



December 2015

Vol. 2, No. 12

Growing Greenlee, into the future

By Ákos Kovach

Greenlee County, Arizona may only be 1,848 square miles in size, but we are enormous in terms of attributes. Start with some of the lowest tax rates found anywhere in Arizona. Not enough? Add in the fact our utility costs are also among the lowest anywhere among the 15 counties of Arizona.

What about our schools: championship quality. Outdoor amenities? As our Greenlee County Tourism Council likes to say: we have rivers, valleys, mountains and trails ~ not enough?

How about cross country skiing, rafting, equestrian trails for amateurs and pros, cliffs for rappelling, ghost towns, ancient encampments, dinosaur bones, world class rock hounding and conquistador artifacts?

But we have more to offer than a 'past', we have a future to share with those with vision, those with a spirit for accepting what is yet to be.

What you can expect in 2016 is more promotional material to reach not just our audience in Greenlee County, but also to ALL of our immediate neighbors – north, south, east and west of us. We are as connected to them as they are to us, but we need to remind them, show them and then show them again.

Goals set over 2 ½ years ago are being achieved. In 2016 Greenlee County residents can expect new housing as well as a new motel to break ground on our soil. Along with our still-growing population, Greenlee County is not just “waiting for things to happen” — we are “stirring it up” around the nation by making plans to showcase Greenlee County at major national trade shows; promote our beneficial climate to snow birds and perform aggressive outreach to attract more businesses to locate or expand in Greenlee County. Want more? Ask.... Just write akovach@co.greenlee.az.us

Early Voting begins today

(for people's choice mural location)

By Ákos Kovach

Most of us got through Halloween and Dios de la muerte relatively unscathed; then came Thanksgiving Day. Can anyone raise their hand and say they did not gain any weight during these holidays?

Well then, let's exercise; exercise your right to vote that is.

A number of potential locations have been offered as possible sites to hang the recently completed International Mural Project created during the Colors of Copper Art Show by 24 students from

Morenci High and more than a dozen professional artists from France, Hungary, Mexico, New Mexico and Arizona.

To see the proposed locations look on page 2. After you view the potential locations, (they are labeled 1-14) choose your top 3 favorite locations and vote on [our Facebook Page](#). Voting will continue through Dec. 10.

A final survey will be taken from among the top 3 people's choice locations. Watch our Facebook page for results.

Vote for the location of the mural



Side of Marketplace
Vote for 1



Side of old Blimpie
Vote for 2



Side of old cafe on Chase Creek
Vote for 3



Corner of Galleria Coronado
Vote for 4



Side of arches parking lot
Vote for 5



Side of storage building opposite arches parking lot
Vote for 6



Front of Ray's storage building facing Chase Creek
Vote for 7



Side of Ray's Antiques building
Vote for 8



Side of Clothing store opposite of Ray's
Vote for 9



Side of Historical Society
Vote for 11
← Front of Historical Society
Vote for 10



Side of Family Dollar facing Town Hall
Vote for 12

Have your own preference?
Don't see it listed here?

Vote for 14 and let us know what it is.



Side of Family Dollar facing Coronado Blvd.
Vote for 13

Reading Nook News

Legal forms library

Have you ever needed a legal form and did not want to spend the money to have an attorney fill it out for you? There is a free source for many Arizona Legal Forms on the Greenlee County Library website (www.greenleelibraries.org).

The database link on the Greenlee County Library website is called Gale Legal Forms. Forms can be found in a variety of ways. There is a search box where you can enter the type of form you are interested in finding. An alphabetic list is also available. The most requested forms are found near the top by subject.

Once you find the document you want, you can download it in Word format or in Rich Text Format which works on computers that do not use Word. There are also completed samples available for help in filling in information.

Also available on the page are links to definitions, the Law Digest, Legal Q & A, Tax Forms, and an Attorney Directory as well as external links to other sites.

The Greenlee Library System website also offers many links to free legal help. While your librarians can help you find materials about your legal questions, they are limited by law in what they are allowed to do for you. They are not allowed to give you their opinions about your legal situation but they can point you to information that may help. You can find those links in the center column about half way down the page.

Library Quote: "A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert."

~~ Andrew Carnegie, Industrialist, Businessman, Philanthropist, Entrepreneur

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.

Christmas holiday safety

The Christmas season is always a special time of year. It is also a time when people become careless and vulnerable to theft and other holiday crime. We can never be too careful, too prepared or too aware. Please share this information with family, friends and neighbors.

At Home

* Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave the house, even for a few minutes.

* When leaving home have a family member or neighbor watch your house. Notify the Clifton Police Department if you are planning an extended absence. They will perform a security patrol for your home.

* Indoor and outdoor lights should be on an automatic timer.

* Leave a radio or television on so the house looks and sounds occupied.

* Large displays of holiday gifts should not be visible through the windows and/or doors of your home.

* When using lights on your Christmas tree ensure the wiring is not damaged or frayed. Frayed or damaged wiring can cause a fire.

* Place your Christmas tree in water or wet sand to keep it fresh and green.

* Be sure your Christmas tree is in a sturdy base so children, elderly persons or family pets cannot pull it over on themselves.

[Click here to read more](#)

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO SOLDIERS EVERYWHERE WHO CAN'T BE WITH THEIR FAMILIES



Safe House to host open house

The Mt. Graham Safe House is having an open house Dec. 17 at the Morenci office from 9:30 to 3.

Address is 109 Burro Alley in the Gila Health Resources Building, Room 109.

There will be door prizes for the first 20 people who attend.

Work Readiness Program

The Cochise College Small Business Development Center is sponsoring a free work readiness program that the Cochise College Adult Education department conducts.

Work Readiness ELAA is designed for students interested in immediate employment. This free course offers English literacy instruction (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) integrated with career exploration, specific career knowledge, and job readiness skills.

For January 2016 ELAA classes, you must register in the Adult Education Building (Bldg. 1400) on the Sierra Vista campus of Cochise College, Monday through Thursday by Dec. 17 from 8am-4:30pm. You must bring ID. Documentation for Proposition

300 is required in order to register for ELAA classes.

Students must attend both days of orientation on January 5 & 6, 2016 in the Adult Education Building either 8:30am-11:30am or 5:30pm-8:30pm.

Classes are held Monday through Wednesday in the morning or the evening.

For more information, please call Adult Education at 520-515-5456 or visit them on the web at www.cochise.edu/adulteducation.

Transportation summit

The 17th Annual Rural Transportation Summit will be held in Yuma Jan. 12-15, 2016.

The Summit is a signature event for Rural Arizona, in which elected and appointed officials, transportation planners, service providers, engineers, and other dignified guests convene.

The Arizona Rural Transportation Summit provides unprecedented opportunities to connect directly with Rural Arizona's transportation decision makers. This is a unique opportunity to network with those working to improve and enhance transportation needs in Arizona.

For more information and for registration, [click this link](#).



Duncan featured in tourist guide

Southern Arizona Guide, which features places to go and things to see and do in this part of the state, has featured the community of Duncan in a [recent issue](#).

The article discussed Duncan's history, with several historic photos furnished by the Duncan Pride Society.

Things To Do In Duncan Arizona



[Play](#) [Prev](#) | [Next](#) [Fullscreen](#)



Simpson Hotel: Duncan, Arizona. For travelers, this is the most important place in Greenlee County. This beautifully restored old hotel is now a fine B&B. The Simpson first opened in 1914. It's a perfect base from which to spend a couple of days exploring Southeastern Arizona.

Search by Category

Select Category ▼

Events Calendar

NOVEMBER 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

AZ best state for job growth

Arizona was absolutely hammered during the financial crisis of the late 2000s. Median home prices in the state plummeted 53% over five years from \$250,000 in 2006 to \$117,000.

But Arizona has emerged from the wreckage to be one of the brighter spots in a slumbering U.S.

economy thanks in part to renewed migration. Arizona's projected job growth is 3.1% annually though

[Click here to read more](#)

In search of pARTners

Submitted by Barbara Ahmann

Americans for the Arts is a national advocacy program dedicated to the advancement and funding of the arts. It is their goal to heighten public awareness to cultural needs, benefits and spectrum of possibilities, and to ensure the health and vitality in the art sector.

Americans for the Arts latest survey has some interesting statistics: first, 54% Americans agree, the arts improve the quality of life. Next, 49% agree the the arts help create a vibrant community and society. 47% concur arts improve academic performance for students.

Being an art educator and art advocate, I feel a need for starting a pARTnership of volunteers dedicated to advancing the arts in Greenlee County. [Please complete this survey](#). If you are in strong agreement with the conclusion of this survey, you might be an advocate of the arts and feel the need to join in a group of volunteers to promote the arts in our community.

The Greenlee Clarion

Published monthly by
Greenlee County Economic Development
253 Fifth Street | Clifton, Arizona 85533
(928) 865-2072 ext. 202

Gary Dillard, Graphics Editor

akovach@co.greenlee.az.us
www.growinggreenlee.org
www.co.greenlee.az.us

Morenci schools in the news

MUSD named a 'District of Distinction'

By Walter Mares, Eastern Arizona Courier

The Morenci Unified School District can hold its collective head high. It is, after all a "District of Distinction."

Principal Bryan Boling said Morenci was chosen for the honor primarily based on the strong corporate partnership between Freeport-McMoRan and the Morenci School District. FMI provides financial support allowing Morenci High School students to earn college credits from Eastern Arizona College at no cost to the school, to students or their parents.

"I believe that there are very few corporations that do what Freeport does," said MHS Principal Bryan Boling. "At least not to the degree that Freeport does

in making this program possible."

Students can earn the 64 credit hours required to graduate high school with an associate's degree in general studies.

Boling said the program has grown over time. In 2014, Morenci High School students collected 1,264 credit hours; in 2015, they earned 1,621. And of the 93 graduates of the class of 2015, six graduated with an associate's degree, compared to only one the year before.

"The college courses they're taking are more challenging and rigorous than in high school. Expectations are higher. Students have to be more diligent.

[Click here to read more](#)

MHS Pride Band brings home the gold

By Jenna Chavez, The Copper Era

On Nov. 7, the Morenci Pride Band competed against 27 other high school bands in the end of the season Tournament of Bands at New Mexico State University.

Morenci received first-place All-Around in Class C, Outstanding Visual Performance, Outstanding General Effect and Outstanding Music Performance.

Band instructor Jared Collins said he was extremely proud of his band's performance.

"Our Tournament of Bands was

the best all year. The kids gave it their all and it showed on the field. Juana Verlander and I are so proud of our students. [\[Click to read more.\]](#)



Students recognized

Morenci High School students voluntarily attended a weeklong intersession program during the fall break to work on essential standards and improve academic standards. Students were recognized for their efforts at a recent Morenci School Board meeting. Pictured are, front from left, Reina Lozano, Destiny Wagley, Ernest Arvizo and MHS Principal Bryan Boling; back, school board members Gwyn Rhys-Evans, Kelly Baker and Ron Campbell.

US 60 east of Superior closing briefly for blasting

Motorists traveling along US 60 between Phoenix and Globe on **Dec. 1 and 3** need to plan ahead or allow extra time as the Arizona Department of Transportation continues blasting work as part of an improvement project to build a new passing lane and widen roadway shoulders east of Superior.

The construction of the two-mile-long climbing lane from Devil's Canyon to Oak Flat (mileposts 231-233) will require four full closures of US 60 for up to 90 minutes:

Tuesday, Dec. 1, at 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and again from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 3, at 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and again from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Traffic on eastbound US 60 will be stopped east of Superior (milepost 227) and traffic on westbound

US 60 will be stopped at the Top of the World, west of Miami (milepost 235), until the blasting work is completed and the roadway is reopened after all debris is cleared. Law enforcement officers will be stationed at each closure to assist with traffic control.

Approximately 30 minutes prior to each blast, motorists should be prepared for possible delays and lane closures as crews set concrete barrier prior to each scheduled closure.

Motorists seeking an alternate route can consider state routes 77 and 177, which is approximately 68 miles long.

Motorists headed to the White Mountains region, including Show Low and Springerville, can also take State Route 87 through Payson and travel east on State Route 260 as an alternative.

Greyhound to stop in Duncan, Thatcher, Bylas

Greyhound, in partnership with the Arizona Department of Transportation and Arizona's rural communities, launched its connect service between El Paso, Texas, and Phoenix on Tuesday, Nov. 17.

Greyhound Connect will bring service to the communities of Apache Junction, Superior, Globe, Peridot, Bylas, Safford, Thatcher and Duncan.

"Greyhound is excited to partner with the Arizona DOT and local communities to offer customers more travel options in Arizona," said Dave Leach, president and CEO, Greyhound Lines Inc. "This new service will allow residents to experience the best of both worlds, catering to those who want to

travel to smaller, rural communities in Arizona, as well as those who want access to major cities within Greyhound's network. Students at the Eastern Arizona College can also enjoy the benefit of having convenient access to Greyhound across the street from campus just in time for the Thanksgiving holiday."

The local stops are: 297 E. U.S. Highway 70 in Bylas, 3775 W. Main St. in Thatcher, and 221 U.S. Highway 70 in Duncan.

"The Arizona Department of Transportation worked closely with Greyhound to plan and provide this new service throughout central and eastern Arizona," said Mike Normand, ADOT's transit group manager.

"This new service, which begins operations just in time for the holiday travel season, provides key connections between Arizona's smaller and more rural communities to the state's largest cities, such as Phoenix and Tucson.

"The service also connects to Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport and Valley Metro's bus and light rail network, so customers can transition easily from one service to another."

This route runs twice daily, and tickets must be purchased either with cash or online. For ticket information, call 1-800-231-2222.



Upcoming activities

12/3 8 am to 5 pm St Mary's Bazaar, Duncan

12/5 Festival of Lights, Clifton; Christmas parade along Chase Creek. Festival from noon to 6, parade starts after dark

12/9 9 am Tourism Council @ Golf Course in Yale

12/12 Duncan Small Town Christmas – Vendors at noon; light parade at 6

12/16 5:30 pm Chamber Mixer @ Morenci Club –hosted by FMI

Clifton Festival of Lights

By Walter Mares, Eastern Arizona Courier

The 19th annual Clifton Festival of Lights is only a few days away, and festival organizers say time is of the essence.

Those planning on participating in the parade with floats or other entries are urged to contact Clifton Town Hall and register, either in person or by calling 928-865-4146.

The festival is Saturday, Dec. 5, and will be held on Chase Creek Street. The parade's theme this year is "My Super Hero."

"A super hero can be anybody," said Clifton Town Clerk Espie Castaneda, who is co-chair of the event. "A super hero can be a peace officer, a copper miner, doctor, teacher, firefighter, mom, dad, even the kid that feeds your pets while you're on vacation. We want parade participants to use their imaginations to depict someone who has made a difference in their lives."

The theme was selected in part to honor Clifton Police Sgt. Jason Mingura and Greenlee County Sheriff's deputy Jon Mennen. Both officers were seriously wounded in the line of duty in January.

Castaneda said, "Sgt. Mingura and deputy Mennen will serve as grand marshals of the parade and will begin a new festival tradition by ceremoniously lighting the town's Christmas tree prior to the parade."

[Click here to read more](#)

Duncan Festival of Lights

By Walter Mares, Eastern Arizona Courier

Santa Claus will receive special attention at the 10th annual Duncan Festival of Lights this year — he's the grand marshal.

"It's only fitting that the jolly old man be star attraction of the parade. After all, he is a big part of what makes a Christmas parade a pretty attractive thing," Duncan Mayor Bill Waters said.

The parade theme this year is "A Candy Land Christmas."

The festival begins at noon on Dec. 12 at Centennial Park, with vendors selling food, gifts and holiday-themed items.

"They need to bring their own tables and canopies," Waters said.

The parade begins at 6 p.m., running from East Avenue to U.S. Highway 70, traveling west to Stadium Drive by the high school football field, where the parade ends.

"We're hoping for a lot of participation," Waters said. "What we're also hoping for is that it doesn't rain and maybe the weather will warm up some. Just in case, we're advising everybody to dress real warm. Maybe not so much for the day, but it's that time of year when it gets pretty chilly at night."

Duncan Town Hall administrative assistant Isabel Meza said she is very much looking forward to the event.

[Click here to read more](#)