



POINT OF VIEW

JEROME'S NEWSLETTER

March-April 2026

Jerome Received a Grant for a Full System-Wide Replacement of All Water Meters at No Cost to Residents and Water Users

The Town of Jerome was fortunate to have recently received a grant from the Water Infrastructure Financing Authority (WIFA) to cover the overwhelming majority of the cost of a full system replacement of water meters throughout the Town. The Advanced Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) meters utilize the latest technology that will reduce staff time needed to read meters, provide accurate water usage data, allow for real-time leak detection, and enhance water resource management. AMI meters have been proven to be safe, accurate and dependable and are endorsed by non-profit water conservation groups and water managers throughout the country.

You can read about AMI technology and testimonials in many academic journals and comprehensive studies, along with through the United States Environmental Protection Agency and a variety of other government and non-government water systems. Many cities and towns in Arizona have already switched to AMI water meter technology with only positive reports. 100's of millions of gallons of water are reportedly saved each year throughout the United States as a result of the AMI technology.

As you may be aware, some of the water meter placements in the Town are quite difficult to get to and put the manual reader in a moderate to high risk situation. The new AMI meters will negate this hazardous situation, while also

providing real-time leak detection which will likely mitigate damage to foundations throughout Town.

The Town Council have heard the pros and cons of AMI from a variety of resources, including: staff, interested citizens and business owners, and vendors. In addition, they have conducted their own research into the AMI meters and technology. The Council are providing the opportunity for water users to opt out of receiving an AMI meter. Those that would opt out will receive a new digital meter that requires staff to physically check the meters each month for the reading and do not provide real-time leak detection. If you elect to opt out you must return the form that was mailed with March utility bills and can also be found on the Town's website, along with payment of \$50.00 no later than Wednesday, April 1, 2026.

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

St. Patrick's Day
Tuesday, March 17th

Easter 2026
Sunday, April 5th

Spring Equinox 2026
Friday, March 20th

Mother's Day
Sunday, May 10th

April Fool's Day
Wednesday, April 1st

***Memorial Day**
Monday, May 25th
(Town Hall Closed)

For National Holidays falling on a MONDAY (asterisks), Cardboard, Dumpsters & trash on Main street will be collected that day. All other trash on the regular Monday route will be picked up on Tuesday.

Scheduled Meeting Dates for March to May 2026*

All of the regularly scheduled meetings will take place on Tuesdays; Council on the 2nd, P&Z on the 3rd, & DRB on the 4th.

Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, March 10th at 7pm

Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 14th at 7 pm

Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 12th at 7 pm

Planning & Zoning
Tuesday, March 17th at 6pm

Planning & Zoning
Tuesday, April 21st at 6 pm

Planning & Zoning
Tuesday, May 19th at 6 pm

Design Review Board
Tuesday, March 24th at 6pm

Design Review Board
Tuesday, April 28th at 6 pm

Design Review Board
Tuesday, May 26th at 6 pm

** Dates may be subject to date/time change due to holidays*



JEROME HUMANE SOCIETY NEWS



Jerome Humane Society passed a recent Arizona Veterinary Medical Board inspection with flying colors! Prior to the inspection we checked everything for expiration dates.

Did you know that the glass slides for the microscope expire at three years? We went through all our forms and procedures. Broken tiles and outdated signage were replaced. Finally, the clinic was cleaned until it squeaked!

Our inspector spent about two hours going through absolutely everything. When finished, there were only three minor things we needed to work on. As he was leaving, a client asked, "How'd they do?" "Fabulous!" he replied. Yes, indeed - we are!

Thanks to everyone who helped us prepare for this critical inspection!

- ◆ On **Sunday, March 15**, we will hold our third annual **St. PETrick's Day** fundraiser! Join us for Irish-themed fun from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Nellie Bly party room. This potluck event will include live Celtic music, a 50-50 raffle, and a silent auction.
- ◆ On **Wednesday, May 13**, we will again celebrate Virginia Kennaway Day at our **WOOFSTOCK** event! The celebration will take place at the Spirit Room from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and will feature music by several local musicians. This too is a potluck, and there will be a 50-50 and a silent auction.

WE KEEP LEARNING SO WE CAN KEEP HELPING

By Teri Klein

Every two years, the team from the Jerome Humane Society heads to Nevada for one of our favorite traditions: attending the Western Veterinary Conference in Las Vegas. It's an invaluable chance to learn from leaders in veterinary medicine and bring the latest knowledge home to our community.

This year's conference was filled with learning, and the team was especially excited to see the advances in diabetes management that are improving quality of life for pets and their owners.

Technology and AI were key conference themes, and Ted even attended a super-cool session on using 3-D printing for safer, more precise procedures. And, we were all encouraged to see a growing interest in integrative medicine that combines complementary therapies with traditional care - something our Dr. Kennaway has championed for decades. We spent a lot of time on the expansive exhibit floor, exploring new equipment and the latest treatment protocols. Virginia was on the hunt for a new electrical cautery unit but couldn't find the right fit, so her search continues.

And of course, there was no shortage of fun. We were thrilled to welcome a new generation of clinic staff — Heidi and Anya — to the conference for the first time. In fact, it was Anya's first trip ever to Vegas, and we made sure she saw a few sights. The rest? Well... that will have to stay in Vegas.

Most of all, being surrounded by large companies and giants of the industry reminded us how special the Jerome Humane Society truly is - a tribute to our dedicated staff and Board, but above all, to this community. Your support allows a small-town clinic to stand shoulder to shoulder with the very best. And for that, we are deeply grateful.



Enjoying the 2026 conference: Anya Kline, Sally Dryer, Joyce Richards, Virginia Kennaway, Karima Botterweg, Heidi Mestas, Ted Stratton.



JEROME FIRE DEPARTMENT
P.O. BOX 1025 * JEROME AZ 86331
(928) 649-3034 blair@jeromefire.us

March 2026 Newsletter

Outlook/Conditions

This winter has been extremely dry. So far, we are seeing spring like conditions in January and February with tall green grass and trees already starting to bloom. As of mid-February, we started to see some moisture but not the snowpack we need to reduce the drought level.

Last year Arizona lost a historical site due to wildfire, this part of the state can be considered one of the wettest regions of Arizona and it did not get the moisture. This was a contributing factor to the fire that devastated the Kaibab Plateau.

With Arizona not receiving winter moisture the threat of large to very large wildland fires are a concern for us.

Locally, Jerome is mid slope on a mountain that has no real fire history. We have had a few smaller fires in the area, but no large-scale Wildland fires have been recorded since the 1950s,

With the grass growing tall on the roadside and in yards it is a concern that affects the town.

We know it is not just chains dragging or the occasional cigarette thrown from a window of a passing car starting a fire, it can be an overheated vehicle, a flat tire or a random act of nature.

As a community we need to do our part and create a defensible space. We need to clear the grass and other fire receptive fuels from around our homes and other areas around town.

Please do what you can to remove any dead fuel within 30 feet of your house and clean all dead and down debris out to 100 feet. Trim grass, and other vegetation on the downhill side of your house as well as any receptive fuels that are near your house. Doing this will help make your property safer in the event of a fire and give the fire department a chance to stop the fire before it reaches your house.

Please call the Fire department if you need entry into the brush/slash pile to drop off your trimmings. The Fire Department records all the loads put in the pile; this is a large part of the town of Jerome's recognition of being a Firewise community. Remember that a clean and green yard is recommended.

For any resident that would like to receive a Firewise assessment on their property please contact the Fire Department, we have a certified Firewise adviser on staff. This assessment will give you recommendations to make your home more fire resistant to vegetation fires.

Insurance companies are getting stricter with homeowners that live in areas with a high potential for devastating vegetation fires. A Firewise assessment and mitigating areas of concern might help with your homeowner's insurance.

Please contact the fire department when you drop anything off. There is also an area for large logs that will not be consumed when the pile is burned. If the logs are larger than 4 inches in diameter, we ask that you drop them off in that area, these logs will then be cut into firewood for anyone that needs it for winter heat.

Remember, if you have any hot ash, charcoal or partially burned firewood, place a metal container with water on a gravel or non-flammable surface outside for at least one day before disposal. Please do not dump hot ash in a trash receptacle.

Annual Fire Extinguisher Service



Fire extinguishers: Jerome Fire Department would like to thank all the residents and businesses that took advantage of this year's annual fire extinguisher maintenance program with Life, Safety & Property company for a small fee. We provide this service every February to ensure that your fire extinguishers function properly in the event you might need to use them. Please take advantage of this program each year.

We would like to remind our residents to check the batteries in their smoke detectors. Also, If the smoke detector is over 10 years old, we recommend that you replace it. If you need assistance with your smoke detector batteries or replacement, please contact the fire department.

Jerome community clean up day

Have you noticed the trash lying around the streets and parking lots? The Fire Department is organizing a community trash pick up day Tuesday March 10th. Meet at the Fire Station at 9 in the morning to pick up bags. We would like to see as many as we can get involved in to make quick work. If this goes well, we can plan another day. Let's pitch in to keep the town clean and beautiful.

File of Life and “Rescue Pet” Stickers

- ◆ Easy to Peel & Stick
- ◆ Long Lasting
- ◆ Leaves No Glue or Residue
- ◆ Sticks Well to Most Surfaces



The Fire Department has Magnetic **Files of Life** envelopes available at the fire station. These envelopes will inform emergency personnel of medical data, such as medications, allergies, and medical history. They will also provide emergency contacts. These are to be placed on the refrigerator so that emergency personnel can easily find them. If you have any questions or need one of these **Files of Life** cards, contact the Fire Department.

Also, we have “Rescue Pet” stickers. These are used to alert First Responders of pets in the house. These stickers are to be placed on your front door. This will provide firefighters with the knowledge that there are potential rescues inside the building. It also lets responders know what potential pets are on the premises that will need to be secured and cared for, in the event they will be left unattended. Please stop by the Fire Station if you would like one of these stickers.

With the weather warming up, we are entering the snake season.

If you encounter a snake, stay a safe distance away, call 911 and note the location or the direction it was moving.

We will come out and relocate the snake to a safe location away from town.

Remember not all snakes are dangerous and they do help minimize the rodent population in town.



The Fire Department is always looking for new members for Fire, EMS, Wildland.

We meet at 5 PM, every Thursday. Come down and see what we do. Everybody is welcome.

If you aren't interested in fire and EMS, the Jerome Fire Department Auxiliary is always welcoming new members as well. The Fire Auxiliary is a great way to help the fire department. They help organize the annual Halloween Dance, and other events. We are always looking for ideas to bring to the community. Come join us!!

Thank you for your continued support.
Assistant Fire Chief, Carl Whiting



The Jerome Historical Society



The Historical Society began 2026 by executing a project we've wanted to tackle for years. Many of you probably noticed that our museum & gift shop were closed for the entire month of January, with plastic sheeting covering our windows.



We informed our community several months ago that we received a generous grant from the Freeport MacMoRan Foundation, to install a new HVAC system, allowing us to remove the swamp coolers, and the moisture they created, from our museum.

The previous building owner, when it was the Fashion Saloon, rebuilt the structure with reinforced concrete, after it was burned to the ground in the fire of 1898. This complicated the installation of today's systems and added to the cost. The result was an expenditure of \$65,000! Freeport's grant covered \$37,000 and JHS picked up the balance of \$28,000. Our staff did a great job of putting the museum gift shop back in top shape after the construction. The project is finally complete!

Moving forward, the good news is that we will be able to display artifacts, art work and documents from our archives, that previously would have been damaged from the moisture of our old cooling system. We have begun reconfiguring an area in the museum which will allow us to rotate exhibits of artifacts we are preserving, that will be of interest to our own community, as well as the 20,000+ visitors that travel thru our museum every year.

Our local woodwork craftsman, Lonnie Anderson, who built the museum's display cabinets years ago, has agreed to accept the job of building the new display cases for our rotating exhibits.

In addition, JHS has been working on a 'makeover' of the lower level of the New State Motor Co. building. We're waiting for items we have ordered to arrive, and hopefully before the next Town newsletter is released, we will have an informal open house for our community to check out the new look. Stay tuned and watch for our posting & flyers.

www.jeromehistoricalsociety.com 928-634-1066

Blessings from Haven,

hopeaboveall.com



As we leave the winter behind, may the spirit of new life fill your hearts with renewed hope!

Peace be with you all,
Pastor Vicki
928-713-1991

AN INTRODUCTION:

Hi! I'm Kelly! I am thrilled to be the new Community Art Program Director at the Jerome Public Library.

I grew up in Auburn, California and moved to Arizona six years ago after studying at Humboldt State University. I have over two years of experience coordinating and presenting a variety of programs to people of all ages at the Clark Memorial Library.

I currently reside in Jerome with my girlfriend and our cat. I enjoy reading comics, watching movies, and gardening.

I look forward to offering engaging art programs to the community. I am currently exploring monotype printing techniques, working with plants, and sewing.

Feel free to reach out to me if you are interested in a particular art process or volunteering to host a workshop yourself.



Photo of Zelda, courtesy of Kelly



JEROME

Community
ART WORKSHOP

Gel Plate Printing Workshop

*March, Friday the 13th 12-2pm

*April, Friday the 10th 12-2pm

Make easy prints with acrylic paint and gel plates. Try a modern printmaking technique & create layered, textured art. \$25.00 suggested donation.



The Jerome Community Art Workshop is offering a **handmade broom workshop**. We will explore various types of broom fibers and grasses, the tools and materials needed to make brooms and the essential techniques for tying a broom onto a broomstick. Students will be surrounded by bundles of hand dyed broom grass as well as dozens of wild brooms and broom making equipment. The class will be hosted by broom maker Kathleen Jarvis in Studio 2 at the Jerome Civic Center/Jerome Library. This one day class will be held on ***Wednesday, March 4th from noon till 3:00 pm**. Donation \$65.00, we provide all materials.



For questions, or to sign up contact Kathleen at the library (928) 639-0574 or
jeromeartworkshop@gmail.com



Founded 1876

INCORPORATED 1899

JEROME



CELEBRATING 150 YEARS



4TH

OF JULY PARADE

CHECK-IN/LINE-UP: 9-9:45AM

PARADE START: 10:00AM



Contact Carl Whiting or Michele Sharif
c.whiting@jerome.az.gov or m.sharif@jerome.az.gov



Colorized Photos courtesy of S. Kolu



Scan for Electronic Parade Sign-up Form



Jerome Chamber of Commerce

Special Event celebrating local businesses
Join us every
FIRST SATURDAY
of the Month
from 5 to 8 PM



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

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