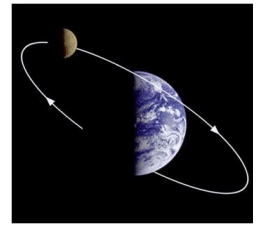


THE STAR VALLEY ORBIT

The newsletter revolving around our rural lifestyle and pioneer spirit



JUNE 2009



ATTENTION!!!! STAR VALLEY SENIORS

The Town of Star Valley has contracted with the Payson Senior Center to provide ridership services for Star Valley Seniors. Starting in June, the day of pick-up will change from Monday to WEDNESDAY. Every Wednesday from 9:00am to 3:00pm a handicap equipped van will pick you up at your doorstep, take you to your desired locations in Payson or Star Valley and return you home for NO CHARGE per ride.



Your ride is here!

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Here are the steps you need to follow to participate:

Step 1: Come to Star Valley Town Hall (located next to Star Vale) or call 472-7752 for a ridership application. Return ridership application and pay a \$10 registration fee.

Step 2: Once registered, call the Payson Senior Center at 474-4876 to schedule your ride. When the drive shows up, just show him your ridership card.

SO GET YOUR RIDERSHIP CARD TODAY!!!

This program is funded by an AZ Lottery Grant and General Fund
(50 and older)

Hellsgate Fire Department

History

The Diamond Star Fire Department was established on November 4, 1980, by the votes of several unincorporated communities east of Payson. The newly formed fire district made an agreement with the Payson Fire Department, to provide fire services to the newly formed fire district until they could get the funding and equipment to start providing service.



Jim Idoine was appointed to be the first Volunteer Operational Fire Chief in March, 1982. The fire department became operational in November, 1982 with nine firefighters on staff. Several trucks were added over the next six years including a type 6 brush truck and a 3,100 gallon water tender. The first new fire truck was approved and acquired in 1989. (story continued on page 2)



If you have an article that you would like to include in The Star Valley Orbit or wish to receive our newsletter electronically, please email Josie at: jcastillo@ci.star-valley.az.us We are happy to consider all submissions.

On July 1, 1992, Chief Gary Hatch became the first full-time employee of the fire district. Construction of the new fire station located 80 Walters Lane was begun in 1996.

In December, 1979, the Tonto Village Property Protection Corporation was created to raise money for the establishment of the Tonto Village Fire Department. After sufficient funds were raised, the building on Matthews Lane was started in November 1981. This was a community effort and most of the construction was achieved by the residents. In 1982, Tonto Village FD received their first fire truck from Phoenix Fire Department. They were on their way to fire protection for their community.

In May, 1991, Mead Ranch was annexed into the Tonto Village Fire Department. Many residents were instrumental in petitioning for this annexation, and work was immediately started to construct a firehouse. The firehouse reached completion in August 1991. The first brush truck was purchased from the Tonto Village Fire Department was a 1967 International. The community then had fire protection that was so urgently needed. There were so many folks who helped to make this endeavor a reality and many thanks to all.

In 2008, the merger between Diamond Star and Tonto Village became a reality. This was to the benefit of both departments, and the name Hellsgate was unanimously chosen for the new fire district.

Training

A two day rope training class was held at Station 21, Star Valley, on Saturday, January 24th and completed on Sunday, January 25th. In attendance were five members of the Hellsgate Fire Department, seventeen members of the Tonto Rim Search & Rescue organization, the Gila County Sheriff's Office, and one member from Christopher/Kohls Fire Department. Instruction in knot tying, safety, stokes stretcher demos, and other procedures were taught by Tonto Rim Search & Rescue Commander Bill Pitterle and Roger Miotto, as well as Gila County Sheriff Deputies Rod Cronk and Colt White.

Arizona Fire District Association

Twice annually the Arizona Fire District Association (AFDA) holds a conference for all board members, staff, and fire chiefs. The two-day conference took place in Laughlin, Nevada, on January 16 & 17, 2009. In attendance were Chief Gary Hatch, Angie Lecher, Business Manager, Stacie Bittner, Administrative Assistant, and Board Members Gloria Alliger and Larry Cory. At each conference, many aspects of the administrative, financial, and business areas of the fire service are covered. AFDA keeps us informed on legislative updates and policies that affect all Arizona fire districts.

Our monthly board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, and are open to the public. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Each month we award members of the fire department, and the following awards are from our May 2009 board meeting:

For one year of service, we recognized Breianon Miller, George Karry, Bill Mennen, Bill Dupke, Brandon French, and Matt West.

Nick Fitch and Mark Hansen were recognized for five years of service.

Since January 2009, the following personnel were recognized for achieving Emergency Medical Technician certification: Brandon French, Breianon Miller, Matt West, John Lacey, and Chad Stluka.

Gloria Alliger
Hellsgate FD
Public Information



Town Council Updates

- ◆ Star Valley Town Council has been conducting Work Studies and Budget Committee Meetings in order to develop and adopt a budget for Fiscal Year 2009/2010. The goal of the Town Manager is to present a straightforward budget to the Town Council with the assistance of Financial Consultant Glen Smith and Sarah Luckie, Star Valley Town Clerk.
- ◆ On May 5, 2009, the Star Valley Town Council approved a motion increasing the charge for public records from \$0.25 per page to \$0.50 per page.
- ◆ Mayor Bill Rappaport proclaimed the month of May as MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AND AWARENESS MONTH. The proclamation encourages the residents of Arizona to be aware of motorcycles on the streets and highways and recognize the importance of motorcycle safety.
- ◆ Mayor Bill Rappaport proclaimed May 7, 2009 as the NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER. The United States Congress established the National Day of Prayer as an annual occurrence in 1952 and the first Thursday of May has been designated as the National Day of since 1988. Arizona Governor Jan Brewer has proclaimed May 7, 2009 as the National Day of Prayer for the State of Arizona.
- ◆ On June 17, 2009, The Council will hold a retreat at Kohl's Ranch from 9:00am until 3:00pm. The goal of the retreat is to evaluate the progress of the Town to generate and improve communication, create legal and law enforcement services, establish public utilities/infrastructures, develop public facilities, create a business friendly environment and to establish and promote identity of the Town. An additional goal of the retreat is to create and revise the list of Town priorities for the upcoming year.

Floodwater Task Force Commission Updates

- ◆ The Commission has enlisted the professional services of engineer Andy Romance of Mountain Standard Inc. to conduct a study to identify specific bank erosion issues, clearing the streams of vegetation and help identify other priority issues in Star Valley. Mr. Romance has completed his preliminary cost evaluation and identified priority projects. The cost estimate for clearing the channels of debris is \$64K and the slope stabilization estimate is \$87K. The Commission is considering establishing a cost sharing program with the residents of Star Valley to accomplish some of the needed tasks. Mr. Romance will be submitting his final report to Star Valley on June 18, 2009.

Streets & Roads Commission Updates

- ◆ Steve Vincent was appointed as Vice-Chairperson to the Commission on May 14, 2009.
- ◆ The Commission will present to the Town Council for approval of funding to install a low-water crossing at Valley Road. The Commission will ask for similar funding from the Town Council for low-water crossings at Sprague and Moonlight Drives in the near future along with other high priority projects that have been identified.
- ◆ The Town Street Crew, consisting of Duke Wilbanks and Leroy Johnson, have been working diligently at cleaning the water channels and retentions areas in The Knolls Community. Mr. Wilbanks and Mr. Johnson are also making progress at trimming brush, filling potholes in the roads and removing Star Thistle, the noxious weed, throughout the Town.
- ◆ The Commission approved the installation of a "Children At Play" sign and changing the speed limit to 15 mph at Orion Drive.

The 2010 Census is on the Horizon for Star Valley!

The 2010 Census is on the horizon and the U.S. Census Bureau wants to ensure that everyone is counted. The U.S. Census Bureau is developing partnerships with state, local and tribal governments, community based organizations, faith-based groups, schools, businesses and the media. Through these collaborative relationships, the goal of counting all residents in the 2010 Census will be reached. By being informed about the census process, residents are more likely to respond to the census questionnaire.



What Count

The census is a count of everyone residing in the United States: in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Island Areas.

Who

Everyone

All residents of the United States must be counted. This includes people of all ages, races, ethnic groups, citizens and non-citizens.

When

Every 10 years

Every 10 years, and the next census occurs in 2010. Census questionnaires will be mailed or delivered to every household in the United States in March 2010. The questions ask you to provide information that is accurate for your household as of April 1, 2010.

The Census Bureau must count everyone and submit state population totals to the U.S. President by December 31, 2010.

The first Census was conducted in 1790 and has been carried out every 10 years since then.

Where

Everywhere in the U.S.

The census counts everyone residing in the United States: in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Island Areas.

People should be counted where they live and sleep most of the year.

Why

The U.S. Constitution (Article I, Section 2) mandates a headcount of everyone residing in the United States. The population totals determine each state's Congressional representation. The numbers also affect funding in your community and help inform decision makers about how your community is changing. More info...

How

The Census Bureau will mail or deliver questionnaires to your house in March 2010. We will mail a second form to households that do not respond to the initial questionnaire.

Households that still do not respond will be called or visited by a Census worker. (Census workers can be identified by a census badge and bag.)

A *Complete County Committee Program* has been formed in Star Valley. If you would like to assist the Town with the 2010 Census, please contact our Committee Organizer and Town Clerk Sarah Luckie for more information.

June 2009						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
 21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

- 6/2-Town Council Work Study-5:30pm
- 6/2-Town Council Mtg
- 6/4-Water & Sewer Comm Mtg
- 6/8-Architectural Comm Mtg
- 6/9-P&Z Comm Mtg
- 6/10-Floodwater Comm Mtg
- 6/11-Streets & Road Comm Mtg
- 6/16-Town Council Mtg
- 6/17-Town Council Retreat-Koh's Ranch
- 6/18-Floodwater Comm Mtg
- 6/21-Father's Day
- 6/21-1st Day of Summer

Water Conservation Tip of the Month

Water use in the home

Toilets	28%
Clothes washing	22%
Showers	21%
Faucets	12%
Baths	9%
Toilet leakage	5%
Dish washing	3%

Conserving water means smaller water bills if you live in an area serviced by a municipal water system. If your home is connected to a septic system, water conservation also can help prevent water pollution. Overloading a septic system may cause nutrient and bacterial contamination

of nearby lakes and streams. According to the American Water Works Association, the average U.S. family uses water inside the home at the rates shown. Because such a large percentage of water use is in the bathroom, this is where water conservation efforts should begin.

- ◆ Install water-saving devices on faucets and showerheads.
- ◆ Take shorter showers. And when filling the tub, don't let water run down the drain while waiting for it to get hot.
- ◆ Turning off the water while brushing your teeth can save a family 5 to 10 gallons per day.
- ◆ Rinse hand razors in a filled sink rather than under running water. When shampooing, turn off the water while lathering the hair.



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