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## Williams-Grand Canyon Chamber of Commerce August Business Beat...

### Featured in this issue:

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**Letter from Board Chair**  
**News from Arizona Office of Tourism**

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**Advertising Opportunities**  
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Dear Members,

As many of you may already know by now, after 30 days as the CEO-President of our chamber, Karen Greenspoon, has resigned. This has created new challenges for the board and the staff but we are ready to accept those challenges and move forward.

Rest assured that the Chamber is alive and well and will continue to represent the interests of its members with enthusiasm and integrity. Organizations are only as strong as its components. Our Board is strong, our staff is strong and our membership is strong. We will continue on with our Plan of Work and our budget planning for the new fiscal year. Any plans as to how to proceed with filling the position of CEO/President have not yet been discussed, but are first and foremost in our minds.

I have come to realize what a truly extraordinary board we have and am so appreciative of their input and support. Members, you have elected a board that questions things, then gets involved and then does the work. Thank you for voting for them and for trusting them to represent you.

The past few months our excellent staff has proven to us that they can handle the daily workings of the chamber office and so much more. It is with a grateful heart that I acknowledge Sue, Jan and Pimi. Thank you!

Please know that I am available and willing to respond to your concerns to the best of my ability.

Respectfully,

Connie Hiemenz, Chair  
[chiemenz@williamsnews.com](mailto:chiemenz@williamsnews.com)  
928-600-0221



Arizona Office of Tourism  
[www.azot.com](http://www.azot.com)

#### AOT NEWS....

#### New Update to AOT's Research Web site!

The following items have been updated in the Research and Statistics section of AOT's business-to-business Web site [www.azot.gov](http://www.azot.gov)

- ◆ 2009 Governor's Conference on Tourism Research Roundup Presentation
- ◆ Arizona Travel Impacts Report 1998-2008
- ◆ 2008 Domestic Visitor Profile Business vs. Leisure
- ◆ 2008 Domestic Visitor Profile—

#### Resident vs. Non-Resident

- ◆ 2008 Overseas Visitor Profile
- ◆ Airport Passenger Volume April 2009
- ◆ Top Natural Attractions 2008
- ◆ Top Private Attractions 2008

For additional information or questions, please contact Melissa Elkins, Research Manager at 602.364.3716 or via email at [melkins@azot.gov](mailto:melkins@azot.gov)

#### Don't forget to keep posting your Summer Travel Deals!

**AOT, in partnership with the Arizona Hotel & Lodging Association and statewide industry partners, launched our NEW summer campaign this summer which will continue through to September 12th.** The campaign will showcase the amazing summer travel deals found throughout Arizona. If you want your travel deal promoted, this is your chance! Upload your travel deals and

packages to the Travel Deals section of [www.azot.gov](http://www.azot.gov)

**There is NO CHARGE to list a package on the Travel Deals section.** If you have questions about the process you may contact Marjorie Magnusson at 602.364.3695 or via email at [mmagnusson@azot.gov](mailto:mmagnusson@azot.gov)

#### AOT EVENTS...

#### Get the word Out to Travel Agents!

AOT is working with Recommend.com to promote the online travel agent certification program, AZAP. AOT is offering you an opportunity to get your information in front of thousands of agents through Recommend.com in the form of e-mails, feature stories and quick links at terrific discounts.

**If you are interested in learning more, please contact Jennifer Sutcliffe at [jsutcliffe@azot.gov](mailto:jsutcliffe@azot.gov) or 602.364.3693 or Kristy Swanson at [kswanson@azot.gov](mailto:kswanson@azot.gov) or 602.364.3696**

## Chamber of Commerce 2009 Board of Directors

### Chairman of the Board

Connie Hiemenz Williams-GC News

### Vice Chairman

Thad Johnson Solar-Terra, LLC

### Chairman Elect

Mike Pieterick Associate Member

### Treasurer

Mike Pieterick Associate Member

Ken Agee National Bank Arizona

Connie Freson Grand Canyon Map Co.

Carol Glassburn Glassburn Rentals

Thad Johnson Solar-Terra, LLC

Pamela LaPaglia Canyon View Realty

Judy Lollich Grand Canyon/Williams KOA

Sierra Miller Christmas Tree Gallery

Teresa Rodriguez Holiday Inn

Michael F. Vasquez Alternative Impressions

Doug Wells Williams-GC News

Kevin Young The Canyon Motel & RV Park

## Chamber of Commerce Staff

Open Position President/CEO, Tourism  
Director

Jan Shirley Executive Assistant

Pimi Bennett Senior Information Specialist,  
Membership Services & Sales

Virginia Docherty Information Specialist, Visitor Center

Linda Czech Information Specialist, Visitor Center

Sue Atkinson Main Street & Events Coordinator



Elephant Rocks Golf Course  
2200 Country Club Drive  
Williams, AZ  
928.635.4935

[www.elephant-rocks.com](http://www.elephant-rocks.com)

“The most picturesque course in Arizona”

## MEMBER TO MEMBER NEWS...

- ◇ **News from Rosa's Cantina...** Cruz nites are in full swing and will happen on August 1st, 15th and 29th. Cruz start at 4pm. Prizes and good family fun! **Contact Rosa's Cantina at 928.635.0708 for more information and see you at the CANTINA!**
- ◇ **News from the Williams Alliance...** The Williams Unified School Family Resource Center and the Coconino County Health Dept. are hosting a “Back to School” Fair on **Saturday, August 8th at the Bill Williams Senior Center from 9am to Noon**, and they are in need of volunteers to help fill backpacks that will be distributed to local kids. Filling of the backpacks will happen on Wednesday, August 5th **If you are interested in helping please contact Georgia Sheedy at 928.679.7481 or Sandy Roe at 928.635.4428 ext. 303**
- ◇ **Coconino Community College News...**for more information on all that the college has to offer. Check out [www.coconino.edu](http://www.coconino.edu) and remember to register Tuesday, August 18th from 10am to 2pm at the Coconino Community College/Williams Campus then join the Williams Chamber Ambassadors at mixer the same day from 5pm to 7pm.
- ◇ **City of Williams 2010 Census Complete Count Committee** is meeting monthly to prepare for the 2010 Census. Led by **Harry Holmes** and a few local citizens, we are seeking more volunteers to join us to help with raising awareness throughout our community about the importance of having all the residents participate. Each and every one counts! These numbers are used for helping fund projects in our area such as roads, the funds allocated to schools, health care and our voice in Congress. **It's Required: The U.S. Constitution (Article 1, Section 2) mandates a headcount of everyone residing in the United States. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 26th at City Hall at 1:30 pm. We invite you to join us and become involved! For more information check out the home page of the chamber at [www.williamschamber.com](http://www.williamschamber.com)**
- ◇ **Twisters 13th Annual Cool Country Cruise In** is around the corner and we would like to thank the following **businesses and chamber members** for their continued support in this yearly event and we ask that you visit their businesses as well: **Colors of the West, Farm Bureau Insurance, Grand Canyon Railway, Rod's Steak House.** Last year a record breaking 250 cars lined Historic Route 66 in Williams and we look forward to having even more! **Thanks to Day's Inn of Williams for co-sponsoring Friday night's band “Hack N The 57's”.** You still have time to register your car at [www.route66place.com](http://www.route66place.com)
- ◇ **6th Annual Miss Williams Route 66 Pageant will be held on Saturday, August 15th @ 10am** as part of the festivities along with **Cool Country Cruise In.** Thanks to the following **businesses and chamber members** for their support: **Presenting Sponsors and Hosts: The Christmas Tree Gallery & “The BackRoom” and Williams Realty. Major sponsors: Alternative Impressions, Canyon Embroidery, DDL Woodworks Plus, Inc., Grand Canyon Railway, Jim L. Winbourn Landscaping and Property Maintenance, Matt Ryan, District 3 Country Supervisor, Studio 9 Salon, and Williams Grand Canyon Chamber of Commerce.** Best wishes to the lovely young ladies competing for the coveted crown: **Vanessa Rivera, Crystal Heiser, Tiffany Trimble and Kassie Lynn Milner.**
- ◇ **Would you or your business like to host a Ambassador mixer or have a red ribbon cutting? Call Pimi at 928.635.0273 Ext. 203 for availability. Chamber members your business is our business!**

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

As you may have read in The Williams Grand Canyon News, **Bearizona** is looking to come to Williams! This is a proposed drive-through wildlife park, similar to the park located in Rapid City, South Dakota, which draws several hundred thousand people each year. This is a project which is essentially ready to go. The City of Williams has little to lose and much to gain, including extending the stay of visitors who come to our wonderful town. If all goes well, the project could break ground in the next few months, and open by May 2010. **The Williams Economic Development Committee recently sent a letter in full support of this project to the City Council.**

**Williams Focused Future II** has been meeting regularly to analyze the local economy and discuss the community's strengths and opportunities. On **Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>** FFII is proposing a day-long Future Economic Development Town Hall to gather input from residents, business, educational and religious leaders, City officials, civic groups, etc on future economic and community development goals. This is an opportunity for a broad mix of people to build a consensus on issues that impact the development of Williams. We'll send you more information as it becomes available.

## EVENT UPDATES

Well even though the kids are getting ready to return to school and it might feel that the summer is coming to an end, there are still so many fun and exciting things going on in Williams this month.

Rodeo events are still going strong at the Bob Dean Rodeo Grounds. **Farm Bureau Roping Aug. 8th and the Cowpunchers Rodeo finals Aug. 9th as well as Jack Fuller bringing his roping competitions to town Aug. 22nd & 23rd.**

We welcome classic car enthusiasts **Aug. 14th & 15th to the 13th Annual Cool Country Cruise-In.** Also held that weekend is our very own **6th Annual Miss Williams Route 66 Pageant Aug. 15th at 10am.** Some of Williams finest girls will be competing for the chance to represent our community throughout the year and at the Historic Route 66 pageant in Seligman as Miss Williams.

The great air shows in Valle continue with the **Thunder Over the Coconino at Valle airport Aug. 29th** Rides in antique and war bird air planes as well as a classic car and tractor show and pancake breakfast are all being planned.

Doing our part in the community to fight cancer, the **Williams Relay for Life takes place at Cureton Park Aug. 29th & 30th** to raise money to help find a cure.

Please feel free to contact us here at the Chamber or log onto [www.williamschamber.com](http://www.williamschamber.com) for information on any of these events.

## CHAMBER AMBASSADOR MIXER

Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, August 18th** and plan to join the Williams Chamber Ambassadors at the Coconino Community College/ Williams Campus, located at 636 S. 7th St., from 5pm to 7pm.

The 50/50 Benefit will go to the Coconino Community College/ Williams Campus.

Coconino Community College will also be hosting Registration Day at the College from 10 am to 2pm for more information see [www.coconino.edu/campuses/williams.html](http://www.coconino.edu/campuses/williams.html)

 Coconino Community College



### Williams-Forest Service Visitor Center (928) 635-4061



Visitor Center	%	Change
June 2008 12,517		
June 2009 13,315		6.4%

### Calls for Information

June 2008 708		
June 2009 840		18.64%

### Website Activity Analysis

#### Sessions Served

June 2009 7,286		
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#### Total Page View Hits Daily Average

June 2009 242		
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#### Inquires Mailed

June 2008 283		
June 2009 198		-30.0%

#### Information Mailed

June 2008 687		
June 2009 5,452		694%

### City of Williams Tax Collections

Sales Tax Only	%	Change
May 2008 299,158.28		
May 2009 277,624.75		-7%

#### BBB Tax Only

May 2008 49,983.84		
May 2009 53,582.04		7%

#### Sales Tax and BBB Tax

May 2008 349,142.12		
May 2009 331,206.79		-5%

#### Sales Tax and BBB Tax Year to Date:

May		-3%
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# Attention Chamber Members

We want your RECIPES for the NEW Taste of Williams Cookbook! Please email your favorites to [canyonviewrealty@gmail.com](mailto:canyonviewrealty@gmail.com) or to [jlollich@grandcanyonKOA.com](mailto:jlollich@grandcanyonKOA.com)

Recipes can also be dropped off at the chamber office or faxed to 928.635.1417








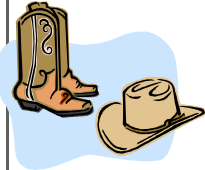

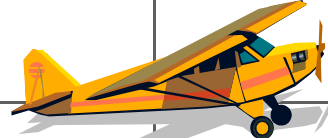
**Businesses:** Be a sponsor and have your business listed on the back cover for only \$50.00!

**Restaurants:** We want your recipe from your restaurant! The cookbooks will be available for sell also at the Williams and Forest Service Visitor Center.



For more information on how to get involved in this exciting cookbook call Sue at 928.635.0273 Ext. 210 **DEADLINE is Monday, August 10th**

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<p>1 Free Swim @ Williams Aquatic Center 1pm -4pm</p>
2	3	<p>4 Williams Clean &amp; Beautiful Meeting @ Superior Propane. Begins at Noon</p>	5	6	7	<p>8 Farm Bureau Roping - Bob Dean Rodeo Grounds 8am Back to School Resource Fair - Williams Senior Center 9am to Noon for more info. call 928.679.7481</p>
<p>9 Cowpunchers Ranch Rodeo Finals - Bob Dean Rodeo Grounds 1pm</p> 	<p>10 Main Street Board Meeting Noon @ City Hall</p> 	11	12	13	14	<p>15 Arizona Collectibles &amp; Fire Arms Gun Show - Saturday &amp; Sunday Bob Dean Rodeo Grounds 9am The 6th Annual Miss Williams Route 66 Pageant - 10am at the Christmas Tree Gallery &amp; Williams Realty</p>  
<p>16 Arizona Collectibles &amp; Fire Arms Gun Show - continues at the Bob Dean Rodeo Grounds 9am</p>	<p>17 School Starts... Welcome back!</p> 	<p>18 Ambassador Business Networking Mixer - Coconino Community College 5pm - 7pm, Benefits the Coconino Community College</p>	<p>19 Economic Development 9am @ City Hall</p>	20	21	<p>22 Rotary Western Auction at Miss Kitty's Steakhouse &amp; Saloon @ 5pm. Buy your tickets from Rotary members. Jack Fuller Roping Saturday &amp; Sunday - 8am Bob Dean Rodeo Grounds</p> 
<p>23 Jack Fuller Roping continues - 8am Bob Dean Rodeo Grounds</p>	24	25	26	27	28	<p>29 5th Thunder Over the Coconino Air Show - Valle Airport 8am. Family Fun! Call 928.635.5280 Williams Relay for Life - Cureton Park for more info. call Patty Williams 928.635.0194</p>  
30	31					