Country building and farm supply.

Just off the highway (on main street) a historic Hotel B&B across from a singularly outstanding pizza place called Humble Pie.

But there is so much more Duncan. True, much of it can be seen on Old West Highway, but there are neighborhoods up on the bluff, an old cemetery, a town swimming pool adjacent to a tribute to airborne soldiers – the Jet Memorial – a modern car wash, a beautiful high school campus with an electronic billboard next to the entrance to Wanda's Kitchen.

And there are churches, and farms, ranches and a large Fairgrounds with rodeo arena, stables and so much more. Duncan, Ariz., a short drive from Tucson with a long history.





## Upcoming activities

**2/4** 6-10 p.m., Comedy Night, Morenci Club

**2/7 & 21** 8-11 a.m., Greenlee County Board of Supervisors meeting, Board Room, Courthouse Annex, Clifton.

**2/7**, 1:30-3 p.m., Graham Greenlee Serving Veterans, American Legion Post 32, Safford. See page 6 for details.

**2/8-9**, Business Opportunity Fair, Apache Gold Casino, San Carlos. See page 6 for details.

**2/9 and every Thursday**, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Clifton Farmers Market, Historic Train Depot.

**2/10**, Greenlee Plan for Staycation Day, online, by phone, or at Courthouse Annex, Room 208. See page 1 for details.

**2/18** 4-6 p.m., Polar Plunge, Morenci Community Center.

**2/23** 6-8 p.m., Tax Planning for Small Business, EAC Wayne M. McGrath High Tech Center, Room 124.

**2/24** 2-4 p.m., Book Discussion Series, The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto, Blue Door Sanctuary, 112 Park Ave., Clifton.

**2/27** 3:30-5 p.m., Adult Drug Court Kickoff Presentation, Graham County Courthouse, Main Courtroom.

**3/2** Arizona Small Business Development Center Network's Success Awards, 11:30-1:15, Arizona State Capitol Complex, Legislative Courtyard, Lawn.

**The Morenci Unified School District #18** - 2016-2017 District Calendar is now available. [Click here](#) or on the calendar at right to access it.