



POINT OF VIEW

JEROME'S NEWSLETTER

July–August 2020

From the Mayor

It continues to be a challenging time for our popular little town.

As I'm sure you know, Arizona is now a "hotspot" in this stretch of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the time has come to seriously protect ourselves and our neighbors. The Council made the decision passed down to municipalities to mandate masks; it had to be done. Better safe than sorry. This is a public safety issue, not a political one. It felt like the right thing to do to protect our community, and what's unfolding now means we need to be even more diligent. Please: social distance, wear masks, and stay home as much as possible until we can flatten the curve of this virus. Let's hope our visitors understand and will also follow suit.

To our local businessowners: You were also seriously considered in this whole decision process in an attempt to strike a balance between keeping commerce alive and watching out for our residents. We know you have struggled these last four months. Please know there is still financial support out there for you and assistance from Senator Kirsten Sinema's office. You can get more information on her website at <https://www.sinema.senate.gov/corona/businesses> or reach out to her office via email for assistance at outreach@sinema.senate.gov. If you have an open case and are still waiting for more information, email casework@sinema.senate.gov. We are also looking into the State Municipal Assistance for Response and Transition (SMART) Act, which would help Jerome with lost revenues and fiscal relief during the pandemic. There's more information here: <https://taxfoundation.org/smart-act-state-and-local-aid/>.

I know this is a volunteer position but being mayor these last few months has been tough and all encompassing, I've got to say. Between attending endless meetings (White House briefings, League of Cities, Valley Leadership, Town Council), fielding very strong opinions via social media, email, and phone calls, and having to make difficult decisions for the town I love, I'm kind of wiped out. I have to choose my battles and how I spend my time. But my work is not done, and I will continue to do what it takes to keep Jerome safe.

I have to give another shoutout to Haven Methodist Church for their continued support with their wonderful food bank. And thanks as always to Candace Gallagher, Allen Muma, Rusty Blair, Marty Boland, our Councilmembers and all the volunteers in our community. I will never stop thanking you. One last thing: Let's not let this divide us. Please be kind to each other.

Mayor Christina "Alex" Barber

JEROMANS! It is CRITICAL that we are all counted in the 2020 Census. Our funding levels rely on this!

Please visit my2020census.gov and complete the questionnaire—it only takes a few minutes. Even if you have mailed in a form, please do this to assure that we are accurately represented. Some forms had the wrong zip code on them!

[We need your help right now. Thank you!](#)

Scheduled Meeting Dates for July, August, September 2020

Regular Council Meeting-
Tuesday, July 14 at 7pm

Planning & Zoning
July 1—CANCELLED

Design Review Board
Monday, July 13 at 6pm

Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, August 11 at 7pm

Planning & Zoning
Wednesday, August 5 at 6pm

Design Review Board
Monday, August 10 at 6pm

Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 8 at 7pm

Planning & Zoning
Wednesday, September 2 at 6pm

Design Review Board
Monday, September 14 at 6pm

From the Vice Mayor

I was going to write a “point of information” letter to share all of the work that Mayor Barber and I have done over the past four months behind the scenes, but tooting my own horn is not my thing. Please just know that the Mayor and I have had an extremely stressful and nonstop lesson in dealing with crisis since March 11. I want to assure you that all of your heads of departments and Mayor Barber and I have been working every day to keep Jerome safe and thriving as best we can in these times. It has not been easy!

I want to thank Allen Muma and Candace Gallagher for their support and guidance during this extremely difficult time. Without their knowledge, experience, strength, and guidance, this would be much more difficult, if not impossible (I’m pretty sure I would have broken early on without them).

I also want to thank Randy and Haven United Methodist Church Food Bank for all of their hard work making sure Jeromies continue to get what they need. It is an amazing effort by a very small crew of angels who I have been privileged to work with for these last four months.

Finally, I want to thank all Jeromies for doing their part to keep this town and its family safe. Please stay vigilant and keep up the good work! We are more than a community, we are a family. We will get through this!

STAY SAFE AND STAY KIND, JEROME!

Vice Mayor Harvey



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

FIREWISE ACTIVITIES

Fire danger is high, despite the moisture we had in May. Please be cautious of possible fire activities. Jerome Fire recommends that a defensible space of 30 feet be created around your residence. If any resident needs help from our fuel abatement crew, Firewise applications can be filled out at the Jerome Fire Department or Jerome Town Hall.

Be mindful of the fact that we are in Stage 2 fire restrictions. Please be extra cautious if you are a smoker—give yourself at least five feet of clearance from vegetation when smoking and use an ashtray. If BBQing, use only propane-fueled grills.

GOT A BEEHIVE?

Bees are a key part of our planet’s ecosystem and should be left alone if they’re leaving you alone. But if you have a beehive on or near your house, the best thing to do is call a beekeeper who can relocate the hive for you. In Jerome, Sean Bauer is happy to provide this service. You can reach Sean at 928-460-2167.



Thank you for your continued support.

Rusty Blair, Fire Chief JVFD

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.

Blessings from Haven,

How grateful we are for the continued support from everyone for the food pantry. Haven has been as busy as ever fulfilling the food needs of Jerome and surrounding areas. It does take a village to get the work done, so help is always needed. Unfortunately, physical contact is limiting help these days.

Safety for everyone is our biggest concern at this time. Haven is following guidelines of the CDC and our Bishop during this outbreak. When the guidelines are eased up, we will be grateful for volunteers again! We are weak but he is strong only goes so far as we continue to mature in body.

Our church time continues to be Wednesdays. Sunday re-opening will only be when we can limit the possibility of exposing people to the virus. In the meantime we give thanks for one another, and to one another, as we greet each other at the pantry door. I have seen and heard the best of humanity as we have conversations through our masks. Eyes sparkle and laughter is heard, a much-needed joy in sharing heart-to-heart gratitude with what we are seeing and hearing from news around the world.

I hope we will see one another's smiles again soon. Until then, may you smile and laugh with those you are with. Take a break from overload of information and find peace in your quiet space where hope is alive and well.

Take care and be safely blessed,
Pastor Vicki

Jerome's – Chamber of Commerce

Rattle Snake Aversion Training – It was a big success! Over 40 dogs attended the program and many from Jerome. Thank you to Town Hall, Historical Society, and Humane Society for helping the Chamber with sponsoring funds to help reduce costs for customers. Thank you to the Gold King Mine for hosting the location.

If you missed the notices or were unavailable and your pet still needs snake or obedience training, contact information below:

K9 Rattlesnake Avoidance – Willow Raven 480.202.5400

Ardent K9 Training – Jason Supple 760.468.6777

Obviously, business is trying to get back to normal, especially on the weekends. Although, everyone must continue keeping Jerome safe, clean, and ready!

Please let us know if you have an interest in volunteering or joining and becoming more involved.

info@jeromechamber.com

IT'S SNAKE SEASON! KEEP AN EYE OUT!

**CALL JFD IF YOU ENCOUNTER A SNAKE
ON YOUR PROPERTY.**

928-649-3034



YOUR CANDIDATES

The following individuals have submitted nomination petitions to run for the office of Council member at the August 4, 2020 primary election.

- ◆ Christina “Alex” Barber
- ◆ John “Bob” Bouwman
- ◆ Dr. Jack Dillenberg
- ◆ Susan Gregory
- ◆ Sage Harvey
- ◆ Jane Moore
- ◆ Mandy Worth



Nikki Check recently withdrew as a candidate, but it was too late to remove her name from the ballot. Any vote cast for her will not be counted.

The League of Woman Voters conducted a Candidate Forum on June 17. You can view the entire videotaped event here: <https://youtu.be/uavksyzAJUk>. Please vote!!

August 4, 2020 - Primary Election

NEWS FROM JEROME HISTORICAL SOCIETY (JHS)



Although the JHS is not putting on the historical Ghost Walk this year, we have been busy.

Spook Hall has had a rebuild of the floor, including structure and new oak flooring installed by Jay Kinsella and friends. Jay also fabricated new serving counters artistically out of concrete. The old stage was removed, and we now have a modular stage that can be assembled for different events. These upgrades will enhance the enjoyment of Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners and other Town events.

The JHS also welcomes new tenants Brian Echols to the New State Motor Company building and Jane Rolfe to the former Raspberry location on Main Street.

Also this year we've had to say goodbye to Hunter Bachrach and Mark Hemleben who have stepped down from the Board of Directors. We wish to thank them both for their contributions to the Society. Joining the board recently are Scott Hudson and Don Feher.

Lastly, the Mine Museum is now open. Don't hesitate to stop by and reconnect with our history.

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 (open 10am–5pm, 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

On behalf of the Jerome Historical Society Board of Directors,

Steve Pontious, President

Want to serve your town?

The Town of Jerome is served by three volunteer boards: the Planning & Zoning Commission, the Design Review Board, and the Board of Adjustment. Currently we have a vacancy on each one. If you are interested in serving as a member of one of our boards, please contact John Knight, Zoning Administrator at j.knight@jerome.az.gov. You can find more information here: <https://www.jerome.az.gov/boards-and-commissions>. It's a great way to get involved and serve the community!

The **Board of Adjustment** is a five-member board appointed by the Town Council whose duties include hearing appeals of decisions made by the zoning administrator and variances from the terms of the zoning ordinance. The board members serve three-year terms.

The **Design Review Board** was established to preserve and protect the historical character of Jerome. The duties of the board are to review the exterior design of new buildings and structures, exterior alterations, signs, landscaping, and proposed demolition within Jerome to ensure that development is compatible with the surrounding environment. The Board is comprised of five members appointed by the Town Council. The board members serve three-year terms.

A **Planning and Zoning Commission** was established at the time the Jerome Zoning Ordinance was adopted to help formulate and administer lawful plans adopted by the Town Council relating to the present and future growth and development of the Town. The commission consists of five members appointed by the Town Council, each of whom must reside in Jerome. The commissioners serve three-year terms.

Are you interested in gardening?

The Town Council recently approved funding to start a community garden behind Middle Park, which will include multiple raised beds, fruit trees, a shed, a compost corral, fencing, and a picnic table. To make this happen, we need gardeners, volunteers, and donations such as garden tools, construction materials, and trees.

If you'd like to get involved, please join us for a kickoff planning meeting on Saturday, July 18 at 9am at Middle Park.

WE'LL BE SOCIAL DISTANCING AND WEARING MASKS.

For questions or more details, please call John Knight, Zoning Administrator, at 928-634-7943 or send an email to j.knight@jerome.az.gov



Library News

Holdings on library materials are once again available through the Yavapai County Library System. Log in to your library account and place your holds as usual. You will be notified by phone or email when your holds are here. Please note that your holds could be delayed by three days or more due to mandatory quarantine of all library materials.

If you need assistance, contact Kathleen at 928-451-1881 or jeromelibrary.jarvis@gmail.com.

We will soon be receiving four Acer Chromebooks to expand our digital network access. This will allow computer users to sit outside the library, either on the porch or in their cars, and access the internet. Computers will be available on a first-come basis and can be checked out for one day only. Look for a notice on the post office bulletin board announcing their arrival. The Chromebooks were purchased through a CARES ACT grant.

Due to the recent increase of Covid-19 cases in Yavapai County, I have recommended to the Council and Town of Jerome management that we wait until August to consider reopening the library. The Community Art Room and Old Book Room will remain closed as well until further notice.

Thank you for hanging in there with us as we work through this difficult time.

Kathleen



JEROME HUMANE SOCIETY

Greetings, Jerome, from the masked crusaders at the humane society! We hope you and your families are healthy and doing all the right things to stay that way.

JHS Clinic Back in Action

The clinic is busier than ever, although we're operating a little differently to ensure safe conditions. In addition to cleaning like crazy, our volunteers are now wearing masks and gloves when inside the clinic. We're also asking clients to stay outside while we bring their pets inside for their appointment. So far the system is working beautifully, and we're grateful that everyone has been beyond cooperative.



Flea Market (Tentatively) Rescheduled for Labor Day

We're trying to navigate pandemic concerns as responsibly as possible, so we've made the tough decision to push our summer Flea Market back several months. We are *tentatively* rescheduling our sale for Labor Day weekend, assuming it's safe to do so. We have to wait a little longer for the shopping event of the year, but the stockpile of stuff for sale will be colossal! We'll keep you posted on dates and details, and in the meantime, keep those flea market donations coming.

Dogs Die in Hot Cars!

With temperatures rising, we'd be remiss if we didn't give our annual warning that PETS DIE IN HOT CARS! On an 85-degree day, the temperature inside a car can rise to more than 115 degrees in 30 minutes. If you see an animal in distress inside a hot car, call the Jerome police immediately at (928) 634-8992 and request a dispatch. The police will contact us for help as needed.

Make good choices... your pets need you!

This year the dog days of summer feel more daunting than usual given the crises all around us. If you need help for your pets during these disruptive times, let us know. Otherwise, stay healthy and please make good choices for yourself, your family, and the animals who rely on you to keep them safe. WOOF!

JEROME HUMANE SOCIETY CLINIC HOURS: THURSDAYS 11am to 5pm

For appointments, call 928-235-5960 ☎ Clinic phone: 928-634-6166

FACE MASKS NOW REQUIRED IN JEROME

An emergency order was adopted in Jerome on June 23, 2020, by the Jerome Town Council in accordance with Gov. Ducey's Executive Order 2020-40 entitled "Containing the Spread of COVID-19" that, among other things, authorized the Town to adopt policies regarding the wearing of face coverings in public in order to limit the spread of COVID-19. To read the full executive order, visit the town website at jerome.az.gov.

Town of Jerome
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