



POINT OF VIEW

JEROME'S NEWSLETTER

March – April 2015

AS THE EGG FRIES

Hey, it's not really spring yet, though *some* of my fruit trees are in full blossom. I've seen this before though...they blossom, bees buzz about, a bit of fruit sets, then—wham!—a freeze, and that's it for the year. Let's hope that's not the case this time.

But warm weather has certainly gotten the tourists out in droves. Traffic last weekend was backed all the way down to Haven. I read that nationwide, retail sales are down, but the crowds on Main Street make me wonder. Are they buying anything? Certainly burgers and beers, but how about a painting, or a scope, or a blouse? At Town Hall we never get the sales reports until a month or two after the fact, so it's hard to tell.

It's time to break out the seed catalogs, think about this year's garden. A couple of years ago we had a push for sustainability...talk of a community garden...a town compost pile. Nothing came of that, I'm afraid. A bit too ambitious? But within that discussion there was some mention of a garden club, where folks would focus on their own property, but get together now and again to share plants, seeds and ideas...maybe have a friendly competition on who could get the first tomatoes, the prettiest border plants, the most exotic petunias. I still think such a "club" might work...as long as it stays low key.

Frank Vander Horst is joining us on Council. If you don't know, Frank has the old swimming pool property, near the Sliding Jail. He's been in town for

three or four years, though a property owner much longer. You may have seen him with a pair of beautiful

Greyhounds, which he rescues. He's got some nice credentials: an MBA and post-grad work at UCLA, Georgia Tech and University of Virginia, etc. His background seems primarily business management, Fortune 500 stuff, but he also mentions the Coast Guard and the Prescott Valley FD. He's been on P & Z for over a year now, and we hope he'll be a real asset on Council.

And finally, Rosemarie Shemaitis is going back to Chicago where she has family. She's been our Deputy Clerk, a strange job that covers a multitude of sins...from minutes and filing, to Property Manager, to Liaison with Pink Heels, to Editor of this Newsletter. I must say, on that last count, she's done an excellent job, better than most. I wish her well.

February 20, 2015

Lew Carrier



Police Dispatch Number

For emergencies, always call **9-1-1**.

For all other situations, call police dispatch at **634-2245**.

Meeting Dates for March, April and May 2015

Regular Council Meeting

March 10 at 7:00 pm

Planning & Zoning

March 4 Cancelled

Design Review Board

March 9 at 7:00 pm

Regular Council Meeting

April 14 at 7:00 pm

Planning & Zoning

April 1 at 7:00 pm

Design Review Board

April 13 at 7:00 pm

Regular Council Meeting

May 12 at 7:00 pm

Planning & Zoning

May 6 at 7:00 pm

Design Review Board

May 11 at 7:00 pm

Manager's Dugout



Best Wishes to Rosemarie!

On February 26, we bid a fond farewell to Rosemarie Shemaitis, who has served as Deputy Town Clerk since 2009. Rosemarie is off to new adventures in Illinois as a grandmother! We wish her all the best, and thank her for her years of dedicated service to our Town.

At this time, rather than hire a full-time replacement for Rosemarie, we are shifting and expanding duties among our existing staff, and Joni Savage, who has been working as an assistant in the Finance office and front office, will serve as Deputy Clerk.

S.O.S.! Help Save our Sewers!

Please help protect the Town's sewer system (and avoid a nasty cleanup in your home) by NEVER flushing any consumer item that is not toilet paper into the sewer system, regardless of what the packaging promises. Put these items in the trash instead:

- Disinfecting wipes, baby wipes, moist wipes, etc.
- Toilet cleaning pads
- Mop refills (Swiffers)
- Paper towels or paper napkins
- Facial tissues (Kleenex)
- Wash cloths, towels, rags, clothing (any cloth item)
- Tampons and feminine hygiene products
- Condoms
- Diapers
- Cat litter
- Dental floss
- Plastic of any type

ONLY toilet paper and human waste should be flushed.

The flushability test: Take two bowls of water. Place toilet paper in one, and place the item in question in the other. Swish both items in the water. Wait an hour, then swish again. The toilet paper should have significantly disintegrated by then, while the other item (for example, Kleenex, wipes, napkins, etc.) will likely remain intact. Unless the item disintegrates at the rate of toilet paper, it should be placed in the garbage and not down the toilet. Otherwise, you risk a blockage in your own pipes as well as clogging sewer lines and causing a backup for other homes and businesses.

If you have any questions, contact Town Hall at 634-



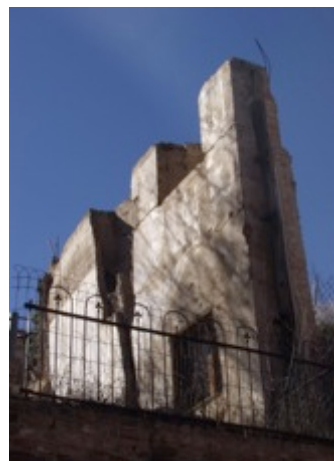
Thank you Yavapai-Apache Nation for gifting Jerome \$16,874 from gambling proceeds!

From the Vice Mayor

On February 3rd, the Council voted unanimously to save the concrete wall at the north end of the horseshoe pits. This was not a simple decision, made lightly. The century-old concrete wall has been leaning for years, but has become a pressing issue of safety and liability due to the need for repairs below it.

It was determined that the wall was part of a lowly storage building, not a section of the O'Keefe or T. F. Miller Buildings, which once dominated the center of Jerome's commercial district. However, this slice of Jerome's architectural past is prominently located and visually appealing. A view from the sidewalk above shows how buildings were constructed in the years following the Town's ravaging fires. Today, the wall provides a visual break as the eye scans the upper tier below the highway. The wall does not provide much information about its context, but it does show that something substantial was once there.

The plan is to support the wall temporarily, allowing repairs to the red rock wall below it, and permitting excavation behind the leaning wall. At that point, we should be able to assess the situation at the base, and weigh various options. The opinion of a structural engineer will be sought. The Council is optimistic that this highly-visible artifact of Jerome's past can be stabilized and preserved within a reasonable budget.



- Doug Freund

Jerome Fire Department

Rusty Blair, Chief JVFD



We are planning a workshop for firefighters, town public works personnel and all interested property owners. The workshop is titled

"Paradise Trees – Control

Options". Our local term for these trees is "Paradise Trees," however the proper name is *Ailanthus Altissima*. Other names across the U.S. are: Chinese Tree of Heaven, Stink Tree, Tree from Hell, and Ghetto Palm.

Jerome has a problem with these trees.

As the story goes, 40 pounds of seed were dropped from an airplane in 1953 all across Jerome. At the time, vegetation

was marginal due to poor soil conditions from the mining operations. Paradise trees can tolerate pH acid poor soil as low as 4.1.

The problem now is that the older Paradise trees have



reached their old age and are dying and falling over. The other problem is that Paradise trees are very difficult to control. The female trees produce thousands of new seeds each year. Also, the trees reproduce by

vigorous re-sprouting, especially in response to injury such as breakage and cutting.

Control methods include mechanical, manual, and chemical. A combination of these methods works best for any given area. The workshop will include classroom and hands-on demonstrations in several locations around Jerome.

Please call the fire station if you are interested in attending this important

workshop that is tentatively scheduled for 22 June 2015 at 5 p.m. Guest speakers will be present.

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.

Courtesy of the Jerome Historical Society

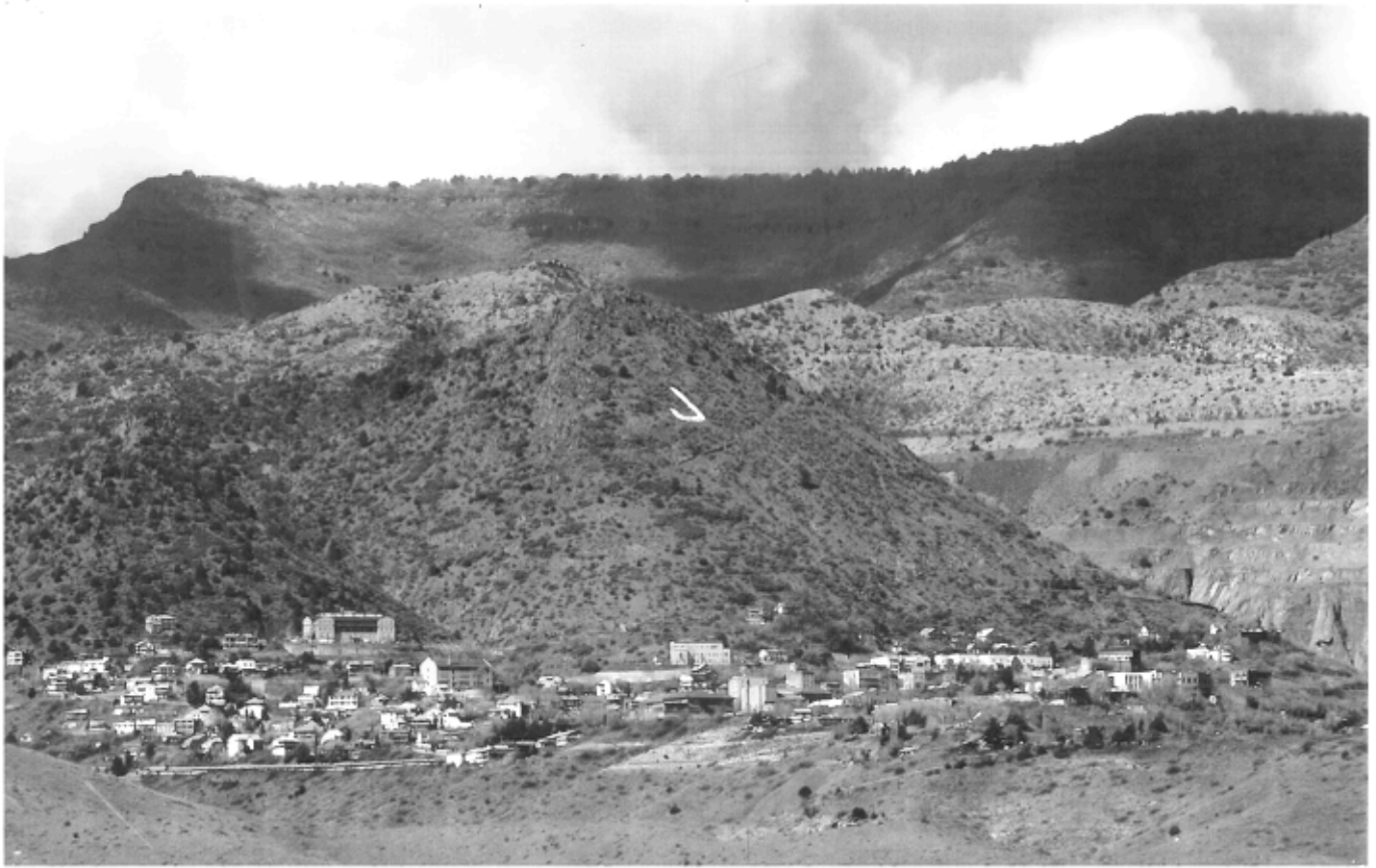
Did you know.....that Belgian Jennie (real name Jennie Bauters), one of the more famous Madams of the Jerome "Red Light" district, actually left Jerome in 1903?

She relocated to the gold mining camp known as Gold Road approximately 23 miles outside of Kingman, Arizona. It was there that Belgian Jennie met her demise at the hands of her purported estranged lover Clement C. Leigh, who shot her to death in the street in the early morning of September 3rd, 1905. She was 44 years old. Leigh then shot himself in a suicide attempt so he could die by her side. However, to his misfortune as well as his bad aim, he survived. But not for long. He was subsequently tried and convicted of Jennie's murder and, after some legal maneuvering and a few delays, he was eventually hanged in Kingman on January 18th, 1907.

You can join the Jerome Historical Society or renew your membership by visiting our website at www.jeromehistoricalsociety.com or by stopping by the Mine Museum at 200 Main Street, which is open 9:30 am – 5:00 pm, 7 days a week. Your membership gets you:

- Free admission to the JHS Museums
- 15% off Gift Shop and On-Line Purchases
- Subscription to the *Chronicle* Newsletter
- One Free Hour of Research





Goodbye Jerome!

Today, February 28, is my last day working for the Town of Jerome.

After almost nine years of being a part of the Town, I am moving back to Illinois to be with family – I didn't realize that being a grandma would be so compelling!

I am looking forward to being with my baby Bryn as she grows up, and reconnecting with my son and his wife.

Town kitties Smokey and Audrey Margery Hall will be part of my new adventure.

Thank you all for being part of my adventure here.

***Rosemarie
Shemaitis***

P.S. Joni Savage will be taking over the newsletter.



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.

News from the Jerome Public Library

The JEROME BOOK 10th Edition

The Town of Jerome phone book, a somewhat accurate list of Jerome residents and businesses, is now being compiled by the library staff. There are three ways to report changes for the new phone book, which will be published in June 2015.

Call the library and speak to staff or leave a message at 639-0574, stop by the library at 601 Clark Street or send us your info by mail: PO Box 335 Jerome AZ 86331

The deadline for reporting changes is May 1 2015.

Please note the change in Library Hours

Kathleen Jarvis

A photograph of a white sign for the Jerome Public Library. The sign lists services: BOOKS * VIDEOS * INTERNET * FAX, COPY MACHINE * SCANNER * PRINTER. It provides contact information: Phone/Fax 928-639-0574, Drawer I, Jerome, AZ 86331. It also lists hours: Sunday 10 am - 12 pm, Monday 10 am - 5 pm, Tuesday 10 am - 7 pm, Wednesday 10 am - 5 pm, Thursday 10 am - 7 pm, Friday Noon - 6 pm, Saturday CLOSED. At the bottom is a map showing the location of the library relative to Prescott, Cottonwood, Flat Iron Corner, Post Office, and Fire Station.

JEROME PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOOKS * VIDEOS * INTERNET * FAX
COPY MACHINE * SCANNER * PRINTER
Phone/Fax 928-639-0574
Drawer I, Jerome, AZ 86331
Sunday 10 am - 12 pm **Thursday** 10 am - 7 pm
Monday 10 am - 5 pm **Friday** Noon - 6 pm
Tuesday 10 am - 7 pm **Saturday** CLOSED
Wednesday 10 am - 5 pm

Greetings from the Jerome Chamber

Volunteerism has long been a tradition in Jerome and our organization is a wonderful example of this spirit. We thank our members who give their time to run Christmas events like Polar Express and The Town Dinner and now the upcoming 50th Annual Historic Home Tour. An event this complex needs lots of help and we ask the community once again to participate with a few hours of your time. We need docents in the homes, drivers, ticket takers and more. If this sounds like fun to you, please contact Liz Gale by email at milehighgrill@yahoo.com.

On a related subject, we have been thankful to have Earl Muma (Allens' father) working at our Visitor's Center for a few months. He has welcomed tourists and been a friendly face to many guests. If you think this is something you could do for a few days a month or even one day a week, please call me at 301.3004.

All the best,
Donna Chesler

President of The Jerome Chamber of Commerce

Jerome Humane Society

Spring is a great opportunity to start the year right in caring for our pets, whether a new pal or long-time love. As the year unfolds, remember that vaccinations help keep your animals healthy and happy, so take a minute and check the vaccination status of your pets. If you're not sure when your pets' vaccines are due, call the clinic on Thursdays at 928.634.6166 for help.

If springtime leaves you longing for a new feline family-member, we have just the girl for you. Introducing the lovely Miss Kitty! Miss Kitty is a 6-year-old, blue-eyed Siamese and tabby mix. She's declawed so will need to be indoors only, and she kindly insists that she be the only pet in the household. Call Sally at 301.5079 or Marge at 639.1341 for more information about Miss Kitty.



If you're already feeding a houseful and need help stocking your pet-food larder, the clinic is now operating a small food bank for pet owners that would like assistance. Visit the clinic on Thursdays from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm for a pet-food pick up.

Does springtime at your house mean cleaning out closets? If so, please consider donating items that you don't need - but others might love - to the Humane Society's spring flea market. This year's sale will be held in Spook Hall over Memorial Day weekend (May 23, 24 & 25). If you have items to donate - or if you want to help with this fun-filled event - please call Sally to coordinate. Donuts are provided on a fairly regular basis to volunteers!

Before signing off, a big, heart-warmed thanks goes out to the gracious and talented Koerner clan for the mouthwatering BBQ lunch they prepared for the clinic team two weeks ago. In dog and cat measures, it was the equivalent of belly rubs, treats and playtime - with supremely satisfied chops-licking after! A visiting lunch guest joined the feast and offered the following homage to an unforgettable meal:

Bar-B-(hai) Que

Savored smoke and time
from Louisiana with
a lagniappe of love

Thank you not only to the Koerner crew, but to the many community members that support our work in so many ways!

Jerome Humane Society Clinic Hours

Thursdays Noon - 5:00 p.m.

Clinic Phone: 634-6166 (*during clinic hours only*)

Appt. Phone: 639-1341

Jerome Anniversary Coming Up

This was written 10 years ago and updated for this issue.

Once upon a time 116 years ago, on March 8th, 1899, the Yavapai Board of Supervisors voted to approve the incorporation of the Town of Jerome. Jerome was here to stay!

Jerome was built on Cleopatra Hill above a vast deposit of copper. The first mining claims were staked in 1876, and United Verde mining operations began in 1883, followed by the Little Daisy claim.

In 1910, Jerome was labeled "the wickedest Town in America," with gambling, prostitution, saloons and gunfights a common sight.

Fires ravaged the clapboard town again and again.

Landslides destroyed whole sections of the town. Jerome was always rebuilt.

Jerome is one the smallest of the incorporated towns in the state; however, at one time there were 15,000 to 19,000 people living here (depending on who you are talking to). The mines gave birth to Jerome. Jerome was the third largest city in the state, and at one time, because of the location and large population, it was being considered for the state capitol, but Prescott won out.

In the 1950s, the price of copper dropped and so did the population – only 65-150 residents were left.



In the 60s and 70s, the artists discovered Jerome and thus began our hippie era. The hippies began saving and restoring old Jerome.

The artists brought the tourists and more artists, businesses began to open, and the town was reborn, on a much smaller scale.

More and more tourists are drawn to Jerome each year – our artist population has grown, and we have some of the finest jewelry makers, potters, sculptors, and painters. People enjoy purchasing directly from the artist and discussing their choice.

They also enjoy all the fine architecture from our heyday. The mines are no longer in operation; however, they are still our neighbors and often help the town, such as Phelps Dodge Foundation (now Freeport-McMoRan) donations to get the Jerome Public Library re-housed in our civic center, which is one of the very few buildings in Jerome that is totally handicap accessible, thanks in large part to Yavapai County and our elevator.

Jerome would not be where it is today without the help of our many volunteers, not only from Jerome, but also our neighboring towns and cities.

Contestant Tim McClellan from Ellen's Design Challenge advances to finals

Residents of Jerome have been treated to a rollercoaster ride of excitement watching our own Tim McClellan progress through the hit HGTV show conceptualized by television icon Ellen DeGeneres. Premiering on January

26th to 3.9 million viewers, *Ellen's Design*

Challenge is nearing the grand finale where the winner of the competition takes home a cool \$100,000.



Founder of Western Heritage

Furniture in Jerome, McClellan has been one of six furniture designers put to the test in various challenges designing and building amazing furniture creations. With a workshop, partnered with a lead carpenter - Chip Wade - and all the tools he needed, he has progressed through the competition, and as of press time, is a finalist for the grand prize.

Through a series of Western Heritage Furniture YouTube videos, DeGeneres discovered McClellan's talent and invited him to be on the show. YouTube also has the past episodes available for viewing to either relive the excitement or see the show for the first time.

Greetings From Haven UMC

Dear Jerome Friends:

As we move from winter to spring, we at Haven UMC would like to invite you to attend our services throughout Lent. I will be preaching a series on

"Answers Jesus Gave" that I hope will be both informative and interesting.

Our Food and Clothing Pantry has been getting some new additions – some warm clothing as well as fresh vegetables. We are open every Wednesday morning from



10:00 a.m. – noon.

We will be holding our Easter Sunrise service on the 300 Level Parking lot at 6:00 a.m. on April 5th. It will be a glorious day and we hope you will join us.

Sincerely,

Pastor Janet Keffer

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

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