



Clarkdale's Old-Fashioned 4th of July

Mark your calendar for Monday, July 4th, for Clarkdale's Old-Fashioned 4th of July. The festivities kick off at 7 a.m. in the Clarkdale Town Park located at 1001 Main Street and will conclude at 11 a.m. Clarkdale will offer the traditional Independence Day activities throughout the morning. You'll want to make sure you get to the park early so that you don't miss any of the special activities. A schedule of events will be provided in next month's Small Talk issue.

The annual pancake breakfast hosted by the Clarkdale Police Department and Verde Valley Fire District will be 7am-9am. Cost for the breakfast is \$5/adults and \$4/12 years and under. Credit and debit cards will be accepted.

The annual Kids' Parade will start at 9 a.m. from the Clarkdale-Jerome School. Those interested in participating must register at the school beginning at 8:15 a.m. There is no pre-registration prior to the day of the event nor a cost to enter. The parade is limited to children age 16 years and under. Parade rules and registration forms are available online at: www.clarkdale.az.gov. Please review the parade rules so that you're not turned away at registration.

The Town of Clarkdale is seeking volunteers to assist with the event. There are various tasks and time commitments ranging from 1.5 hours up to 6.5 hours of service. The list of volunteer opportunities are available on the Town website.

Vending spaces are available on a first come, first served basis.

If you would like to rent a vendor space, would like to volunteer or find out more on Clarkdale's Old-Fashioned 4th of July contact Clarkdale Community Services at 928-639-2460, email dawn.norman@clarkdale.az.gov or visit the town website: www.clarkdale.az.gov.

NEWS AND NOTES FROM UTILITIES

Demand Strategy Level I Begins May 1st

Do not use water outdoors between the hours of 9am and 5pm. Watering days are coordinated with your address: even numbered addresses may irrigate on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, odd numbered addresses may irrigate on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. No irrigation is allowed on Monday. As you set your timers on your irrigation system, take the opportunity to check your irrigation system for leaks.

Trash Service Information

Due to the Memorial Day holiday on May 30th, trash will be delayed one day and will be picked up on Wednesday, June 1st. Please make sure your carts are put out Tuesday evening.

Brush Pick Up Service

As a courtesy service to Clarkdale trash customers, Patriot Disposal will pick up tree trimmings, brush clippings and leaves every Tuesday with your regular trash service. To receive this service, please call the Utilities office at 928-639-2450 by Monday at noon to be included in the following Tuesday pick up. There is a limit of 4 bags and 2 bundles, cut to 3 foot lengths, per week.

Yavapai County Free Slash Drop-off Program

This free drop-off program is being offered by Yavapai County to assist residents in developing necessary defensible space around their homes and other structures that could fuel fires. Brush, branches, leaves and yard trimmings, may be dropped off at the Camp Verde transfer station for free through June 11, 2016. All slash must be removed from plastic bags.



Roundabout Clarkdale

Clarkdale Kayak Company has launched! Explore the Verde River with a knowledgeable ACA certified guide. Float past ancient Sinagua Cliffside dwellings while travelling through a unique riparian habitat.

This stretch of the Verde is classified as a Class 1 river, appropriate for the novice or experienced paddler. Tours include paddling and boat control instruction if necessary.

Educational and Wine and Dine packages are available.

Book your trip online at clarkdalekayak.com, call (800) 478-4711 or stop in at the **Boat House Bar & Grill** (formerly Main Street Café) at 920 Main Street in Clarkdale.

Trip's duration, including shuttle time, is 3.5 hours. If you have never explored the portion of the Verde River in Clarkdale, take your first trip with guides who know the area best.



SHOP LOCAL – BENEFIT FROM THE KNOWLEDGE OF LOCALS

EXPENDITURE LIMITATION; PERMANENT BASE ADJUSTMENT

What is Permanent Base Adjustment - Proposition 434 and why is it on the ballot?

Clarkdale voters are being asked to consider a Permanent Base Adjustment option on the August 30, 2016 ballot. This option would adjust the base dollar amount used under the state formula to calculate the Town's expenditure limitation.

In 1979/80, the Arizona State Constitution imposed expenditure limitations on all cities and towns in Arizona based on their 1978 actual expenditures and population (with an allowance for inflation). For Clarkdale, this resulted in an expenditure base of \$255,616. At that time, the expenditure limitation allowed Clarkdale the financial flexibility to adequately serve the community's needs.

Like most cities and towns in the Verde Valley, Clarkdale has seen significant growth since 1978. When the state-imposed formula was originally developed, Clarkdale had a population of less than 1,200. Today, Clarkdale has 4,168 residents and is continuing to grow. The Town now provides many services it did not provide in 1979, such as a full time police department, water production, treatment & distribution, an expanded wastewater collection and treatment system, municipal court system, a public transportation system, new streets, sidewalks and trails, and many additional parks. As Clarkdale has grown, so too have revenues and operating costs. The Town's budget needs to grow in step with the community in order to maintain service levels and make improvements where desired.

As Arizona cities and towns began experiencing growth, it became clear that this state formula would leave Arizona's cities and towns with millions of dollars in revenue that they could not legally spend to provide service to their communities. Revenues were growing, budget demands were growing, but the state formula, set according to the economic climate of the late seventies, no longer reflected the revenue and expenditure needs of a rapidly growing Arizona. The State recognized that the law needed to provide options to accommodate these growing financial needs, and so the ability for voters to adopt one of four options was written into law.

That is why, through the Permanent Base Adjustment - Proposition 434, Clarkdale's voters are being asked to decide whether the Town can continue to budget according to current and predicted revenues and service demands. It simply allows the Town to spend the revenue it already collects on needed services and infrastructure projects.

Will the Permanent Base Adjustment - Proposition 434 increase my taxes?

When considering Permanent Base Adjustment - Proposition 434, a commonly asked question is "will my taxes increase?" The answer to that question is NO! A Permanent Base Adjustment will not affect taxes. If Proposition 434 passes, the only outcome is that it provides the Town of Clarkdale the ability to budget for and spend the revenues it already collects. The Permanent Base Adjustment option does not empower the Clarkdale Town Council to create new and additional taxes, nor does it enable the Town to spend beyond the revenues it receives.

Why is a \$3 million dollar increase to the expenditure base being asked for – isn't Clarkdale's annual average budget about \$20 million?

Permanent Base Adjustment - Proposition 434 would permanently adjust Clarkdale's base budget amount under the 1979/1980 state formula from \$255,616 to \$3,255,616. This number is not the actual expenditure limitation, it is simply the starting point for calculating the Town's expenditure limitation using the state formula. \$3,255,616 as the base amount using the state formula, should allow the Town to meet annual budget needs considering changes in population, revenues, and inflation predicted to take place over the next decade.

If Clarkdale has adopted the Home Rule option in the past, why is the Permanent Base Adjustment being brought before voters now?

Approximately 87% of all Arizona cities and towns, including Clarkdale, operate under either a temporary or permanent alternative expenditure limitation. Every four years since 1980, Clarkdale voters have approved the temporary "Home Rule" Alternative Expenditure Limitation option. When compared to the "Home Rule" Alternative Expenditure Limitation, the Permanent Base Adjustment would save on administration and election costs every four years along with allowing the Town Council to address future budget needs with an expenditure base that is in line with current revenue, population and inflation trends. It allows the Town to spend the revenue it collects for programs it operates in a manner that adequately serves the needs of the community based on current financial conditions.

A "No" vote on Permanent Base Adjustment - Proposition 434 means....

A "No" vote will set the Town's expenditure base at the 1979/80 level. The Town currently budgets under the "Home Rule" option, as last approved by Clarkdale's voters in 2014. If the Permanent Base Adjustment - Proposition 434 is rejected, Home Rule would remain in effect until 2018, when another expenditure alternative would have to be taken to the voters or Clarkdale's expenditure limitations would need to fall under 1979/1980 base expenditure limitation. This would represent a reduction of approximately 92% of the Town's total budget capacity and would result in significant cutbacks in Town services, programs and capital projects.

A "Yes" vote on Permanent Base Adjustment - Proposition 434 means.....

A "Yes" vote on Permanent Base Adjustment - Proposition 434 will permanently adjust the Town's base expenditure amount (under the 1979/80 state formula) and allow the Clarkdale Town Council to set Town budgets based upon current financial conditions and service needs. It will not raise taxes. It simply allows the Town to spend the revenue it collects on needed services and infrastructure projects such as General Government Services, Library, Community Development, Municipal Court, Public Safety, Parks & Recreation, Public Works, Capital Projects, Street Maintenance, Sanitation, Wastewater collection & treatment and Water production, treatment & distribution.

CLARKDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

CHSM was recently notified by the group, Yavapai Questers #1506, located in Prescott, that we will be receiving a check in the amount of \$1000 for the restoration of an original bench from the Clarkdale Depot. Questers was founded by Jessie Elizabeth Bardens in 1944 to "encourage the preservation, restoration and conservation of historic buildings, sites and antiquities." Arizona Questers was established in 1975 and has 29 chapters throughout the state. The restoration work will be completed by Lonnie Anderson of Jerome. We shout out a big THANK YOU to Yavapai Questers #1506.

What was your favorite home at the recent Clarkdale Historic Building and Home Tour? We hope you didn't miss it, because it will be one year until we do it again. We had a great turnout and offered a survey to those who attended. Especially mentioned on the survey were the home hosts this year. Each of them worked hard to tell the stories of the people who once lived in these company homes and some even with old photographs! Their personal stories and anecdotes will long be remembered. Thank you for a great job!