
From: Forest Lakes News [mailto:flnews@cox.net]

Sent: Tuesday, Mar 6, 2018 11:19 AM USMST

Subject: FL Happenings for March 2018

We are Marching along in 2018 and winter is fading. Spring is almost in the air! Will we get more snow? Will the daffodils peek out from the dirt? When will the first robin of spring appear? Will I remember that the rest of the country sets their clocks ahead on March 11th? Will I notice the Equinox on the 20th? Will I wear, eat, and drink green on St. Patrick's Day? Will I remember that Easter is on April 1st but I need to know that in March?

A few words about snow: the last storm didn't bring the amount that was predicted. We did get the high winds and some drifts, but a disappointment in the snow levels. The near record-low precipitation sets up the state for what could be a ferocious fire season. At the very bottom of the email, I've included an article by Arizona State Forester Jeff Whitney on the topic.

Now, let's March along to see what is Happening in Forest Lakes.....

FOREST LAKES OWNERS ASSOCIATION NEWS

The Forest Lakes Owners Association Monthly Meetings for 2018 begin soon!

Saturday, April 21st 2 PM Community Center House, 1111 Merzville Rd

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend the first meeting of 2018. Staff from the Black Mesa Ranger District will be attending the meeting to talk about the following topics:

- #1. A couple of new proposals have been presented to them related to food service and a new form of water (lake) based services that would be held on forest property. Since these types of proposals are new to the district, they would like input to make sure they would be in the forest's, public's, and local businesses' best interest.
- #2. Information regarding the Green Waste Site.

Reminder: If you have not yet sent in your FLOA dues for 2018, please do so as soon as possible. You can find the Invoice with instructions on the www.floa.org website. On the Home Page, go to the left column under FLOA, click on "Membership Application". Dues are only \$30 for the calendar year. Thank you!

The www.floa.org website has lots of great information on Forest Lakes. Take advantage of all the information it has to offer. You can get links to many of the other organizations in our community, too. Check it out!

Contact Wayne Rothwell, President, at gthrower@frontiernet.net or 928-587-8634 regarding any FLOA business

FOREST LAKES FIRE DISTRICT NEWS

The Forest Lakes Fire District leadership team (Board and Chief) puts significant effort into a Five-Year Strategic Plan Update every year. The plan is intended for both the leadership team and the community in general. It provides a complete description of our district operations and is published in the spirit of openness and transparency. It addresses the fire district's projected expenditures and revenues for the next five fiscal year periods. Our first Five-Year Plan was published December 27, 2010. The most recent plan and a one-page summary were published in

February, and are available for download at <http://www.flfdaz.com/budget--5-year-plan.html>

From the Auxiliary: The Forest Lakes Fire District Auxiliary will resume their monthly meetings on Saturday March 17th at 9 a.m., at the Fire Station.

The **FLFD Board of Directors** meeting will also be on Saturday, March 17th at 10 AM. The meeting is open to the public.

Forest Lakes Community Church has published their services, meeting and events dates and all the information you need to be a part of their community. You will find a link to their information on the www.floa.org website Home Page, left column under COMMUNITY and click on "Community Church".

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Bugle's is open as of March 1st. Their days and hours of operation are Wednesday through Sunday, 8 AM to 8 PM; closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Our Facebook page, "Forest Lakes Bulletin Board" continues to grow in users. You need to ask for Approval to be on the page; it is a closed group specifically for Forest Lakes residents to use for selling items, lost and found, questions, comments relating to Forest Lakes, etc. Just a reminder to read the rules of what is appropriate to post.

Another Facebook page to follow is one for the Fire District called "Forest Lakes Fire District, AZ". It is an open page that you can do a "like" on and get the feed directly to your Wall. It regularly reports weather and fire incident reports, and updates on the new fire station.

OBITUARY

Our sympathies go out to the family of **Mary Ann Pillow, April 27, 1943 - February 1, 2018**

MaryAnn Pillow, age 74, of Tempe, Arizona passed away on Thursday February 1, 2018. Mary was born April 27, 1943 in Honduras. She and her late husband, Kenneth, were long time residents of Forest Lakes.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, February 7th at Resthaven / Carr-Tenney Mortuary & Memorial Gardens in Tempe. Following is a tribute that was written by MaryAnn's daughter.



In Loving Memory

MaryAnn Pillow was a loving wife and mother of three children; 2 sons and 1 daughter. She had a wonderful passion for gardening. She truly had a green thumb! She loved having her hands in the soil nurturing her flowers and vegetables, and gathering up the Chickens and their eggs. When she wasn't in the yard gardening, she was in her kitchen cooking. She knew her way around a kitchen! She could throw together anything and make it taste amazing! Her tamales, her rice, beans, sauces all just mouth watering delicious. She loved cooking. She loved feeding anyone and everyone. If you came over you were going to get a plate full of food! She was warm hearted and generous. It gave her great joy sharing with her neighbors and friends.
We carry her in our hearts.

Always remembered, Always missed.

This article was published in the Arizona Daily Sun in Flagstaff and written by EMERY COWAN Sun Staff Reporter on Feb 23, 2018
Fierce fire season feared for Flagstaff, statewide
Presentation by Arizona State Forester Jeff Whitney

A fall and winter that have seen near record-low precipitation is setting up the state for what could be a ferocious fire season, state officials said on Thursday.

In a presentation in Phoenix, Arizona State Forester Jeff Whitney said conditions now are even more concerning than they were in the months leading up to some of the state's biggest blazes: the 2002 Rodeo-Chediski Fire, the 2005 Cave Creek Complex and the 2011 Wallow Fire.

That applies to forests above the Mogollon Rim as well. The amount of winter precipitation seen on the Kaibab National Forest, just west of Flagstaff, is on par with 1996, 2000 and 2006, which were some of the worst fire years for the Kaibab and the state. This winter is the Kaibab's second driest in the past 25 years with snowpack 80 percent to 85 percent below average, according to Forest Fuels Specialist Drew Leindecker.

Ponderosa pine forests, chaparral and pinyon-juniper woodlands are all stressed due to drought, while finer fuels like grasses that regrew and greened up during the summer monsoon have dried out as well, Whitney said.

This year, there isn't any one part of the state that poses a bigger wildfire danger than the other, Whitney said.

"This year every fuelbed at every elevation in the state is my biggest concern," he said.

Most of the state is in moderate or severe drought and the climactic outlook for the next three months is "quite alarming," Whitney said.

Above the Mogollon Rim, fire managers got a taste of what fire conditions are looking like in the state's higher elevations with the Gate 13 Fire that burned 1,290 acres at Camp Navajo west of Flagstaff in early February.

"We should not see that kind of active fire spread in February at that elevation -- that just speaks to how dry it is and how receptive fuels are," said Art Gonzales, fire staff officer on the Kaibab.

Models the Forest Service usually uses to predict fire behavior didn't work on that incident because this year is so different from past Februaries, Gonzales said.

"Most of the time those places are under snow," he said.

Even with the dismal winter moisture levels, northern Arizona could be spared an intense wildfire season if the area receives heavy spring moisture, Gonzales said.

But in case that doesn't happen, the forest is looking at ramping up public communication about wildfire prevention and implementing fire restrictions earlier in the season, Gonzales said.

In anticipation of an especially challenging fire year, Gov. Doug Ducey has requested a doubling in state funding dedicated to fire prevention, from \$1 million to \$2 million. That includes funds to remove hazardous vegetation and more.

In case you are interested, today is National Frozen Food Day. I think I'll go raid the freezer and see what we can have for lunch!

Judy Nelson, Editor

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