



POINT OF VIEW

JEROME'S NEWSLETTER

May–June 2020

From the Mayor

This has been a rough time for our tough little town. Thank you for your patience. We will get through this.

I never thought in a million years that as the volunteer mayor of Jerome that we would be dealing with a PANDEMIC. It has been quite an eye-opening experience as you can imagine. For the last month, Vice Mayor Harvey and I, along with our town manager Candace Gallagher and Police Chief Allen Muma, have been on countless conference calls and participating in sometimes three Zoom meetings a day. We are in steady contact with our state officials to stay on top of the latest updates. If you haven't already, please visit the Town of Jerome website (there's a link at the bottom of the homepage: <https://jerome.az.gov/covid-19-information-and-resources>) to get valuable information about COVID-19 and access to links for many resources to help you with your business or other financial obligations.

Here in Jerome our community has come together once again. Many thanks to Haven Methodist Church for keeping our families fed with their amazing food bank. The Haunted Group recently donated produce, milk, and bread—so grateful for their generosity and support. And I cannot possibly convey how appreciative I am of all the volunteers in this town—including our councilmembers—who are stepping up more than ever, helping neighbors and friends. Special thanks to Candace Gallagher, Allen Muma, and Rusty Blair for their guidance through this surreal crisis.

I'm going to end this on a non-COVID note and some good news: Jerome Town Council is in the midst of planning a community garden. There is no time like the present. Our zoning administrator, John Knight, writes more about it on page 5. Raise your hand if you want to participate in some way or if you have tools or supplies you would like to donate. Thank you. Please be safe, Jeromans. I hope to hug you all soon.

Mayor Christina "Alex" Barber

WATER RESTRICTIONS SUSPENDED

The Town Code provides that Level 1 water restrictions go into effect automatically as of May 1 each year, requiring certain water conservation measures. However, in light of our current healthy water flows and lower usage, and in consultation with the Fire Chief and Public Works department, I have suspended those restrictions until further notice. We will closely monitor the flows and water levels in our tanks, and if mandatory restrictions become necessary, a notice will be posted at our posting locations, on the Town's website and Facebook page, and delivered to each address.

- Candace Gallagher, Town Manager

Scheduled Meeting Dates for May, June, July 2020

Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 12 at 7pm

Planning & Zoning
May 6—CANCELLED

Design Review Board
Monday, May 11 at 6pm

Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 9 at 7pm

Planning & Zoning
Wednesday, June 3 at 6pm

Design Review Board
Monday, June 8 at 6pm

Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 14 at 7pm

Planning & Zoning
Wednesday, July 1 at 6pm

Design Review Board
Monday, July 13 at 6pm



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

Prescott National Forest Outlook/Conditions

Key Points from the National Weather Service in Flagstaff

Current drought status: Wet winter in most areas has relieved drought conditions statewide.

Fuel conditions: Energy Release Component (ERC) - With the wet weather over the past month, ERCs are decreasing to below normal values for this time of year. Fine fuel loading has generally been above normal (especially in the lower terrain), which could lead to a higher low-elevation fire threat.

May through June: The extended outlook calls for near normal temperatures and precipitation.

Significant Wildland Fire Potential: Current weather outlooks and ground conditions indicate a trend toward near normal fire potential this season across most of Northern Arizona and above normal fire threats at lower elevations due to abundance of fine fuels. At high elevations, possible delayed threat due to wet winter.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE
Southwestern Region Regional Closure Order

As of April 22 and through June 30, 2020, the U.S. Forest Service has banned campfires on all six national forests in Arizona: Coconino, Kaibab, Apache-Sitgreaves, Prescott, Tonto, and Coronado. This is to prevent the depletion of fire and medical resources and reduce possible exposure of first responders to COVID-19. Igniting, building, maintaining and using a fire is prohibited on the national forests; this includes all charcoal grills and woodburning stoves. Violators could be ordered to appear in federal court and face possible fines and jail time.

**** ARIZONA WILL STILL HAVE A FIRE SEASON ****

File of Life and "Rescue Pet" Stickers

We have magnetic **Files of Life** cards available at the fire station that help first responders contact the right person(s) in the event of an emergency. These must be placed on the refrigerator so we can easily find the information. *Only the person(s) listed on these cards can be contacted by the Fire Department in case of an emergency.*

We also have "Rescue Pet" stickers used to alert first responders of pets in the house. These stickers should be placed on or near the front door. This alerts firefighters of potential rescues inside the building and lets EMTs know what pets to care for or keep inside if the house left unattended. If you would like **File of Life** card or a Rescue Pet sticker, please contact us at 928-649-3034.



The Jerome Fire Department is doing everything they need to be doing to protect their first responders and the public. Know that we are here to serve you in the event of any emergency.



Firewise Community Day, Fuel Abatement

The 6th annual Community Firewise Day at the Jerome Fire Department, set for Saturday, May 9, has been cancelled due to the coronavirus outbreak. Hopefully it will be re-scheduled sometime soon.

The Jerome Fire Department does not have anybody currently available to do fuel abatement work, unfortunately. We will advise when a crew does become available to help mitigate your unwanted fuel. Thanks for your patience.

Extrication Training

Volunteers have been training with the new battery-powered extrication equipment and stabilization equipment. We have had to use our old extrication tools numerous times throughout the years. These new tools are much quieter and will allow us to perform extrication efforts in less accessible areas. Let's hope we never have to use them.



Setup for extrication training.

FUTURE FIREFIGHTERS AND EMTS

The Fire Department is always looking for new members for fire, EMS, and/or both. Free training, cool t-shirts, drive big trucks with red lights. 5 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!! Thank you for your continued support.

Jerome's – Chamber of Commerce

Our business community will thrive again! As most know by now, there are plenty of agencies to reach out to for assistance or direction for both personal and business....from the Governor, Yavapai County, SBA, Local Banks and other institutional offices. Please reach out to us if we can help.

There is plenty of documentation in the history books about tourism saving Jerome after mining was stopped and artists moved into the area. There is no question that the achievements of the past decades made Jerome a destination today. While we're all experiencing the ***Ants in our Pants*** syndrome, we must be patient and safe. We are eager for history to repeat itself. The JCC is keeping the Artist community alive with continual monthly KNAU promotions. We will continue other advertising for the foreseeable future to help extended communities and travelers to ***Remember Jerome!***

It's possible that a ***Virtual Home Tour*** from the past could make it to our website in May, so please look for it. We are also working to articulate ***Jerome's Grand Re-Opening***, so if you have any positive ideas, please submit them to us.

We are certainly looking forward to getting back to normal with our vibrant commercial community. In the meantime, we wish everyone well. Please let us know if you have an interest in volunteering or joining and becoming more involved.

info@jeromechamber.com

From the Police Department

Residential Parking Permit Update – New for 2020:

To help facilitate applicant eligibility for residential parking permits, applications will be reviewed and approved by our town zoning administrator, John Knight. An updated residential parking permit application is now available on the town's website. Applications may still be picked up at the police station but should be dropped off at Town Hall with required documentation. Once approved, the application will be forwarded to the police department for permit issuance. Refer to the Town Code, Article 12-2 Residential Parking.

Annual Parking Permit Audit:

An audit letter asking you to confirm or note any changes associated with your current vehicle(s) will be going out a little early this year to coincide with the procedural changes. Letters will be mailed by June 1. The audit will verify parking permit information in our system and ensure an accurate count of available spaces on residential permitted streets. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!!

Blessings from Haven,

The world has changed these past two months. I can only imagine the depth of people's losses and ongoing fears. However, I hope most of us can imagine some goodwill come through this tragedy. I believe good has already expanded the love of our human hearts to see others as ourselves.

We have all had the challenge of learning new ways to live our daily lives. We have grieved together over the loss of lives around the world. We have come together in ways we never thought we would and have experienced our human connection of love for one another in powerful ways. With grateful hearts, human beings are helping one another through this still difficult time.

Counting our blessings helps us to focus our minds on the true gift of life itself. Haven has been blessed to continue to serve Jerome and the nearby communities with abundant amounts of food because of others' generosity and helping hands and skills that we greatly needed. Together we have done miraculous work, my friends.

We who participate in Wednesday's food distribution are continually fed by the gratitude of everyone who comes to receive! Working hard together to benefit others is a blessing beyond measure. Thank you all so much. You cannot imagine the depth of love you have given to the hearts of us all.

Stay safe and be blessed,

Pastor Vicki

Community Garden – Coming soon!

Are you interested in gardening but do not have the space? The Town Council recently approved funding to start a community garden behind Middle Park. The garden will include multiple raised beds, fruit trees, a garden shed, a compost corral, fencing, and a picnic table. More details to come ... but to make this happen, we need gardeners, volunteers, and donations such as garden tools, construction materials, and trees. Please get in touch with me if you would like to get involved. If you just want to donate, this is a good time to clear out your storage shed.

A survey and additional information, such as a conceptual plan and materials list, will be posted on the town's website and Facebook page soon. If you have always wanted to start a garden, but never got around to it, this might be the perfect opportunity for you.

John Knight, Zoning Administrator

j.knight@jerome.az.gov

928-634-7943



Future site for the Jerome Community Garden!

Ye Olde Book Room

Read any good books lately? As we've all experienced, the ongoing (as of this writing) COVID-19 pandemic has taught us many things. I've heard so many people say, "I'm finally reading the books I've been putting off for so long." So, are folks reading about worldwide epidemics? There's plenty to choose from: *Oedipus Rex* by Sophocles, *A Journal of the Plague Year* by Daniel Defoe, *The Last Man Standing* by Mary Shelley, *The Masque of the Red Death* by Edgar Allan Poe, *The Scarlet Plague* by Jack London, *The Plague* by Albert Camus, and *The Stand* by Stephen King, among others. William Shakespeare lived through two outbreaks of plague while writing his plays, many of which reference contagion. "A plague on both your houses!" cries the dying Mercutio (*Romeo and Juliet*, Act III, scene 1).

My guess is that those of us who are choosing to read more during this unexpected downtime are anxious to escape our current troubles, if only for a brief time. Perhaps this habit will endure as our "new normal" unfolds. When shops, restaurants, and services reopen, the Old Book Room among them, I hope you'll find time to stop by and see all that we have to offer.

—Michael Gallagher

SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE AT THE JEROME LIBRARY

Although we're not keeping hours at the Jerome Library at this time, we are still here to serve you. Feel free to send us email or a text and we'll be happy to help you.

Internet. You can access Sparklight Yavapai free WiFi (no password required), available in the library parking lot at 600 Clark Street.

Books and videos. Tell us what you'd like—or library staff are happy to browse the stacks and choose reading material or movies for you. Give us topics to go by such as murder mysteries or Tom Hanks movies.

We are not accepting holds at this time but you can see the Jerome library catalog at <https://catalog.vln.info>, choose Jerome Library from the list of libraries, and browse what's available for checkout (not holds).

Email or text the library with your requests and we will leave items in the pick-up box on the library front porch.

e-mail: jeromelibrary.jarvis@gmail.com

text: 928-451-1881

Books and videos can be brought back to the return box, also on the library porch. All items will be checked out for eight weeks and put in quarantine when returned.

Prints and copies. We can make prints and copies for you. Email your documents to jeromelibrary.jarvis@gmail.com. They'll be placed on the library porch for you to pick up. Fees will be deferred.

JEROME HUMANE SOCIETY

Hello Jerome! Well, wow ... we sure didn't see this coming! Like everyone else, we at the Jerome Humane Society have been doing some juggling to meet the challenges of the COVID pandemic. Surgeries and dentals are on hold for now, but we remain fully available for sick or injured animals, essential pet care, and medicine and pet food distribution. Just contact us like you usually do if you need care for your critters.



July 4th Flea Market – Save the Date!

This year, we're celebrating the Independence Day holiday with our epic summer flea market! Mark your calendars for July 4th weekend at Spook Hall and come shop for glorious goods and incredible deals. (Details about load in, load out, and flea market hours coming soon.) Have stuff to donate? Just leave items on the stairs outside of the clinic.



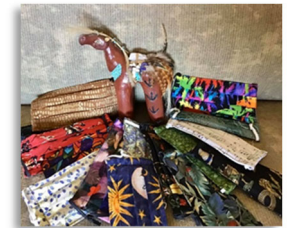
Thank you, Margaret ...

Our enormous gratitude goes out to Margaret Hinrichsen, board member and one of our greatest benefactors. Margaret funded new floor tile for the clinic's laundry, breakroom, and lab area. It's bright, clean, and beautiful! With this investment our small, unassuming clinic (once a bomb shelter!) continues to evolve into one of the best outfitted vet clinics in the Verde Valley.



Our hero, Pam!

Beloved volunteer Pam LeBlanc is by trade a fabric engineer of the highest caliber. When COVID hit, Pam applied her expertise to making masks, sewing literally hundreds of masks and offering them in exchange for donations to the humane society. Pam raised over \$800 for our organization while providing much needed functional—and fashionable—protection to people across the country. It's comforting to know that superheroes like our Pam have our back!



Stay Safe, Jerome!

Nothing is more essential than taking care of those we love. Please stay safe, Jerome, and don't hesitate to call if there's anything you or your furry family members need.

JEROME HUMANE SOCIETY CLINIC HOURS: THURSDAYS 11am to 5pm
For appointments, call 928-235-5960 ☎ Clinic phone: 928-634-6166

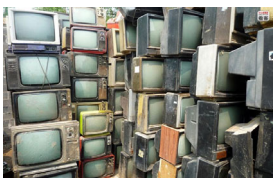
Last Call for Spring Cleaning/Electronic Recycling

Monday, May 11, will be the LAST day the Jerome Public Works crew will be picking up items that normally cannot be hauled with regular trash. Monday *and* Friday routes will be covered.

Town crew will NOT pick up the following items:

- Hazardous waste
- Contaminated soil
- Refrigerators
- Freezers
- Icemakers
- Tires
- Large drums
- Medical waste
- Wet paint
- Asbestos
- Batteries
- Railroad ties
- Fluorescent light bulbs
- Tube (CRT) televisions and monitors

We've also extended the Earth Day electronic recycling program and will collect unwanted items through Monday, June 1—Westech Recyclers will be picking everything up June 2.



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

PRST STD
US POSTAGE PAID
MAILED FROM 86331
PERMIT NO. 5

BOXHOLDER