

PINEWOOD

THE GOOD LIFE, COMMUNITY & MOUNTAIN DESERT LIVING

VOL. 32 NO. 11 JULY 18, 2025

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Cover photo by Genna Caviness



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PINEWOOD

THE GOOD LIFE, COMMUNITY & DESERT MOUNTAIN LIVING

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

AA Meetings - Feel Better!

Munds Park Community Church

Every Monday, 6 pm

17670 S Munds Ranch Rd

Munds Park Community Church Services

Services Sunday, 10:45 am

17670 S Munds Ranch Rd

Munds Park Town Hall

All residents are encouraged to attend.

Stay informed. Your presence and participation is essential!

Thursday, September 18, 2025

6:30 pm • Pinewood Country Club

Pinewood Fire Department Auxiliary meeting

The Community is Welcome!

Tuesday, August 5

6:30 pm • 17670 S Munds Ranch Rd

Pinewood Fire District Board Meeting

Public Welcome

Tuesday, August 19

3 pm • 18075 Fairway Dr.

PPOA Annual Public Meeting

Saturday, July 19

1 pm • Pinewood Country Club

Pinewood Sanitary District Board Meeting

Public Welcome

Tuesday, August 14

3 pm • 18075 Fairway Dr

Pinewood Sanitary District & Arizona Water Co.

Reuse Water Presentation

Saturday, July 26, 2025

1 pm • Pinewood Country Club



LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS 9A

Curated local news from across Arizona, selected just for our readers. Timely, relevant, and always worth the read.

THINGS TO DO 14A

Local events, activities, and outings to make the most of your time in the pines.

HOME MADE & WONDERFUL 13A

A flaky crust, ripe summer tomatoes, and just enough cheese to turn this classic pie into a hometown favorite.

GONE, NOT FORGOTTEN 18A

The Grand Canyon Lodge & the Fire That Took It

TRAVEL 22A

Road Tripping the King's Highway Bedouin-Style

FROM THE PORCH 5B

The Simple Joys of Summer in the Park

THE GREAT OUTDOORS 6B

A Journey Through Indigenous Lands in Northern Arizona

FARM TO TABLE 8B

Apeel Gets the Organic Green Light

LOCAL LORE 9B

Our National Parks Preserve History as well as Beauty

GARDENING IN THE PARK 11B

Water Wise Gardening

GUEST STORIES FROM THE COMMUNITY 13B

A Stroke in Pinewood Changed my Life

WORD OF THE DAY 15B

Because sometimes, common sense gets overruled by "hold my beer."

WHO HANDLES WHAT IN COCONINO COUNTY 19B

Because Google doesn't always know the mountain way.



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THE DAVIS FAMILY WINS AGAIN!

Three-Time Champions of the Pinewood News Patriotic Float Contest

They've done it again! For the third time since the Pinewood News Patriotic Float Contest began, the Davis family has taken top honors with another creative and thoughtful entry.

This year, their float brought the Boston Tea Party to life with handmade props, colonial costumes, and a full crew of family and friends. The idea came from a homeschool history lesson, where the Davis grandchildren learned about the Boston Tea Party. That spark of interest turned into a full-scale project, with everyone pitching in to help bring history to life.

The float featured Ryan, Eva, Joey, Gabe, Michelle, Audi, Scarlette, Addy, Jacob, Jeremiah, Michael, Veda, and Charlee dressed in colonial attire. Danielle and Alyssa rode in the back of the truck, while Joe drove and Angelique, Diana, and Mark walked alongside, offering water and scooping up any stray tea boxes.

There were plenty of impressive floats in this year's parade, and it was clear many families and groups put in a great deal of work. The Davis float stood out for its historical theme, detailed execution, and full-family participation.

More than just a float, their entry is a reminder of how important it is to teach our kids where we came from and to help them grow up with love of country. The Davis family shows that learning history goes beyond textbooks. It's most powerful when it happens through hands-on experiences, creative projects, and shared moments that bring families and communities together.

Congratulations to the Davis family for another meaningful entry, and thank you to everyone who made this year's parade such a great success.

HONORABLE MENTION

A Float That Made a Statement

One of this year's most talked-about floats featured Donald Trump just after the assassination attempt. Bold in both design and emotion, it grabbed the crowd's attention and left a strong impression.

From lighthearted to serious, traditional to daring, our float competition welcomes all expressions of American history. We know some readers may lose their wig over this one, but the image of Trump with his fist raised in defiance captured a moment of unmistakable American grit.

Some may call it political simply because it featured Trump. We saw it as historic and powerful. That's why it earns this honorable mention.



Float by local Steven Rath, representing his family business, OLT Fabrication & Manufacturing, which he runs alongside his dad.
Photo by Genna Caviness



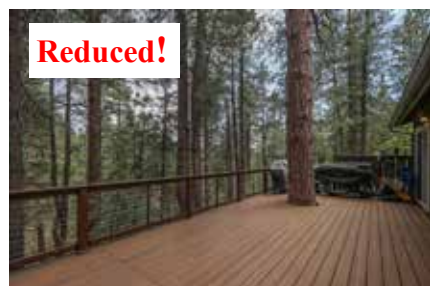
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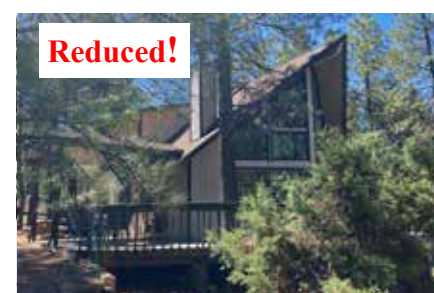
17163 S. Winding Trail - \$595,000
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LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS



Teens on manual and electric bikes weaving between parade floats and riding against traffic during the PPOA 4th of July Parade—a safety concern now under review by organizers.
Photo by the Pinewood News

PARADE ORGANIZERS SOUND ALARM OVER TEENS ON E-BIKE CHAOS

Fred Lloyd, organizer of the Electric Light Parade, and Len Friedlund, organizer of the PPOA-sponsored 4th of July Parade, are raising the red flag on what they describe as a serious and potentially dangerous situation involving teens on electric bikes.

During the Electric Light Parade, according to Lloyd, a group of seven teens rode ahead of the floats, crossed double-yellow lines, and performed wheelies directly in front of the procession. Drivers were forced to take evasive action to avoid hitting them, and spectators were alarmed as the bikes zipped past, doing wheelies, just feet from the crowd.

"We shouted and told them to stay away from the parade," Lloyd said. "But there were seven of them, and they chose to continue harassing the parade until it reached Crestline."

A sheriff's unit appeared near Animal Hill, briefly slowing the group, but once the deputy left, the reckless behavior resumed.

"These acts were not only illegal but reckless and irresponsible," Lloyd said. "Any of them could have been run over or could have run into spectators."

During the PPOA-sponsored parade, Craig Hochgraef, who was driving the Grand Marshal car, reported significant issues as well. Hochgraef observed many of the bikes speeding up and positioning themselves directly behind the color guard in front of him, performing wheelies and other reckless maneuvers. One parade monitor reported that a bike attempting tricks fell dangerously close to a woman holding a small child on the side of the road.

Similar disruptions and unsafe behaviors along the route put parade participants and attendees at unnecessary risk.

Friedlund is currently consulting with the Sheriff's Office and is considering a full ban on e-bikes in future PPOA parades.

Parents are strongly encouraged to talk with their kids about responsible e-bike/bike use and being considerate of others. Lloyd warned that without a change in behavior, the future of the Electric Light Parade could be in question.

4th of July Law Enforcement Activity for Munds Park

- 44 calls for service
- 9 traffic stops
- 1 traffic citation
- Just 1 arrest
- No illegal fire complaints

The Sheriff's Office stipulates that charges or citations may be added later based on case reviews, and initial incident classifications can change as more information becomes available. Source: Coconino County Sheriff's Office, Lt. John Jamison

... Local High Lights continued on page 11A



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-Laura

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-Mykaela E.

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-Ella R.





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LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS

... Continued from page 9A

PINEWOOD SANITARY DISTRICT
Public Reminder: What Not to Flush

The Pinewood Sanitary District needs your help to protect our wastewater system. Please *do not flush any of the following* items down the toilet or drain:

- “Flushable” wipes (they’re not really flushable)
- Grease or cooking oil
- Paper towels
- Cleaning or disinfecting wipes
- Clothing or rags

On July 2, 2025, our team had to pull and disassemble a pump due to a large piece of purple clothing that was flushed into the system. These pumps cost upwards of \$20,000 each, and repairs like this take time, labor, and the rate payers money.

Wastewater equipment is 2–3 times more expensive than standard equipment due to the harsh chemicals and conditions it’s exposed to every day. Every unnecessary repair puts more strain on our limited budget and staff.

We also want to remind everyone, especially visiting families and RV owners, that hooking up RVs to residential clean outs is illegal, unless you are in the designated trailer park on the west side of the community. Unauthorized connections are considered theft of service and significantly increase the load on our treatment plant. Please call us at (928) 286-9166 if you see RVs dumping in residential clean outs.

Please share this information with your neighbors and help us spread the word. A little awareness goes a long way in keeping our system running smoothly and avoiding costly breakdowns.

Thank you for your cooperation, Pinewood Sanitary District



THE IMPORTANCE OF REPORTING
WILDLIFE DIE-OFFS

A few dead prairie dogs might not seem like big news, but in Coconino County, it’s enough to trigger a public health response. This week, a sudden prairie dog die-off in the Townsend-Winona area raised concern, and for good reason.

Coconino County Health and Human Services is now testing the area for plague, a naturally occurring infectious disease that can affect both animals and humans. While rare, certain types of plague still appear in parts of Northern Arizona, and a rodent die-off is often the first visible sign.

County officials are working with the property owner to collect flea samples and will begin treating burrows to reduce activity. Nearby properties will be monitored as part of the county’s ongoing disease surveillance program.

This is a good reminder that keeping an eye on nature matters. Reporting sudden wildlife deaths can help catch threats early, before they impact pets or people. If you notice an unusual die-off of prairie dogs, rabbits, or rodents, contact Animal Services at 928-679-8756 or Environmental Health at 928-679-8760.

Source: Coconino County Manager’s Office / Coconino County Health and Human Services

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4TH 2025 OF JULY IN THE PARK



Big Crowds, Big Spirit at the Munds Park Parade

The 4th of July Parade rolled through Munds Park in true star-spangled style this year, and by all accounts, it was one for the books. Organizers estimate the biggest crowd in parade history showed up—lawn chairs in hand, flags waving, and sunscreen generously applied.

Around 85 entries of floats, cars, and rolling creativity took to the route, featuring about 400 participants either riding or walking. From patriotic pups to vintage trucks blasting Springsteen, the weather stayed warm without sweltering, and the energy captured pure Americana.

Restaurants and bars stayed packed all weekend, buzzing with post-parade chatter and the clink of celebratory glasses. If you missed it, well, you missed it. But there's always next year.

Parade Photos by Genna Caviness and Lou Blazquez

EVERY SATURDAY

DJ RUBEN & KARAOKE



Time to grab the mic and steal the spotlight! Karaoke night is all about laughs, tunes, and maybe a little off-key magic.

Time: 8PM

Location: Pinewood Restaurant & Bar, Munds Park

EVERY MONDAY

BINGO AT PINWOOD COUNTRY CLUB



Bingo at the Pinewood Country Club! This event is open to everyone—no membership required. Come enjoy a fun night with neighbors and prizes!

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Pinewood Country Club, 395 Pinewood Blvd, Munds Park

ALMOST EVERY TUESDAY

PINWOOD PLAYHOUSE MUSIC JAM NIGHT



Bring your instrument (or just your voice) and join fellow music lovers for a casual, come-as-you-are jam session. All levels welcome—from pros to kazoo dabblers. PA provided for singers. Free to

attend, no RSVP needed, open to the community.

Date: check website at pinewoodplayers.com

Time: 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Location: Pinewood Playhouse, Pinewood Country Club, open to the community

SATURDAY, JULY 19

CAMP VERDE CORN FEST



Corn Fest pays homage to the Verde Valley's famous sweet corn, grown at Hauser and Hauser Farms. This is a "corny" old-fashioned family event with plenty of food, fun, games, music, vendors and,

of course, sweet corn. Street fair vibes. Roasted Hauser & Hauser corn. Fresh-picked sweetness to take home. What more do you need?

Time: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Location: Hollamon Street & Community Center Gym, Camp Verde

Admission: FREE (Service Animals only)

YOGA IN THE PARK WITH CHRISTY SHAFT



Breathe deep and flow into summer with yoga sessions for all levels.

Mondays: July 21 & 28

Chair yoga 9-9:45

Mat flow 10-11

Friday: July 25

Chair yoga 9-9:45 | Mat flow 10-11

Saturdays: July 19 & 26.

Mat flow 9:30-10:39

Note: Bring your own mat (I have extra)

Location: Munds Park RV Park Rec Hall

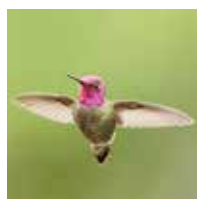
Fee: \$15 per class

Munds Park Farmers Market
at Agee's BBQ Patio
Saturday
9-1 PM
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GET FRESH PRODUCE!
Starting Saturday, May 10, your weekends just got fresher—join us for farm-fresh produce every Saturday through October!

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, JULY 25-27

HUMMINGBIRD FESTIVAL



Set in one of the most breathtaking places in the country, the Sedona Hummingbird Festival is a vibrant celebration of these dazzling little birds. Enjoy three days packed with expert

speaker presentations, hummingbird garden tours, live banding demonstrations, birding field trips, breakfasts with hummingbirds, art workshops, raffles, and a hummingbird-themed marketplace. Kids' Day on Saturday adds family fun with crafts, live animals, and more. Free admission to "Hummingbird Central," with tickets available for talks and off-site experiences.

Time: Fri-Sat 10 AM-5 PM; Sun 10 AM-4 PM

Location: Sedona Performing Arts Center, 995 Upper Red Rock Loop Road, Sedona

Info: sedonahummingbirdfestival.com

Admission: FREE

SATURDAY, JULY 26, 2025

BEAT THE HEAT TRACTOR & ENGINE SHOW



Antique tractor display and pull, engine display, hayrides, plowing, and barrel train rides for kids. Hands-on fun for the whole family.

Time: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Location: 5285 E. Pumpkin Patch Rd, Flagstaff

Admission: FREE

For information, call Jim at (928) 699-7434

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13

COCONINO COUNTY BOOKMOBILE



Stop by the Pinewood Clubhouse for the Coconino County Bookmobile for a great read! Services include free notary, 10¢ black-and-white printing, and access to library materials.

Date: Second Wednesday of every month

Time: 10:45 AM – 2:00 PM

Location: Pinewood Clubhouse

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

COUNTRY CLUB CRAFT FAIR



Join the Pinewood Country Club on Labor Day for their annual Craft Fair! All are welcome!

Time: 10AM - 2PM

Location: Pinewood Country Club

FRI & SAT, OCTOBER 10 & 11

PRESCOTT ANTIQUE SHOW & VINTAGE MARKET



Now in its 20th year, this treasure hunt is worth the drive. Shop antiques, vintage goods, clothing, furniture, and home décor across three packed buildings and outdoor booths at the

Prescott Rodeo Grounds.

Time: Friday 12-5 PM, Saturday: 8 AM-3 PM

Location: Prescott Rodeo Grounds, 840 Rodeo Drive, Prescott

Info: prescottantiqueshow.com

Admission: \$10 General Admission

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 & 12

FORT VERDE DAYS



Step back in time and celebrate one of Arizona's longest-running traditions! Fort Verde Days returns for its 65th year with a lively parade down Main Street, food trucks, craft vendors, and

old-fashioned fun at Fort Verde State Historic Park. Enjoy historic reenactments, live entertainment, kids' activities, and a full weekend of frontier spirit in the heart of Camp Verde.

Note: Service animals only.

Time: Saturday parade at 10AM, festival 11AM-7PM | Sunday 11AM-4PM

Location: Main Street & Fort Verde State Historic Park, Camp Verde

SAT & SUN, AUGUST 2 & 3

PRESCOTT ART & WINE FESTIVAL



Stroll the Courthouse Plaza, sip local wines, and explore fine art from over 100 talented artists at this laid-back summer festival in downtown Prescott. A wine-tasting experience featuring Willcox

Wine Country adds a flavorful twist for guests 21 and over.

Time: 9 AM-5 PM both days

Location: 120 South Cortez Street, Yavapai County Courthouse Plaza, Prescott

Info: mountainartistsguild.org

Admission: Free entry; wine-tasting tickets available for purchase (21+)

AUGUST 29 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2

COCONINO COUNTY FAIR



Ready for carnival rides, livestock shows, local food, music, and family fun at this end-of-summer tradition! A Labor Day weekend favorite, the fair celebrates the best of Northern Arizona.

Time: Check website for times

Location: Fort Tuthill County Park, Flagstaff

Info: www.coconinocountyfair.com

Admission: Check website for admission fees



Farmer's MARKETS

SEDONA COMMUNITY FARMERS MARKET

Join us every Sunday for a sunny marketplace experience! Discover a wide array of local fresh seasonal produce to unique artisan creations.

Date: Every Sunday

Time: 11 AM - 3 PM

Location: 2201 W SR 89A, West Sedona

PRESCOTT FARMERS MARKET

Support local farmers, enjoy seasonal flavors, and help grow a healthier, stronger local economy with every purchase.

Dates: Every Saturday, 7:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: 900 Iron Springs Road, Prescott,

OLD TOWN MUSIC & THE MARKET

Friday nights in the Verde Valley features locally grown fruits and vegetables, artisan foods, and handcrafted goods like pottery, jewelry, and soaps—all set to live local music. Bring a chair, grab a bite, and enjoy a relaxed evening under the trees with your community.

Dates: September 5, 12, 26

Time: 5 p.m. and continue until dark

Location: 187 E. Pima St., Cottonwood

VERDE VALLEY FARMERS MARKET

Discover real food from real farmers at the Verde Valley Farmers Market. Enjoy fresh, locally grown produce while supporting our community's farmers. Operated by local growers.

Date: Every Saturday & Friday from May 10 to October 4, 2025

Time: 8 AM - 11 AM

Location: 75 Hollamon St, Camp Verde

WINDMILL PARK FARMERS MARKET

Shop fresh and local every Thursday at Windmill Park! Find farm-to-table produce, sprouts, fruits, nuts, eggs, vegan organics, fresh bread, and honey—straight from local growers.

Date: Every Thursday

Time: 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Location: 9950 E Cornville Rd, Cornville, AZ



Community MARKETS

OLD TOWN MUSIC & THE MARKET

Shop locally grown fruits & vegetables, homemade items and more while listening to fabulous regional musicians.

Dates: September 5, 12, 26

Time: 5 PM Until Dark

Location: 187 E. Pima St., Cottonwood

FLAGSTAFF URBAN FLEA MARKET

Explore the eclectic and vibrant Flagstaff Urban Flea Market, a gathering of artisans and peddlers offering a unique variety of goods. Find everything from records, antiques, and books to handmade woodwork, ceramics, and vintage clothing. Plus, discover gems and minerals, soaps, used tools, comics, toys, jewelry, up-cycled goods, flowers, and other funky treasures.

Date: 2nd & 4th Saturdays, June 14th through October 25th

Time: 9 AM - 2 PM

Location: City Hall parking lot, 211 W. Aspen, Downtown Flagstaff on Historic Route 66

Admission: Free

PEDDLER'S PASS OLD-TIME FARMERS & FLEA MARKET

Visit Peddler's Pass Old-Time Farmers & Flea Market in Prescott Valley, a bustling open-air swap meet offering a diverse array of items. From seasonal farm produce and yard-sale secondhand goods to antiques, tools, collectibles, and rocks & gems, there's something for everyone. Known as "the best swap meet in Arizona," this family-friendly market features affordable finds and a wide variety of vendors.

Date: Every Saturday & Sunday, Year-Round

Time: 6 AM - 3 PM (Early morning is prime time for the best picks)

Location: 6201 E. State Route 69, Prescott Valley

Admission: Free

TWO COYOTES MARKET IN THE PINES

Enjoy a wide selection of fresh baked breads, pastries, pies, various food trucks and vendors selling wonderful crafts!

Operated by Munds Park Residents Susan & Bill Havermale

Date: Every Saturday, 9 AM - 1 PM

Location: 17620 N Munds Ranch Rd.



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The Pie Everyone's Talking About (And Passing Around)

BY SUENET

Tomato pie isn't fancy. It's not fussy. But it is the kind of dish that makes people pause, tilt their heads, and say, "Now that's good."

Variations of savory pies go back centuries—think English cheese pies or Italian tarts with vegetables tucked into pastry. But the American tomato pie as we

know it? That's a mid-20th-century gem. It started showing up in community cookbooks, often tucked between congealed salads and "Coca-Cola cake," and quietly earned its place in the summer hall of fame.

The beauty of this dish is its practicality. It's not asking you to caramelize anything or whip egg whites into soft peaks. It is a tomato pie, and it's proud of it.

Here's what makes it special: a flaky crust, a dusting of cornmeal to catch the tomato juice, slices of big, ripe tomatoes layered with herbs, scallions, a good helping of sharp cheese, and a few extras that bring it all together in the oven. It's savory, a bit rustic, and deeply satisfying. Like summer lunch on a screened porch with a good friend.

The trick—the only real trick—is the tomatoes. If you start with bland, waxy ones from the grocery shelf, your pie will be exactly that: bland. But if you start with tomatoes that smell like sunshine, that leave juice on the cutting board and a little seed trail on your knife, you've got perfection.

So if your garden didn't cooperate this year, take a ride to the local farmers market. Or better yet, call Two Sisters Tomatoes at 740-607-3033. Their tomatoes taste the way you remember tomatoes used to taste—before you started settling for the imposter's. They'll set you up with something worth baking into a pie.

All that's left is to pour a glass of wine, slice up that pie, and wonder why you haven't been making this every summer since forever.

Simple, satisfying, and just the right kind of homemade.

The recipe is just to your right. Get cookin'!



Flip to page 15A to find the best local farmer's markets offering the freshest, in-season tomatoes around!

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Ingredients

- 1 (9-inch) pie dough round, homemade or store-bought.
- A sprinkle of cornmeal for the bottom of the crust (or plain breadcrumbs in a pinch)
- Big, ripe heirloom or beefsteak tomatoes, or your preference. The fresher, the better
- Kosher salt, for drawing out moisture from the tomatoes
- Freshly grated sharp cheddar cheese and Parmesan
- Prepared mayonnaise (use what you trust—Duke’s or Hellmann’s both work)
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten
- A spoonful of cornstarch (helps everything set up nicely)
- Fresh basil leaves, for the filling and the garnish
- Scallions (green onions), white and green parts sliced thin
- Crisp, cooked bacon, crumbled
- Fresh ground black pepper
- Chopped parsley, optional, for garnish

Get the crust ready, choose your favorite homemade crust recipe

- Lightly flour your countertop and roll out the dough to about 13 inches across. Ease it into a 9-inch tart pan or a deep-dish pie plate and press it gently into the corners and up the sides.
- Sprinkle the bottom with cornmeal (this helps soak up juice from the tomatoes) and pop it into the fridge to chill while you prep the filling. Thirty minutes is good. Longer is fine too.

Prep your tomatoes

Slice the tomatoes into 1/4-inch rounds and gently scoop out the seeds. Lay the slices in a single layer on a paper towel-lined baking sheet. Sprinkle with about 1 teaspoon of kosher salt and let them rest for 30 minutes. This step is essential—it keeps your pie from turning into soup.

Preheat the oven

Move your oven rack to the lower third. Preheat the oven to 450°F. Place a heavy baking sheet or a pizza stone on the rack with a layer of parchment paper on top. You’ll bake the pie directly on this for a perfectly crisp crust.

Assemble the pie

- After 30 minutes, gently pat the tomato slices with clean, dry paper towels to remove excess moisture. Start with about a third of the least pretty slices and layer them over the bottom of the crust.
- In a bowl, mix the cheese, mayonnaise, egg, cornstarch, basil, scallions, and crumbled bacon. Season with black pepper. Spoon this mixture over the tomato layer, then finish with the rest of the tomato slices on top.

Bake and cool

- Carefully place your assembled pie on the hot stone or baking sheet. Bake for 10 minutes at 450°F. Then lower the oven to 325°F and continue baking for 40 to 45 minutes, until the crust is golden and the center is just set.
- Cool the pie on a wire rack for at least 1 hour—2 is even better. Serve slightly warm or at room temperature, topped with more fresh basil and plenty of black pepper. A little parsley never hurt either.

“You don’t have to cook fancy or complicated masterpieces—just good food from fresh ingredients.” – Julia Child



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GONE, NOT FORGOTTEN

The Grand Canyon Lodge & the Fire That Took It

BY VENITA DEE



Photo by the Grand Canyon Lodge

In the early hours of July 12, 2025, as flames from the Dragon Bravo Fire surged through ponderosa forest on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, a piece of Arizona's identity was lost.

The Grand Canyon Lodge, an enduring presence since 1928 and the only hotel located inside the national park on the North Rim, burned to the ground in a matter of hours. It wasn't just a building. For nearly a century, it had offered a vantage point like no other, sitting just feet from the canyon's edge, with stone walls and timber beams reflecting the landscape it belonged to.

That morning, smoke hung heavy across the Kaibab Plateau. By the time fire crews reached the site, the limestone façade, cabins, visitor center and even the wastewater plant had been destroyed. More than fifty structures were lost. All guests and staff had been evacuated safely days earlier, but the emotional impact was immediate and deep.

Roots in Stone & Rail

The story of the lodge begins in 1928 when the Utah Parks Company, a Union Pacific Railroad subsidiary, commissioned architect Gilbert Stanley Underwood to design a structure that would blend with the canyon's terrain. Underwood used Kaibab limestone pulled from Bright

Angel Point and ponderosa pine sourced from the surrounding forest. The result was a rustic but refined building that offered stunning canyon views through tall windows and wide terraces.

The lodge quickly became a quiet refuge for travelers seeking cooler air and fewer crowds than the South Rim. Cabins were spread throughout the trees, close enough to hear the wind through the pines. Cabin No. 310 became famous for having one of the most dramatic views in the entire park.

Fire & Rebuilding

In September 1932, fire struck for the first time. A blaze that began in the kitchen destroyed the main lodge in minutes. Staff escaped in the early morning darkness, but the damage was total.

Rebuilding started in 1936. Much of the original stonework was reused. The redesigned lodge opened in 1937 with a steeper roof and a more compact footprint, better suited for the harsh winters. The second story and the original observation tower were not included in the new design. Still, the rebuilt lodge maintained its iconic character and continued to honor the landscape it was part of.

... Continued on page 21A

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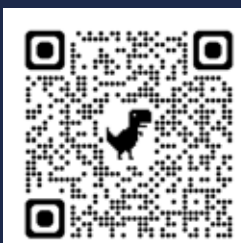


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GONE, NOT FORGOTTEN

... Continued from page 18A

A Place with Memory

Over the decades, the lodge developed a culture all its own. The cabins, many with porches and wood-burning stoves, were simple but close to the canyon. Guests returned year after year. Children rubbed the nose of Brightly the Bison for luck. The indoor lounge, with its picture windows, provided an unmatched place to watch sunset light move across the cliffs.

In 1987, the lodge was named a National Historic Landmark, recognized for its architectural significance and its role in park history. Operated most recently by Aramark, the lodge was open seasonally from mid-May through mid-October.

The Fire in 2025

On July 4, 2025, lightning struck forested land on the North Rim. The National Park Service chose to monitor the resulting Dragon Bravo Fire under a confine-and-contain strategy. But unseasonably dry weather and strong winds caused the fire to escape containment lines. Gusts topping 40 miles per hour on July 11 and 12 drove flames rapidly through mixed conifer, aspen and pine.

Retardant drops were delayed due to the presence of historic buildings. Fire crews were eventually cleared to use suppression tactics, but the lodge was already lost. In total, the fire consumed over 5,000 acres and forced closure of the North Rim. Infrastructure damage, including a chlorine gas leak from the wastewater system, led to additional evacuations and trail closures throughout the park.

Governor Katie Hobbs and members of Congress called for a full investigation into the federal decision-making that allowed the fire to escalate. Questions were raised about the risks of treating a lightning-ignited fire as a managed burn during the hottest, driest part of Arizona's summer.

For now, the North Rim is quiet. Trails are closed. The stone terraces and canyon-facing decks that once framed a perfect sunrise no longer exist. But the story of the lodge remains. It had risen from fire before. Its walls carried decades of memory, shaped by weather and time.

If it is rebuilt, that process will need to balance respect for Underwood's original vision with modern fire resilience. It will need to preserve what made the lodge unique without ignoring the reality of a changing climate.

The Grand Canyon Lodge was part of Arizona history. It was built with care and purpose. It served generations of visitors who found something lasting in its simplicity. That kind of place does not disappear entirely. Even now, in absence, it matters.

Photos by the Grand Canyon Lodge



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TRAVEL

Road Tripping the King's Highway Bedouin-Style

BY "UNSTOPPABLE STACEY" WITTIG



UNSTOPPABLE Stacey on Kings Highway | Photo by Stacey Wittig

"Seriously, are you up for taking Namaleh Road?" Mohammed asked with a frown. Mohammed seldom frowned. "It's rough, dusty and primitive. We'll be riding Bedouin Jeeps."

His warning made it sound like a dare. That alone was enough for me to say yes.

We were about to drive one of the oldest continually used roads in the world—the King's Highway in Jordan. Once a major trade artery for frankincense and spices bound for the empires of Egypt, Rome and Greece, this route had seen camel caravans, royal armies and now, us. The same mountains and deserts that challenged ancient merchants lay ahead, and I couldn't wait to tackle them.



UNSTOPPABLE Stacey on Kings Highway | photo by Stacey Wittig

often closed and perfect for thrill-seekers. Our adventure began where the two roads meet: history and adrenaline.

Starry Nights & Desert Dreams

The night before, we lay on rooftop mats, staring at a field of stars. Suleiman "Starman" Al-Hasaseen pointed out celestial navigation points once used by desert travelers. Then he set up a high-powered telescope to reveal Jupiter's moons. I was tickled by the contrast of traditional Bedouin astronomy and modern optics.

But now, it was time to hit the desert highway Jordan in a way most tourists never do.

Why Drive the Jordan Kings Highway?

I love a good road trip. If you've followed my column for a while, you know I enjoy muddin' in Louisiana bayous, road tripping to Taos and off-roading around Munds Park. So when my new friend Mohammad Qamhiya suggested we take this desert detour to Petra, I said, "Heck, yeah!"

"We just called and learned the back road to Petra is open today," announced Mohammed. "It is our good fortune, as the mountain pass is not always accessible." Who knows who he called? I was shocked there was even cell service out here in the back of beyond.

We'd just spent a candlelit night at off-the-grid Feynan Ecolodge in the Dana Biosphere Reserve. True Bedouin country with camels, goat herds and sunbaked rock, sans electricity except for what the lodge's solar panels eked out. Designed around internal courtyards reminiscent of ancient caravanserais, Feynan draws adventurers from around the world, eager to hike slot canyons, spend a day with goat herders or learn Bedouin coffee rituals from a shaykh.

Quick Detour: What's the Difference Between the Namaleh Road and the Kings Highway?

While the Kings Highway Jordan is a historic trade route that stretches from Amman to Aqaba, the Namaleh Road is a rugged offshoot—a remote backroad threading through mountains and Bedouin territory. It's unpaved,

Roadside Thrills & Bedouin Hospitality

When we walked out of the desert compound, four locals, each with a well-used Bedouin Jeep, waited to take us over the desolate mountain pass to Petra. I didn't see a Jeep among the fleet, but rather 1980s-vintage Toyotas, Nissans and Mitsubishi's. I snagged the front seat with Abdullah in an extended-cab pickup—old but meticulously wiped clean. Fellow travel writers Annette and Brigit piled into the backseat.

Oncoming traffic? A robed Bedouin on a camel, a horse in full Arabian regalia and the occasional car barreling into our lane. My seatbelt didn't work, so I simply prayed.

Fields of tomatoes and squash blurred as we rocketed over what off-roaders call "whoops."

"Oh my God," I laughed, my head nearly hitting the roof.

"Don't laugh—you're just encouraging him," warned Annette from behind me in the cab.

Abdullah grinned, pointed ahead and somehow conveyed, "You liked that? Wait until the next one."

We hit the second roller at 80 kilometers per hour. I did the math to convert it to mph: somewhere near terrifying. As we lifted off the seat, Brigit shouted, "I think he thinks we like it!"



UNSTOPPABLE Stacey on Kings Highway | Photo by Stacey Wittig

“pumped” the clutch on a winding mountain road and cried, “Oh no, the brakes are out!” to scare my visiting father. Did I mention he’s terrified of heights?

Karma, my friends.

Abdullah kept pumping on the way down, but soon we were climbing again. The desert landscape shifted from gray to red. At a summit, we paused to stretch and snap photos of the surreal Jordan Kings Highway landscape.

Desert Brotherhood and a Trusty Old Truck

“Oh no, what now?” groaned another traveler as we headed back to the vehicles. Abdullah had the hood up, pouring water into the radiator.

“It’s fine,” I reassured. “I’ve got an ‘87 Toyota back home that I baby the same way.”

I walked over and patted the fender of Abdullah’s truck. He looked up and smiled. In that moment, we were just two off-roaders and their beloved machines, somewhere high above the desert highway Jordan.

UNSTOPPABLE Stacey Wittig is a travel writer who calls Munds Park home. Enjoy this story? Discover more at UnstoppableStaceyTravel.com.

Then the gravel began.

Switchbacks and Scrapes on the Kings Highway Jordan

Soon we wove around a barricade marking the closed portion of the road. Too fast to read the sign. “Yallah, yallah!” cheered Brigit. Annette didn’t say a word.

We passed what looked like United Nations Human Rights Council workers and began climbing a squiggly two-lane dirt track. Earthmovers sat motionless while crews of shovel-wielding workers leaned into the job. We climbed steadily, peering over steep drop-offs and dodging angled ditches.

It reminded me of Colorado’s Berthoud Pass before pavement. As we began our descent, Abdullah pumped the brakes like a pro. They didn’t feel effective, but his confidence reassured me.

That is, until I remembered a prank I pulled on my Dad years ago.

Desert Highway Jordan Karma

Back in Durango, Colorado, I once



UNSTOPPABLE Stacey on Kings Highway | photo by Stacey Wittig

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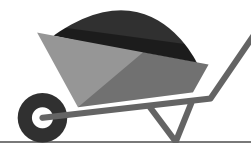
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Tuesday, August 12, 2025



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Membership Inquiries

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GAME HIGHLIGHTS FROM PINEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB



Kara Reddell was the champion of the Lady Niners eclectic tournament.



Lisa Roth and David Blanco won their bracket at the July 5 pickleball tournament which benefited the Pinewood Country Club scholarship fund.



Jenn Dickman and Sean Flanagan won their bracket at the pickleball tournament. The event raised \$1,200 for the scholarship fund.



The Pinewood Men's Golf Association held the Net Championship on July 12th and 13th. The event winner was Dan Smith.

June Golf Results at Pinewood Country Club

- June 14: Pinewood Men's Golf Association – Individual Quota Event
Winner: Clark Krueger
- June 21: Pinewood Men's Golf Association – Presidents Cup Event
Winner: Eric Stearns
- June 28: Pinewood Men's Golf Association – 2-Man Scramble Event
Winners: Mike Barter and Brian Palumbo
- June 29: Pinewood Country Club – Jack and Jill Couples Event. Flight Winners are:
- 1st Flight – Rick and Robin Schmidgall
 - 2nd Flight – Pete Yannitelli and Sam Harry
 - 3rd Flight – Sid and Marsha Stevens



NOT A COUNTRY CLUB MEMBER
BUT LOVE PICKLEBALL?

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We know it's about a 40-minute drive from Munds Park, but the views along I-17 make it a scenic little escape. Plus, it's a great excuse to grab lunch in Camp Verde, swing by the local shops, or cross a few things off your grocery list while you're in town. Pickleball and errands? That's a win-win.

Location: 51 E Hollamon St, Camp Verde, AZ

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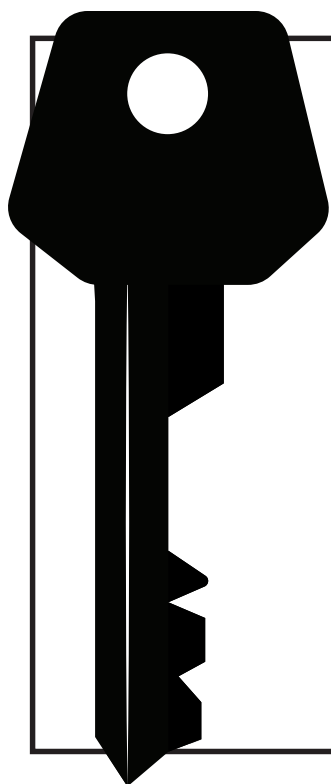
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WORD SEARCH

Created by Paul Mason • Solution Page 22B



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FROM THE PORCH

The Simple Joys of Summer

BY BRIT ELDERS



Summer feels like a warm embrace when the days are longer and the sun rides high in the sky. It's more than just a change in weather—it's a feeling. Summer in Munds Park invites us outdoors, encourages spontaneity, and rekindles our connection to Nature and all the unassuming pleasures of life. There's a beauty in summer's simplicity. Filling the birdfeeder, a morning walk, a drive with the windows down, or a spontaneous trip to the Verde Valley to get fresh corn on the cob, can fill your soul with joy.

There's something liberating about this time of year. Children laugh as they chase the ice cream truck down a normally quiet street or hike to Lake Odell to try their hand at fishing for the big one. Hammocks sway gently in backyards. Iced tea or lemonade are the afternoon beverages of choice. The world slows down just enough to notice the songs of the various birds that inhabit our community or to watch squirrels chase each other up and down trees whose branches sway in the breeze. We take time to enjoy the fresh scent in the air after a gentle rain or the glimmer of sunlight peeking through evening clouds. Sunrise and sunset bring a sense of tranquility, letting us know that our world is just fine as we treasure this sense of serenity.

The longer days of summer bring with them a loosened schedule. There's less stress and tension and smiles are shared more often among friends you've yet to meet. It's as though this season gives us permission to live more presently, to savor these rejuvenating moments instead of racing through them.

It doesn't seem to matter if you are hiking through wooded trails, picnicking in a clearing, or simply lounging on the deck watching puffy white clouds roll by, Nature seems to be engaging this more simplistic side of us. She's flourishing, sharing her bounty after a long cold winter. Trees wear their brightest green, flowers present a palate of color, gardens burst with tomatoes and other tasty vegetables, and crab apples begin weighing on the branches that secure them. All of that natural beauty accompanied by the grandeur of a concert of thunder accompanied by the rhythm of raindrops serves as a reminder that we are in a very special place and time.

The season also brings with it a delicious shift in how we eat and gather. Fresh fruits, crisp salads, and meals grilled outdoors take center stage. Picnics in the forest, get-togethers with neighbors, refreshing drinks on the porch, visitors from the Valley, and a wave when someone drives past, are rituals of appreciation for where we live and all that exists within our summer world.

When the heat begins to fade and the sky is painted in salmon and gold, summer evenings unfold like a graceful tapestry. Barbecues with friends, heartfelt laughter, and lingering conversations under starlit skies create the soundtrack for memories that you carry with you forever.

Ultimately, summer reminds us of what it means to live fully. It's a time to take off our shoes and feel the earth beneath our feet, to let go of routine and embrace a little chaos and spontaneity. It's the perfect time to laugh a bit louder, rest a bit longer, and appreciate life more deeply. Summer is fleeting—but the joy it brings can last a lifetime, if we let it.

Two of Brit's books have won awards this summer. Another Step Up the Mountain won the International Best Book Award in the category of sports and UFO... Contact from the Pleiades, Volumes I & II, the 45th Anniversary Edition won the Silver COVR Visionary Award in paranormal.

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A Journey Through Indigenous Lands in Northern Arizona

BY TEDDY JOHNSON



Wupatki National Monument | Photo by Stephen M Alden



Little Colorado River Gorge | Photo by Shane McDermott

If you think Northern Arizona is just pretty rocks and selfie spots, think again. There's a deeper story here, one that predates Route 66, the National Park Service, and even your great-great-grandpa's cowboy boots.

Indigenous communities have lived, traded, and told stories across this region for centuries. You don't need to be Indiana Jones to explore it, just a respectful visitor with a good pair of shoes and a little curiosity.

Looking for a weekend with meaning? Start here:

Wupatki National Monument

These ancient dwellings once buzzed with life, culture, and commerce. The visitor center offers insight into the Hopi, Zuni, Havasupai, and other ancestral peoples. Walk the trails and you'll find the silence says more than any brochure.

Little Colorado River Gorge

Located on Navajo Nation land, this dramatic canyon is smaller than the Grand Canyon but just as powerful. Entry fees help support Navajo families who manage the site. It's quieter, more rugged, and deeply moving.

Cameron Trading Post

Established in 1916, this stop is part restaurant, part gallery, and part living history. You'll find authentic Navajo rugs, Hopi carvings, and silverwork alongside general souvenirs. And yes, the fry bread is worth the trip.

"If everybody in this country could spend just one night under the stars in Northern Arizona, we'd have fewer arguments and more perspective." —Barry Goldwater



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Cameron Trading Post | Photo by Visit Arizona



Navajo Museum Tuba City | Photo by Navajo Museum



Coal Mine Canyon | Photo by Snowpeak Wikimedia

Tuba City and the Explore Navajo Museum

This museum may be compact, but it packs in powerful storytelling. It offers a thoughtful overview of Navajo culture, history, and resilience. Just down the road, you can visit the Dinosaur Tracks site, where local guides explain fossilized prints right there in the desert floor. Bring cash for tips.

Coal Mine Canyon

Between Tuba City and Coal Mine Mesa lies this hidden geologic wonder. It's on the edge of both Hopi and Navajo lands, and while it's remote and undeveloped, the views are breathtaking. Access rules may vary, so check locally before heading out.



While she's more often tied to New Mexico, Georgia O'Keeffe made multiple sketching trips across Northern Arizona. She described the landscape near Tuba City and the Little Colorado River Gorge as "not made with a brush, but with the breath of something ancient." Her letters from that period are full of vivid, poetic descriptions.

The LIFE Picture Collection | Photo John Loengard

Respectful guests will:

- These places are sacred. Stay on marked paths, follow posted rules, and always ask when unsure.
- Support Native-owned businesses and guides. Your money stays in the community and helps preserve these stories.
- Do not take anything from the land, including rocks or artifacts. Drones are often prohibited, and permission is always required.
- Check ahead for seasonal access, closures, or community events. Some areas may close during ceremonies or weather shifts.

Northern Arizona has a way of slowing you down and pulling you in. The more you learn, the more you'll want to protect it. And next time someone tells you there's nothing to do around here, feel free to hand them a copy of the paper.



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APEEL GETS THE ORGANIC GREEN LIGHT

BY SANDEE CAVINESS

The USDA just approved Apeel, a shelf-life-extending coating, for use on certified organic produce. It's made from plant-based mono- and diglycerides and works by locking in moisture and keeping oxygen out. Think of it as a second skin to help produce stay fresh longer. It's already in use on conventional fruits and vegetables, but now it's also showing up on apples and avocados with a USDA Organic sticker.

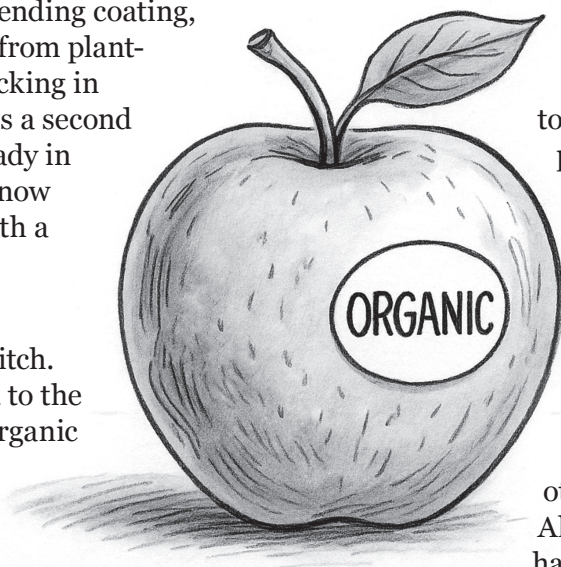
That's where the trouble starts.

Organic watchdogs are calling it a bait-and-switch. Apeel's organic version, Organipeel, was added to the National List in 2016 and is approved by the Organic Materials Review Institute. So yes, it checks all the regulatory boxes. But the farmers we've interviewed for our Real Farm to Table series say the label doesn't carry the weight it once did. It's nothing but marketing now, fooling the consumer.

They've been blunt. The term "organic" used to signal clean practices, not just compliance. Now it's been hollowed out and handed over to supply chains that care more about shelf life than providing real natural food to their communities.

If Organipeel was approved years ago, why are people only just hearing about it now? Simple. The product wasn't widely used on organic items until recently. For years, Apeel coatings were quietly used on conventional produce in select markets. But by late 2023, they began showing up more broadly in national chains—this time on certified organic goods. That's when the backlash started. People walked into stores expecting clean fruit and walked out with questions.

Online chatter has added to the confusion. Genna and I were confused too. Posts keep circulating that Apeel is a Bill Gates product. We learned it's not. Gates has no current ownership or role. The Gates Foundation did issue grants for early research over a decade ago, but that's ancient history in tech years. Still, the connection makes for a good internet conspiracy.

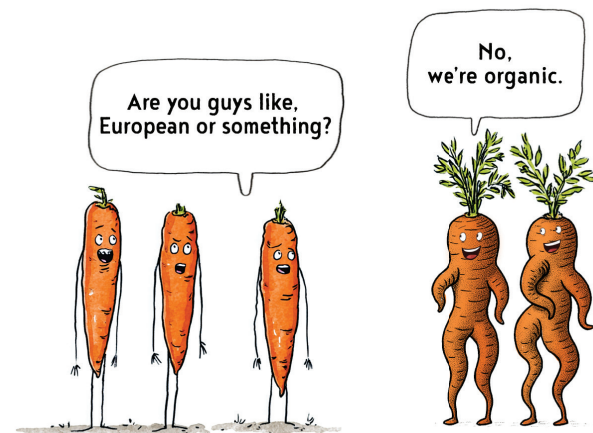


The deeper concern isn't who funded it. It's the lack of transparency. The USDA doesn't require that Apeel be disclosed on produce labels. Unless your grocer decides to tell you, you probably won't know. The ingredient list is proprietary, and even though the FDA says it's safe, most shoppers would never guess their organic fruit was sprayed with something post-harvest.

Retailers are divided. Natural Grocers, Sprouts, and Costco have opted out entirely. Walmart and Target have carried Apeel-treated produce. Trader Joe's hasn't made an official statement, but reports suggest it quietly pulled the products from shelves. Fry's, which is part of Kroger, does not allow Apeel on its private-label organic items, but other brands sold in-store may still use it. Safeway, owned by Albertsons, has carried Apeel-coated produce in the past and has made no public commitment either way. Bashas has not issued any statement and its sourcing remains unclear, leaving shoppers in the dark unless they ask directly.

Supporters say Apeel helps reduce food waste and makes long-distance shipping more efficient. But the farmers we've interviewed have pushed back hard on that logic. Apeel or not, the best way to get truly fresh fruit and vegetables has nothing to do with coatings and everything to do with proximity. The closer your food is grown, the fewer tricks it needs to stay good.

If you want produce that hasn't been coated, coded, or chemically preserved, your best bet is still the local farmstand. No fine print. Just good natural food.



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Our National Parks Preserve History as well as Beauty

BY TEDDY JOHNSON

We've all seen the posters. Elk silhouetted against a sunset in Yellowstone. Hikers perched on the edge of the Grand Canyon. Waterfalls tumbling down Yosemite's granite face like a living painting. The imagery of our national parks leans heavily on wonder and wilderness, and for good reason. These places are stunning. They stop us in our tracks. But if that's all we think they are, we're missing half the story.

From the start, our national parks were built on more than scenery. The 1916 Organic Act gave the Park Service its marching orders: protect the land and preserve the story. Not just the wild lands that stir the soul, but the places that shaped who we are as a people. And today, out of more than 400 park units across the country, more than half are focused on culture and history, not just geysers and hiking trails.

That might surprise folks who still picture the Park Service as a bunch of rangers in Smokey Bear hats, guiding backpackers through untouched forest. But spend a day at Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia, where the echo of revolution still hangs in the air, or walk the quiet halls of the San Antonio Missions, where centuries of faith, survival, and cultural collision come to life, and you'll understand why the Park Service isn't just in the business of beauty. It's in the business of memory.

The places we choose to protect say something about who we are. Yellowstone was the first, and it set a precedent the world had never seen: that a democratic government would preserve a place of awe and wonder, not for kings or barons, but for everyone. Teddy Roosevelt took that further. With the stroke of a pen and the force of will, he protected millions of acres. Not just because they were wild, but because he believed they were worth saving for the good of the nation.

But Roosevelt also knew history mattered. He believed a strong country should remember what it had lived through, not just what it had conquered. The Park Service followed suit. The USS Arizona Memorial, the site of Pearl Harbor, speaks not just to war but to sacrifice. The Great Smoky Mountains hold not only ancient ridges and Appalachian trails, but the ghostly remains of homesteads, mills, and churches. Each trailhead can become a time machine, if you're willing to look around.

Here in Arizona, that same spirit lives on. Montezuma Castle and Walnut Canyon near Flagstaff hold the remains of ancient cliff dwellings built by the Sinagua people centuries ago. Wupatki National Monument preserves a high desert pueblo with more than 100 rooms, once a vibrant community linked by trade routes across the Southwest. Even Montezuma Well, a natural limestone sinkhole, reveals prehistoric irrigation and water management systems that still function today. These aren't just ruins—they're enduring stories in stone, built long before the idea of the National Park Service ever existed.

And here's the quiet truth. These places aren't just "nice to have." They are the connective tissue that helps Americans understand each other. In a country as wide and complicated as ours, we need shared places that remind us of what we've endured and what we've built. A park is never just a park. It's a decision to say, "This matters."



Theodore Roosevelt | Photo Library of Congress

Now, you don't have to be a historian to appreciate it. Hike Zion's slot canyons and learn about the Indigenous peoples who first walked them. Watch the sunrise over the Grand Canyon and remember it was nearly turned into a mining pit before Roosevelt stepped in. Picture the Sinagua building homes in the cliffs near Flagstaff and farming along arid plateaus long before there was an Arizona on the map. Stand beneath the bell tower in Philadelphia and think about how many people risked everything to form a new idea called America.

These stories aren't locked behind museum glass. They're in the air, the water, the worn-down paths of every park unit in this country. And the Park Service, keeps them open to all of us.

So next time you enter a national park, take in the view, but also ask what happened there. Ask who stood on that ground before you, what they built, what they lost, and what they hoped we'd remember. Because in the end, that's the real treasure. Not just what we see, but what we choose to keep alive.

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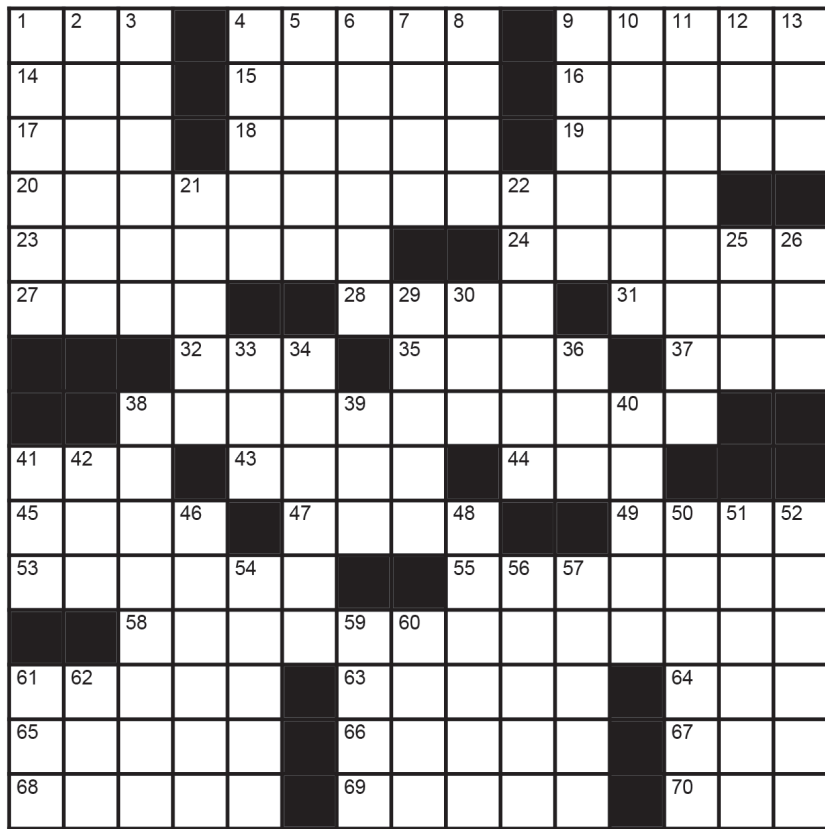
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Created by Paul Mason • Solution Page 22B



ACROSS

1. Masseur's workplace, maybe
4. More fitting
9. Live for a time in a camp, tent or camper
14. A white vestment worn by clergy and servers in some Christian Churches.
15. Bones of the wrist
16. Eskimo boat
17. Liquid produced in infected tissue
18. Put to the test
19. Collection of brains
20. Attractive or appealing in appearance.
23. A piece of fine mesh fabric for confining the hair.
24. Salad leaf
27. Cantina cooker
28. Declines
31. Palm reader, e.g.
32. "No ___!"
37. "I told you so!"
38. A form of public support or approval
41. Ozone depleting chemical compound
43. New Mexico Indian
44. In-flight info, for short

45. Lubricates
47. Emollient
49. Mark of a ruler
53. Baltimore ballplayer
55. Formal or old-fashioned
58. A state that is controlled and protected by another.
61. Back in
63. Renter's paper
64. "___ Doubtfire"
65. Astrological ram
66. A very small object or creature
67. "I" problem
68. A twin crystal
69. Mushers' vehicles
70. Cheat

DOWN

1. C620-c565 b.c., Greek poet, born in Lesbos.
2. Consisting of, containing, or pertaining to more than one.
3. A descent made by abseiling; a rappel.
4. Follow, as a tip
5. Analyze, in a way
6. Sad; sorrowful; melancholy
7. Fencer's blade
8. Frees (of)
9. The aromatic seeds of a plant of

the parsley family
10. Makes right
11. Mean and stingy.
12. Dance bit
13. Cousin of calypso
56. Altar avowal
21. A large shrimp
22. ___ oil
25. Churchill's sign
26. "... ___ he drove out of sight"
29. Pesto base
30. Bachelor of Science in Engineering
29. Pesto base
30. Bachelor of Science in Engineering
33. Cutting tool
34. You may be sure; certainly.
36. Favorite
38. the yearly path the Sun follows on the celestial sphere
39. Cellular stuff
40. The basic monetary unit of Nigeria
41. Bill and ___
42. Cone maker
46. Reddish brown
48. Change or cause to change in form or nature.
50. A spice derived from the seed of the Myristica fragrans tree, primarily used to

add flavor to sweet and savory dishes
51. The ordained or authorized religious leaders within a faith community
52. A fragrant herb with a history of medicinal and ritual use, primarily known for its aromatic leaves and small blue flowers
54. Baggy
56. Beat (out)
57. Rapunzel feature
59. "Desire Under the ___"
60. To furnish with a ceiling.
61. Battering device
62. Victorian, for one



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WATER WISE GARDENING

BY MISTI WARNER-ANDERSEN



Here in the high desert, it can feel like a challenge to garden without sending your water bill through the roof. But with a little thought and planning, you can create a lush, thriving landscape while being both environmentally responsible and budget conscious.

Here are some essential tips to help you garden smarter - and be more water wise.

Before You Plant

Take time to really look at your garden space. Notice where the shade falls and which areas get full sun. Plants that need more water will thrive in shadier spots that get relief from the intense afternoon sun, reducing the amount of water they need. Also, group plants together based on their watering needs—this is known as hydrozoning—so you can tailor your irrigation accordingly.

Your next step is to amend your soil. Soil in northern Arizona tends to lack organic matter, which means it doesn't retain water well. By adding compost or other organic materials, you'll improve your soil's ability to hold moisture, which means you can water less frequently and still have happy plants.

Planting for Success

Selecting native and drought-tolerant plants means less water and less maintenance. These plants are adapted to thrive in our environment and can still provide beauty, texture, and color to your garden.

Whatever you choose to plant, however, remember that mulch is your friend. A good 6-to-8 inch layer of organic mulch around your plants can dramatically reduce evaporation (by as much as 75%) and decrease water usage by as much as 25%! Mulch also helps block thirsty weeds and keeps the soil cooler. Plus, mulch looks great and contributes to soil health over time.

Finally, covering bare soil with mulch on slopes helps prevent water waste and erosion.

Irrigate Wisely

Watering smart is one of the most important ways to reduce waste and ensure your plants thrive. Consider installing drip irrigation or soaker hoses, which deliver water directly to the root zone - where it's needed most - with up to 90% efficiency. Traditional sprinklers and hand watering only are about 40% efficient due to evaporation and runoff.

Applying water slowly allows soil to absorb it more effectively. Remember: clay soils soak in water at only 0.2 to 0.4 inches per hour, so if you water too fast, most of it will simply run off.

Investing in a "smart" irrigation controller that adjusts for rain and allows for different watering zones can make a big difference in both plant health and your water bill. Also, don't forget to fix leaky faucets - even a small leak can waste up to 20 gallons of water a day!

Here are some more ways to make every drop count:

- Redirect rain gutters into your landscape so that precious rainwater nourishes your plants instead of running off.
- Install rain barrels - just half an inch of rain on a 1,000 square foot roof can yield 300 gallons of free water.
- Use a broom or battery-powered blower instead of hosing off patios and sidewalks.
- Set your lawn mower blades a notch higher (for cool-season grasses like bluegrass or fescue). Taller grass shades the soil, reduces evaporation, and encourages deeper roots.

Waterwise gardening isn't just good for your wallet - it's essential for our high desert environment. By watering efficiently, choosing the right plants, and making the most of every drop, you can enjoy a vibrant, healthy garden while being a responsible steward of this precious resource.

Happy Gardening, Misti Warner-Andersen

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A STROKE IN PINEWOOD CHANGED MY LIFE!

BY MAUREEN HARROP

My partner bought this Pinewood cabin in the late 1980s. I retired in 2010. After renovating it that year, we'd planned to enjoy every summer in Pinewood and spend our days on our deck in the cool pines, hiking, traveling in our RV, socializing with our friends in Pinewood and Flagstaff, away from the excessive heat in Tempe. The older we get, the more the intense heat bothers us.

Pinewood offers the summer outdoor activities unavailable in the Phoenix area due to the intense heat, as well as a 6-month respite from the ever-increasing traffic; and much more! It allows us to slow down and enjoy the 'simple life!' Farmers in the area sell their delicious fruit, vegetables, and bakery items at the weekly Pinewood Farmers' Markets.

We enjoyed everything Pinewood had to offer during our first five summers. Then, on September 17, 2015, our 'simple life' changed overnight when I experienced an ischemic (blood clot) stroke. I was alone in our cabin when it occurred. I immediately became paralyzed on the left side of my body. I couldn't lift myself up and walk; so, I began a trek from the bedroom to the living room on my back, pushing myself with my right leg, into the living room to retrieve the phone to call "911."

The next thing I recall was the Pinewood Fire Department knocking on the door and asking, "Is the door unlocked?" Had it not been, they would've had to take the door off the hinges and remove it, costing life-saving time, and damage to the cabin.

Later, they suggested we obtain a Lock Box from them (a simple rectangular plastic box that houses your front door key. It's safe because they are the only ones who have the master key to unlock the

box and retrieve your house key. They install it on a wall near the front door for easy access. (They're available at any city's fire department. Some charge a fee, others don't.)

A flurry of activity ensued and before I knew it, I was riding in their ambulance to the Flagstaff Medical Center with a Fire Department paramedic named Chris who had a perfect response to my question of: "Will I make it, Chris?"

"You did all the right things, Maureen."

I later learned the stroke was caused by undiagnosed oxygen deficiency and uncontrolled hypertension.

After a winter/spring of intense therapy in Phoenix, armed with an oxygen machine and a much-improved blood pressure medication, we returned to Pinewood the following summer to enjoy the peace and quiet, the cool weather, our wonderful neighbors, and all the wonderful things Pinewood has to offer! We've enjoyed every summer since! What a great place to recuperate!

Therapy continues to rehabilitate my left side. My outdoor activity has diminished enormously. That saddens me, as well as the fact that I cannot help my wonderful partner/caregiver more than I do.

In summary, I will always have HOPE of a 100% recovery; and I'm grateful for many things, primarily... living in Pinewood every summer!

In 2019, I created www.StrokeRecoverySolutions.com, an informational website for stroke survivors, caregivers, families, and friends—new subscribers welcome!



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SUDOKU

Created by Paul Mason • Solution Page 22B

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	4		6					
	5	2			1			
			8	5				1
							2	7
		7		3				
9	8	1	5					6
6								9

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Sudoku is a relaxing logic game. No math, no rushing. Just a little patience and a pencil. Perfect for the porch or your favorite chair.

What You're Looking At:

The puzzle is made up of 81 squares, and grouped into nine 3-by-3 boxes.

Your goal is to fill in each square with a number from 1 to 9, following one simple rule: Each row, each column, and each 3-by-3 box must contain the numbers 1 through 9. No repeats. Some numbers are already filled in. Your job is to figure out the rest.

How to Play:

1. Start with the easy ones. Look for rows, columns, or boxes that already have lots of numbers. If a group is only missing one number, it should be easy to spot what's left.
2. Use process of elimination. If a number already appears in a row or box, you know it cannot go there again. Cross off the possibilities in your mind or make a note.
3. Pencil in your guesses. Lightly write down the numbers that might work in a square. This helps you reveal patterns later.
4. Watch for the "only spot it can go." Sometimes, a number can only go in one square, even if other numbers also fit there. That's called a hidden single. It feels good when you find one.
5. Keep going, one step at a time. Every number you add makes it easier to find the next. Take your time and enjoy the challenge.

Double-check your work. If everything checks out, give yourself a quiet little fist pump. You just solved a Sudoku puzzle, and made it look easy.

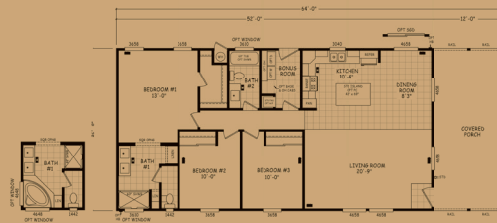


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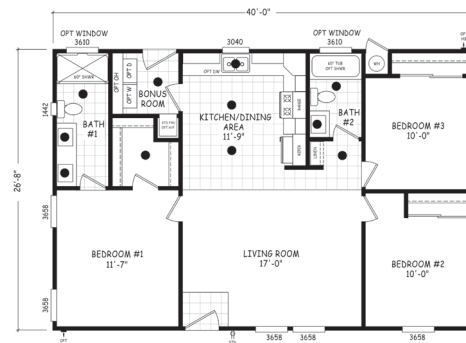


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CACOETHES

BY TESS LANGLEY

Because sometimes, common sense gets overruled by “hold my beer.”

It always starts out innocent. You’re just looking at the ladder.

Next thing you know, you’re on the very top rung, gripping a staple gun, a tangled string of lights, and your neighbor’s voice calling, “You’re good, keep going!”

Why? Because you had a cacoethes.

An irresistible urge to do something wildly inadvisable, carried out with complete confidence and very little planning.

Pronounced ka-ko-EE-theez, the word comes from Greek and means “bad habit” or “wicked desire.” It’s not exactly evil, just poorly timed.

It’s that little spark that says “I’ve got this” when you absolutely do not.

And around here, cacoethes shows up more than we’d like to admit.

It’s the Flatlander who thinks their two-wheel drive sedan will make it up Crestline in a snowstorm, wearing flip-flops and trusting bald tires to do the work.



It’s the new Mundsie who fed one raccoon “because their so cute,” and now has five families living on the porch like they own the place.

It’s the reason your neighbor once tried to tow a trailer with a golf cart “just for a minute.”

The thing about cacoethes is that it feels like a good idea at the time.

It’s bold. It’s fast. It’s a split-second handshake between confidence and chaos.

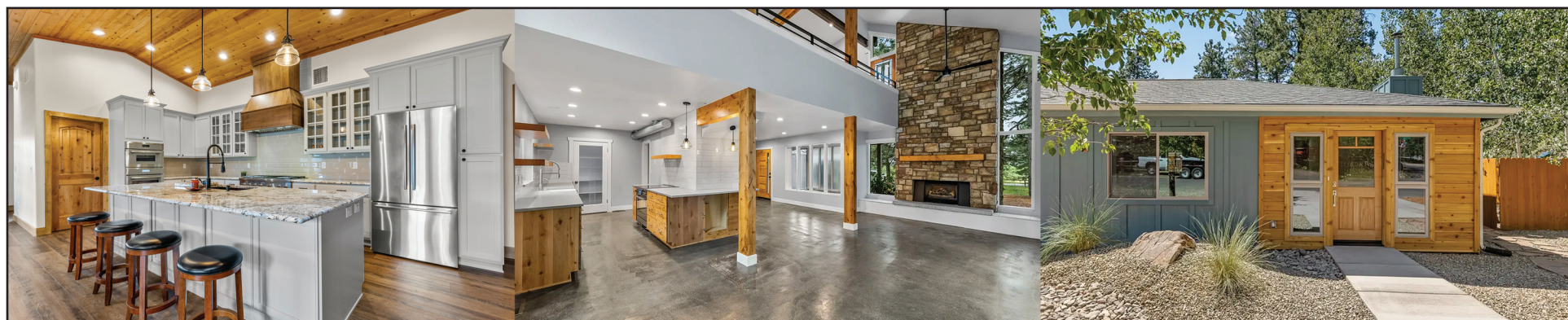
Sure, it leads to stories. Sometimes it leads to bandages. And occasionally, it ends with someone saying, “Well, we’re definitely not telling your wife about this.”

But it’s part of life. And it’s part of being human.

So the next time you find yourself knee-deep in a questionable project involving duct tape, a folding chair, and a YouTube tutorial, just pause and say, “Ah, cacoethes.”

Because deep down, you knew better.

And deep down, you were going to do it anyway.



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SUDOKU

Solutions

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WORD SEARCH

Solutions

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Because Google doesn't always know the mountain way.

Spot an error or missing contact? Let us know: Hello@ThePinewoodNews.com.

Dark Sky Ordinance & Lighting Inspections

Coconino County offers Support for Keeping Our Sky's Dark

Lighting Inspection

Request an inspection of your exterior lighting. It includes a written report. Fees are \$55/hour plus mileage, two-hour minimum. Email Mark for details at mstento@coconino.az.gov.

Code Violation Report

Notice illegal lighting? File a report here at www.coconino.az.gov and search for Code Violations and Enforcement.

Fixture Review

Not sure if a light is compliant? Send it in for review at mstento@coconino.az.gov.

Still Have Questions?

Email or call Mark Stento, Code Enforcement Compliance Manager, at (928) 679-8856 or mstento@coconino.az.gov

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Loose Dogs, Nuisance Complaints, or Dog Bites

Coconino County Animal Management (928) 679-4123

Rabies Concerns (Pets or Wildlife)

Coconino County Animal Management (928) 679-4123

Report sick or aggressive animals immediately—especially if foaming, staggering, or behaving unusually.

Found a Stray?

Do not approach if the animal appears aggressive. If safe, confine the animal and call Animal Management for pickup or next steps.

The Pinewood Fire Department has microchip scanners. You can bring the animal to the firehouse or call (928) 286-9885

High Country Humane (928) 526-0742

Note: Coconino County has leash laws. Dogs must be under control at all times—even in rural areas.

Injured or Dangerous Wildlife

Arizona Game & Fish (Flagstaff Region) (928) 774-5045

Weekends & after hours call 911

Don't feed wildlife. Keep trash secure. Report encounters with bears, mountain lions, or sick animals.

Loose Livestock

Department of Agriculture (press 1) (800) 294-0305

Environmental & Emergency Services

Illegal Dumping in Forests or Waterways

Environmental Quality Reporting Line (928) 679-8886

(press 1 to leave a message) Reports can be made anonymously.

Flooding Concerns

Coconino County Call Center: (928) 679-8525

Emergency Planning and Real-Time Updates

Coconino County Emergency Management (928) 679-8311

Email: emergencymanagement@coconino.az.gov

Fire-Related Concerns

Illegal Campfires on National Forest Land

Coconino National Forest Dispatch Center (928) 527-3552

Coconino County Sheriff's Non-Emergency Dispatch (928) 774-4523

(press option 1) Provide detailed location information, such as forest road numbers or GPS coordinates, when reporting.

Illegal Campfires (private property) during Fire Restrictions

Coconino County Sheriff's Non-Emergency Dispatch (928) 774-4523

(press option 1) Applicable to unincorporated areas of the county.

Fire Restrictions Information

www.coconino.az.gov/2595/Fire-Restriction-Information

Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs)

Reckless Driving, Trespassing, or Noise Complaints

Coconino County Sheriff's Non-Emergency Dispatch (928) 774-4523

(press option 1) to report OHVs off designated routes, speeding near homes, or damaging property.

Short-Term Rental Questions & Complaints

Loud Parties, Parking Issues, Trash or Other Nuisances

Coconino County Sheriff's Non-Emergency Dispatch (928) 774-4523

(press option 1) For immediate issues with noise, trespassing, blocked roads, or safety concerns.

Ongoing STR Violations or Registration Questions

Coconino County Short-Term Rentals Compliance Officer,

Tristan Dowse (928) 853-5340

Know Your Rights: Short-Term Rental owners are legally required to post contact information at the property and provide it to surrounding neighbors. This is so you can reach the owner or property manager directly if an issue comes up.

If you haven't received this information or don't see it posted on-site, the STR may not be registered. Call the county compliance officer to check registration status.

If the contact doesn't respond or if the property is causing repeated disturbances, exceeding occupancy limits, or appears unregistered, report the issue to the county or the sheriff's office.



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4TH 2025 OF JULY IN THE PARK

THANK YOU, MUNDS PARK *4th of July Volunteers!*

To everyone who gave their time this 4th of July, thank you.

While others were watching the parade, catching up with friends, or just soaking up the forest air, you were setting up barricades, guiding floats, keeping things moving, and lending a hand where it was needed. You stepped away from the fun to make sure the rest of us could enjoy it. That says a lot about who you are. And it means a lot to everyone here in the Park.

Your time, your energy, your care—it didn't go unnoticed.

A special thanks to Len Friedlund for organizing this year's parade. You made it feel effortless, but we know how much work went on behind the scenes to make it all come together. It was a gift to the whole community.

And if you're reading this thinking, "Maybe next year I could help," that's all we ask. Just consider it. One shift. One small way to give back. You don't have to run the show. You don't have to give up your whole weekend. Just chip in when and where you can.

That's how we keep the Park strong. One small "yes" at a time.

Len Friedlund,
Parade organizer
ExtraoDinaire!



This is a small sample of our volunteers, I wish we could have captured them all!

Parade Photos by Genna Caviness and Lou Blazquez