

POINT OF VIEW

JEROME'S NEWSLETTER

July – August 2014

From the Mayor

Dear Jerome Residents,

We've added the finishing touches to the 2014-2015 budget and are now preparing for tentative adoption of the budget at our July 8th regular meeting.

As always, this is a time to set the Town's priorities for the year. This year, we have given priority to many infrastructural projects and capital improvements. We are reformatting our

Hampshire water line to tie into the fire line, as we have spent much time and held up much traffic, making small repairs. It is time to invest in a long-term fix. We are also undertaking the Gulch septic tank upgrades and finishing the engineering for our sewer plant road so that we can begin upgrading that system in years to come. We are stabilizing the leaning wall and rebuilding the dry-stack wall to make restoration of the horseshoe pits possible. These are among the many projects included in this



budget and I encourage you to take a peek at it, as it will be available for viewing at Town Hall.

The library has also had some unexpected funding increases due to the County Library District removing our branch status. They have done this recently on account of the fact that Jerome and Clarkdale are a municipality and not a county town like many of the others. This has resulted in a \$6,000 increase in expenses for the Town. Our library is an essential community resource that simply must continue to operate at its current level of service. The Town is dedicated to filling the gap and in the near future there will be a fundraiser held to benefit the library and help meet these unexpected costs - watch for dates!

Hopefully by the time this makes it to your PO Boxes - now free for all Jerome residents - we will begin to see clouds forming and rain falling to deliver some much needed moisture. May your gardens survive this brutal weather until then!

Mayor Nikki Check

Dear Jeromans

I fervently hope that each of you who vote will read Ordinance 405 to make an informed decision, as well as learning about candidates' positions. Will your chosen representative be ready to deal with the broad and deep range of issues that keep Jerome moving forward? Single-issue Councilmember's do have a poor track record on getting other work done.



It is so exciting to plan & fund major infrastructure improvements again this year! How different from the days when Jerome couldn't pay the phone bill! The biggest items planned are: Gulch septic, Hampshire water line, horseshoe pit walls and the sidewalk to the mine pit parking.

Safe & happy summer to us all.

Anne Bassett

Meeting Dates for July, August, and September 2014

Regular Council Meeting

July 8 at 7:00 pm

Planning & Zoning

July 2 at 7:00 pm

Design Review Board

July 14 at 7:00 pm **Regular**

Council Meeting

August 12 at 7:00 pm

Planning & Zoning

August 6 at 7:00 pm

Design Review Board

August 11 at 7:00 pm **Regular**

Council Meeting

September 9 at 7:00 pm

Planning & Zoning

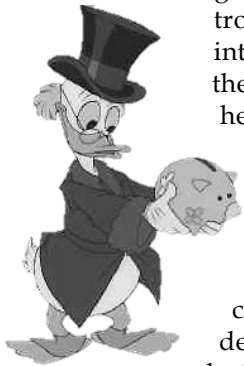
September 3 at 7:00 pm

Design Review Board

September 8 at 7:00 pm

AS THE EGG FRIES

The Town's fiscal year ended June 30th. It now looks like General Fund spent less than we expected while overall taxes brought in slightly more than hoped, so that fund ends in the black (less than 1%). And



although the Sewer Department had some trouble, utilities as a whole squeaked into the good (again, under 1%). So the front office and our department heads look adept at running in

budget. Our focal point last year was infrastructure. We inspected both water tanks on Cleopatra.

One needed immediate renovation. We repaired it, at a cost of over \$250,000. The other was deemed stable and useable. It's old, but still honorable. We made minor repairs and feel we can get back to it another day.

We broke ground on the new walkway to the 300 Level parking area. That project is now under construction.

We continued work upstairs in Town Hall, preparing for the new courtroom. If we don't have our own court we have to pay someone else for their services. If we do that we'll be paying for a courtroom in Cottonwood or Clarkdale. We have the space. Hopefully in the long run this is more efficient.

Legal costs last year (including settlement of litigation) ran about \$87,000. Part of that was the Grand Hotel affair, part was the Vacation Rentals debate. On a total operating budget of \$2,239,000, legal is under 4%. We spent about \$375,000 on police protection and another \$165,000 on fire protection. Legal protection is necessary, too, although we all wish it wasn't.

And we still have a significant "Rainy Day Fund."

I could go on, of course, but space is limited.

Low Currier

VOTE!!

Hello all! We are coming up on another election when we will decide who should guide our town for the next two years. Town Council is a group of five elected volunteers (non-paid position) who consider the issues that impact the viability of Jerome. This basically boils down to budget (how much money do we need, and where do we get it from) and policy (what rules do we make).

This year we have eleven citizens running for five seats. WOW! Talk about citizen participation! Yet it makes me wonder how much is due to sheer enthusiasm for democracy and how much due to dissatisfaction with the current council.

In this current term, we attempted to tackle an issue of growing concern and contention: how should Jerome deal with the increasing number of vacation rental houses in our residential districts. An ordinance was drafted to regulate short term rentals in hopes the town would prevail in the probable event of litigation. It passed by a vote of three to two. My vote was against adoption of the ordinance. Enough of you decided to call for a referendum on the ordinance, so its final acceptance or rejection will be determined by popular vote in this election. A copy of the ordinance is available at Town Hall.



There are eleven of us who would volunteer to serve Jerome in this election. Yet it is YOU who must step forward to make democracy work by voting. You can vote for as many as five or as few as one. But please don't not vote. We all make a difference in life so lend your voice. Last day to register is Monday, July 28. VOTE!

Randall Hunt

Manager's Dugout



Odds and Ends

The Town of Jerome now accepts credit cards!

You may make your utility payments using Mastercard, VISA or Discover. For more information, call Peggy at 634-7943.

The Town is now utilizing PublicSurplus.com to sell surplus equipment and other items at **public auction**, and we've brought in over \$8,000 in revenue over the past few months. To view our auctions, as well as items being auctioned by other towns, visit www.publicsurplus.com. The site is free to the public, and anyone may place bids.

Just a reminder that **our website** is up and running, and includes meeting agendas (posted at least 24 hours in advance of every meeting), meeting minutes, budget



information and much more. You can find it at www.jerome.az.gov. Our Facebook page is also quite active, and is frequently updated with announcements and links.

Speaking of the budget ... Council is ready to approve the tentative 2014-15 budget at the July 8 Council meeting. A public hearing on the budget and tax levy is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday evening, July 29, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Watch our website and Facebook page for confirmation of the date and time.

Once approved, the tentative budget will be available on our website, and a link placed on our Facebook page. A full copy will also be available in our Library. If you have any questions about the budget or the budget process, I'd be happy to meet with you to review it, or answer any questions by phone or email.

- Candace Gallagher

Jerome Fire Department

Rusty Blair, Chief JVFD



Warm weather has arrived and with that is a reminder to be very careful with barbecues and outdoor cooking. As of this writing, Jerome had only received 1.08 inches of precipitation so far in 2014. The average between

January and June is 13.87 inches. Now is the time to reevaluate the defensible space around your home. Native vegetation plants are very dry and will burn at a violent pace. Also please remember that we are in level 2 fire restriction throughout most of the state's forest, with no open flames allowed, and restricting chain saw, vehicle and smoking material use. Be prepared and be safe.



The Fire Department is always looking for new members for fire or EMS or both. Free training, cool t-shirts, and drive big trucks with red lights. 5:00 PM, every Thursday. Come on down and see what we do. Everybody is welcome.

If the fire and EMS doesn't interest you, but you would still like to help out, the Jerome Fire Department Auxiliary is always welcoming new members as well!! Come join us!! If you wish to join, please contact Chief Blair at (928) 300-8701 or you can e-mail your interest to blair@jeromefire.us or jeromeauxiliarysecretary@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued support.

Election Drop Box Locations

If you receive an early ballot, be sure to sign your affidavit envelope before sealing. Without your signature your vote will not be counted.

Ballots may be mailed or dropped off at early voting sites or drop box locations (listed below), or at any Yavapai County Vote Center on Election Day. They must be received by 7:00 PM on Election Day; postmarks do not apply.

Camp Verde	Town Hall, 473 S. Main St.
Camp Verde	Yavapai-Apache Nation Community Center, 3462 Smith Ave.
Chino Valley	Town Hall, 202 N. State Route 89
Clarkdale	Town Hall, 39 N. 9th St.
Cottonwood	County Administration Building, 10 S. 6th St.
Dewey-Humboldt	Town Hall, 2735 S. Highway 69
Jerome	Town Hall, 600 Clark St.
Prescott	County Administration Building, 1015 Fair St.
Prescott Valley	Town Hall, 7501 E. Civic Circle
Sedona	City Hall, 102 Roadrunner Dr.

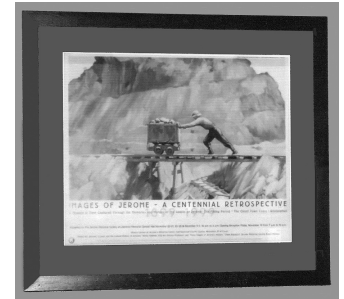
The Jerome Library

Big Book Sale

The Library front porch book sale will continue into July. We have put out a huge collection of books from Mary Wills and Sally Dryer. Thank you for your generous donation. If you have ever wanted to own the Elvis cookbook or want to see the volcanoes of Hawaii, this is your day.

Kathleen Jarvis

Many thanks to Sally Dryer, Soiled Doves Studio, for framing and matting this poster. It is one of the many beautifully framed posters, maps and works of art featured in the Old Book Room.



Old Book Room Hours

Tuesday Noon - 5:00 p.m.

Thursday Noon - 5:00 p.m.

Or call for an appointment - library staff will be happy to open the Old Book Room for you.

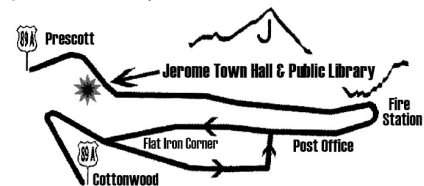
JEROME PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOOKS * VIDEOS * INTERNET * FAX
COPY MACHINE * SCANNER * PRINTER

Phone/Fax 928-639-0574

Drawer I, Jerome, AZ 86331

Sunday	10 am - 2 pm	Thursday	Noon - 8 pm
Monday	10 am - 5 pm	Friday	Noon - 6 pm
Tuesday	Noon - 8 pm	Saturday	CLOSED
Wednesday	10 am - 5 pm		



Police Dispatch Number

For emergencies, always call **9-1-1**.
For all other situations, call police dispatch at **634-2245**.

Greetings From Haven UMC

Dear Jerome Friends:

Now that summer is totally upon us I am already looking forward to fall with its cooler temperatures. In the meantime, Haven UMC is always busy helping people through our food and clothing bank, which doesn't shut down for the heat!



Haven has been collecting new socks for our Annual Conference, which meets the last week of June. The

collected socks, as well as many collected by other churches, will be brought up to Haven to be distributed to those in need.

We are having some leadership changes in the church. As of July 1st, Michael Keffer has been appointed to serve the UMC in Chino Valley. His wife (that's me) will continue to be the pastor at Haven. Many of you have become very special to Michael and he will miss seeing you, but since I will still be here he will definitely still be connected to the town of Jerome.

Haven UMC thanks all of the town of Jerome for its support of our ministries.

Janet Keffer
Pastor

Got History?

The response to our invitation to help build a Memorial Brick Garden has been quite satisfactory. This project will set in stone, literally, the historical story of many families who have lived and may still live in Jerome. We are so pleased that **Mr. Steven Lucero, of Hilltop Deli**, was one of the first with family history in Jerome, four generations to be exact, to place an order for one brick.

The significance of the Memorial Brick Garden is to create a visual history of many families who once supported Holy Family, first established 1894, by their presence at, and involvement in, parish activities.

Additionally, the "Garden" will feature the names of many of Jerome's visitors who have been drawn to visit the Church because of its beautifully preserved and well-maintained religious artifacts. Our very first order was actually placed by a Hindu family currently living in Texas!! To date, 39 bricks have been inscribed. However, since we need at least 175, we are still taking orders.

Lastly, as a Mission Church, Catholic services are held monthly every third Saturday at 8:00 a.m. Father David Kelash, pastor of Immaculate Conception of Cottonwood, presides. Please join us!



Have a prosperous and safe Summer!
Friends of Holy Family Catholic Church
e-mail: bluecircle333@yahoo.com
or ibenothing2@yahoo.com

Vote Centers by Area

Did you know? Yavapai County was one of two counties in Arizona to make the switch for the 2012 elections. Vote Centers allow every voter in Yavapai County to choose where they vote on Election Day, compared to traditional precinct-based voting which required voters to go to an assigned polling place to vote.

Cottonwood Area	
Clark Memorial Clubhouse	19 N Ninth Street, Clarkdale
Cottonwood-Oak Creek School District	1 N Willard Street, Cottonwood
Cottonwood Bible Church (formerly First Southern Baptist)	1020 S Camino Real, Cottonwood
Immaculate Conception Catholic Church	700 N Bill Gray Road, Cottonwood
Sedona Area	
Elks Lodge #2291	110 Airport Road, Sedona
Oak Creek Country Club	690 Bell Rock Boulevard, Sedona
Camp Verde Area	
Camp Verde United Methodist Church	480 S 1st Street, Camp Verde



Jerome Humane Society Clinic Hours

Thursdays Noon - 5:00 p.m.
Clinic Phone: 634-6166 (*during clinic hours only*)
Appt. Phone: 639-1341

Town of Jerome
P.O. Box 335
Jerome, AZ 86331

US POSTAGE PAID
MAILED FROM
86331
PERMIT NO 5

Boxholder