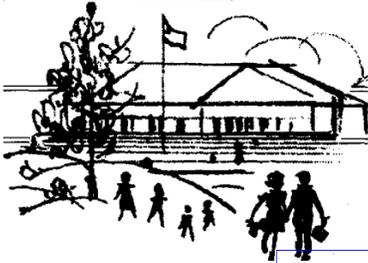




Graham County School News



Graham County School Superintendent

Donna M. McGaughey

Volume 11, Issue 1

"Providing Quality Service and Support to Graham County Schools"

Please visit our website
www.graham.az.gov

Superintendent's Message

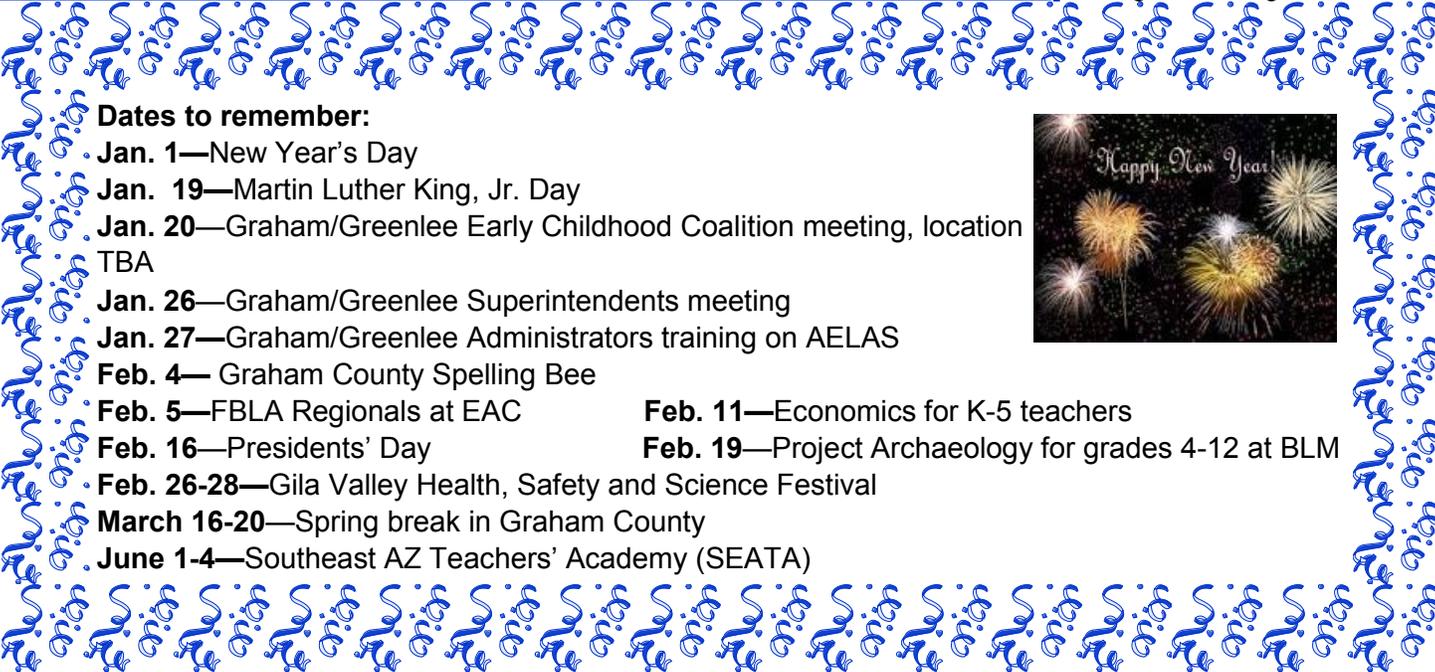
Happy New Year! If you are like me, and millions of other people, you make resolutions but you don't stick with them. We are human. Last year I did set some goals and because they were really doable, I did stick with them. One of them was as simple as starting every big project a few weeks earlier than usual so I could keep the stress levels down. This included everything from SEATA to cleaning my house before Thanksgiving! Here are some resolutions that perhaps all of us can live with! 1) Eat more high quality dark chocolate-it's loaded with antioxidants. 2) Listen to more of your favorite type of music. Music boosts spirits and helps reduce depression. 3) Identify the things that make you stressed during the day and take action. Create a list of things that are in your control and take small steps to change them. 4) Keep a journal to jot down anything that comes to mind, like recipes, memories, ideas. 5) Listen more in conversations. 6) Give someone a compliment once a day, but really mean it. Visit simpletruth.com for 95 more ideas!

Contact us:

Donna McGaughey
 Superintendent
 921 Thatcher Blvd.
 Safford, AZ 85546
 928-428-2880
 Fax: 928-428-8824
dmcgaughey@graham.az.gov
 Jill Davis, Chief Deputy
jdavis@graham.az.gov
 Polly Merriman, Deputy
pmerriman@graham.az.gov
 Paulette LeBlanc, Education
 Service Agency Coordinator
pleblanc@aznex.net
 Online Registration:
www.graham.az.gov

Dates to remember:

- **Jan. 1**—New Year's Day
- **Jan. 19**—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- **Jan. 20**—Graham/Greenlee Early Childhood Coalition meeting, location TBA
- **Jan. 26**—Graham/Greenlee Superintendents meeting
- **Jan. 27**—Graham/Greenlee Administrators training on AELAS
- **Feb. 4**—Graham County Spelling Bee
- **Feb. 5**—FBLA Regionals at EAC
- **Feb. 11**—Economics for K-5 teachers
- **Feb. 16**—Presidents' Day
- **Feb. 19**—Project Archaeology for grades 4-12 at BLM
- **Feb. 26-28**—Gila Valley Health, Safety and Science Festival
- **March 16-20**—Spring break in Graham County
- **June 1-4**—Southeast AZ Teachers' Academy (SEATA)





It's Time to Plan for The 2015 Spelling Bee!



Timeline

- Graham County schools should submit their winners to the County School Office by January 28, 2015.
- The Graham County Spelling Bee will be held Wednesday February 4, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Graham County General Services Building.
- The winner of the Graham County Spelling Bee will compete at the Arizona Spelling Bee on Saturday March 21, 2015 at the Eight/Arizona PBS Studios.
- The Arizona winner will advance to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in late May 2015.

To learn more about the Arizona Spelling Bee, please visit
<http://azedfoundation.org/programs/arizona-spelling-bee/>

Commonly misspelled words

absence * accommodate * affect * advise * auxiliary * beneficial * belief * biscuit * chief * cemetery * chose * commitment * colonel * conscious * conscience * conscientious * develop * definitely * effect * eighth * embarrass * especially * exaggerate * February * foreign * forty * fourth * gauge * guarantee * height * hygiene * ignorance * idiosyncrasy * indicted * interrupt * irrelevant * leisure * lieutenant * license * loose/lose * maintenance * minuscule * miscellaneous * mischievous * neutron * ninth * nuisance * occurrence * orchestra * peaceable * peculiar * perseverance * potato * potatoes * psychology * receipt * reminiscence * reservoir * rheumatism * sacrifice * scenery * secede * secretary * seize * sergeant * siege * souvenir * specifically * spontaneous * supersede * suspicious * thorough * though * through * tournament * twelfth * usually * vacuum * whether * weather * wholly * withdrawal * woman * women * worthwhile * yacht

KINDERGARTEN TRANSITION FOR ALL CHILDREN SUMMIT

Road to Transition

This summit will provide opportunity for Early Childhood Quality Improvement Practices (ECQUIP) Teams to:

- Learn the current research regarding kindergarten transition.
- Hear from a local community that has been successful with implementing kindergarten transition.
- Design effective strategies and implementation plan with your ECQUIP team.

Date: January 21, 2015

Location: Desert Willow Conference Center
4340 E. Cotton Center Blvd. Phoenix, AZ 85040

9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Register at:

[http://www.ade.az.gov/onlineregistration/SelectEvent.asp?viewall="yes"&GroupID=31](http://www.ade.az.gov/onlineregistration/SelectEvent.asp?viewall=)

(copy this URL and paste into your browser, or visit ADE's website at www.azed.gov and click on the event calendar on the lower right-hand side of the page. Open the January 2015 calendar and click on January 21 to see the Kindergarten Transition Summit link.)

“During this period behavior is shaped and attitudes are formed that will influence children throughout their education.”

“...One step in the right direction is collaboration between preschool and elementary school educators.”

“...have parents understand what experiences can help their child have a successful transition.”

Cost

\$52 per person

Recommended ECQUIP Team Members

- ⇒ Head Start
- ⇒ Community Childcare
 - ⇒ Families
 - ⇒ Business Partners
 - ⇒ First Things First Staff
 - ⇒ Title I Preschool
- ⇒ Kindergarten through 3rd Grade Teachers
- ⇒ Local Childcare Partners



Helping Young Kids Beat the Holiday Blues

Submitted by Paulette LeBlanc

First Things First Community Outreach Coordinator

The holidays are crowded with activity and excitement, which can all be fun for young children, but may also have some unintended consequences. Young children can experience a feeling of let down when, suddenly, all of the seasonal hoopla ends.

First Things First offers the following tips – compiled from various online resources – families can use to help kids navigate the post-holidays blues:

Follow routines. As much as possible, keep morning rituals, naps, bedtimes and meal schedules as consistent as possible. They give kids a sense of security and confidence.

Let kids be kids. It's ok to feel let down after the holidays. Think of this time from your child's point of view. Distract them with things to do or play with so they can enjoy themselves.

Listen to your child's cues. Changes in eating habits, difficulty sleeping, impulsiveness, withdrawal and tantrums can all be signs that your child is experiencing feelings that they find difficult to express. Talk with your child in a supportive way and help them find ways to work through those emotions.

Be available. Make time for one-on-one activities with your child – reading together, playing with new toys, craft projects, volunteering or exercise. These are ways for your child to feel connected to you as the new year moves along.

Look back – and forward. Reliving holiday memories and identifying exciting things happening in the next few months – a birthday, a family trip, etc. – are ways to help your child put the holidays in to context.

Even adults often experience a let down in January. By taking time out to check in with our kids (and ourselves in the process), we can keep the holiday blues at bay and make the winter months a wonderland for everyone.

Save the Date!

Graham-Greenlee Early Childhood Coalition Meeting

Start Early. Finish Strong.

Tuesday January 20, 2015

4:00 p.m.—location TBA

Topic: Picture Books with JoAnn Morales

Please bring a fiction and non-fiction picture book to share.

THAT PESKY SOCIAL STUDIES STRAND 5:

Making Economics Fun for K-5 Kids!

A Professional Development Workshop For Teachers

Eastern Arizona College, Thatcher

Wednesday, February 11, 2015

1:00– 4:30 p.m.

What? We're *really* supposed to teach *economics* to K-5 kids? Yes!

The Arizona State Curriculum Standards require it. It *can* be done. It can be *fun*, it can be integrated into existing subjects, and correlated to Arizona College and Career Readiness Standards too!

Join us for a half-day workshop to learn how to weave Social Studies Strand 5 into ***children's literature***. You'll get solid content and grade appropriate activities you can replicate in your classroom. They are fun to teach, and the content will stick with the kids. Economics won't be scary anymore... even if you never had it in college.

For K-5 Teachers in Graham & Greenlee Counties

We will work with several beautifully illustrated children's books, and send each attending teacher home with a copy of one. We'll find many of the required K-5 standards hidden in plain sight, and we'll show how the texts and lessons align with the AZ-CCRS standards for reading comprehension, sequencing, counting, coinage and more.

If you've attended these workshops... come again; we'll be using all new books and materials!

Participants will receive:

- Curriculum materials
- A certificate for 3.5 hours of professional development
- A copy of one of the books used in the workshop
- Lunch!

THERE IS NO FEE, BUT YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER:



PROJECT
ARCHAEOLOGY

Discover the past-shape the future

SAVE THE DATE!!!!!!

Thursday, February 19th

4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Bureau of Land Management

711 14th Ave, Safford

Dan McGrew, BLM Archaeologist, and Paulette LeBlanc, Graham and Greenlee Staff Development Consultant, will offer an abbreviated version of Project Archaeology, a program which supports your Social Studies Curriculum through the investigation of cultures via shelter.

Participants will participate in activities that can be directly transferred to your daily curriculum. All support State Standards in ELA, Math, Social Studies and Science.

This training is appropriate for teachers of Social Studies in grades 4-12.

Snacks will be served to get you through the dinner hour. All attendees will receive a Project Archaeology Teacher's Guide and Notebook, as well as the online password to access many investigations. AND, IT'S ALL FREE!!!!

Mark your calendars. Registration information will be coming soon!

Free Distance Learning Programs Available from the Phoenix Zoo

Thanks to generous funding from APS Foundation we are able to offer free distance learning programs that broadcast into your classroom. **Phoenix Zoo Distance Learning** broadcasts include live animals, engaging and inquiry-based activities that are designed to complement classroom Academic Standards. The only technology you need to receive a program from us is internet access, a projector and computer, and speakers for sound. We also do have limited funds to help with renting technology, as needed. For more information visit on our programs visit <http://phoenixzoo.org/camps-programs/outreach/>. For questions regarding the scholarships or to book a program call our Reservations Department at 602.914.4333.



Take Your Classroom on an Interactive Journey Through a Working Copper Mine

Did you miss our live Virtual Field Trip? No problem! Relive the live event NOW; at the Dig Into Mining: The Story of Copper field trip archive at

[http://www.digintomining.com/virtualfieldtrips?
utm_source=DiscoveryEducation&utm_medium=vftarchive_12.8.14_optin&ut
m_campaign=Freeport](http://www.digintomining.com/virtualfieldtrips?utm_source=DiscoveryEducation&utm_medium=vftarchive_12.8.14_optin&utm_campaign=Freeport)

Visit this website for a variety of family and educator resources that gives middle school students a real-world look into how the earth's resources shape the world geologically, societally and economically.



FREEPORT-McMoRAN





i New & Noteworthy

PBS is looking for American's Most Innovative Educators. Are you a tech-savvy, K-12 educator with a passion for using digital media and technology in the classroom? Apply now to the 2015 PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovators Program for a chance to receive one year of FREE PD plus an all-expense paid trip to Philly!

www.pbslearningmedia.org

Professional Development

Start the new year off right with PD from PBS TeacherLine! The winter term courses begin on 1/14/15

Digital Tools for Innovative Learning

Grades K-12 / 30 Hours

<http://www.pbs.org/teacherline/catalog/courses/TECH335/>

Promoting Digital Media Literacy Learning

Grades K-12 / 30 Hours

<http://www.pbs.org/teacherline/catalog/courses/INST125/>

Digital Resources

Get to know the code-savvy scientists, imaginative thinkers, and everyday people impacting the world through computer science.

The Art of Creative Coding

Grades 9-12 / Video / Technology + Art

Find out how artists are using the language of computer code to express themselves creatively.

FoldIt: A Protein Puzzle Game

Grades 6-12 / Video / Science + Gaming

See how ordinary people are advancing scientific research by playing a computer game about protein folding.

Programming a Robot

Grades 3-5 / Video / Problem Solving + Technology

See how the CyberSquad uses a series of simple steps to program a robot and save the day.

For more computer science resources visit www.pbslearningmedia.org

Productivity Tools for Teachers

The Lesson Builder, Quiz Maker, and Storyboard tools make it easy to personalize learning.

New: PBSstudents.org

K-12 students now have a dedicated place to access trusted content + homework support.

Featuring Trusted Educational Media Producers—check them out!



Pbslearningmedia.org



SAFFORD CITY
GRAHAM COUNTY
LIBRARY



808 S. Seventh Ave.
Safford, AZ 85546
(928) 432-4165

The Safford City / Graham County Library offers services beyond checking out books. The Graham County School Superintendent has partnered with the library to offer homework help for students from kindergarten through college. **It's free to Graham County students.** Visit the library's homepage at www.cityofsafford.us and click on the *Homework Help* icon. This will lead you to the icon for **Tutor.com**. "Check out" this free tool and get help on any subject.

Citizens looking for help with finding a job should take advantage of the services offered by Job Skills Instructor, Kevin Hansen. Mr. Hansen offers help in finding jobs and preparing resumes. Additionally, he will help coach job seekers as they practice their interview skills. This is a great service!

The library has partnered with *First Things First* to enhance literacy skills in our youngest population. In addition to story time, parents can bring their children to the Brain Box sessions and other preschool activities scheduled throughout the year. The library has secured a grant from First Things First to fund the Imagination Library Book Club. Children ages birth through five can be signed up to receive a free, age-appropriate book in the mail each month. These are just a few of the wonderful things families can explore due to the partnerships formed by the library.

Visit the Safford City / Graham County Library in person or online!



The Safford City—Graham County Library has partnered with the Arizona State Library to bring a fabulous FREE database of eBooks to our students!

Visit www.saffordlibrary.org

On the left side of the screen, click on "TumbleBooks / eBooks for Kids

"Check out" the titles, which now include non-fiction!

The books are indexed by reading levels, grade, and lexile.

Take advantage of this valuable opportunity—it's free!

Visit the Gift Shop!

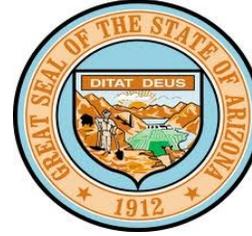
Safford City / Graham County Library

808 S. Seventh Ave.

Safford, AZ 85546 928-432-4165

Hours: Mon.—Thursday 10:00 a.m. —7:00 p.m. Closed Friday—Sunday

**State and Local Education Leadership
MEMBERSHIP 52ND LEGISLATURE**



House of Representatives

Education Committee (Wednesday afternoon)

Chair – Paul Boyer, Vice Chair – Jay Lawrence, Doug Coleman, Jill Norgaard, Bob Thorpe, Reginald Bolding, Lisa Otondo

Senate

Education Committee (Thursday a.m.)

Kelli Ward-Chair, Kimberly Yee-Vice Chair, Sylvia Allen, Carlyle Begay, David Bradley, Jeff Dial, Steve Smith

Graham County School District Governing Board Members

Bonita School District

Kolin Kramme

Cyndee Smith

Fort Thomas Unified School District

McCoy-Scott Hawkins

Beth Hinton

GIFT, Fort Thomas seat

Norman Sanders

GIFT, Pima seat

Christie Brown

GIFT, Thatcher seat

Brian Merriman

GIFT, Solomon seat

Mark Claridge

Klondyke School District

John Franzone

Pima Unified School District

Troy Thygerson

Darwin Weech

Shawn Wright

Safford Unified School District

Mike DeLaO

Craig Hackett

Solomon School District

Rodney Barragan

Gil Bowman

Carl Harmon

Nicholas Tellez

Thatcher Unified School District

Kenny Smith

Gary Sorensen





EASTERN ARIZONA SCIENCE INITIATIVE

2015 Eastern Arizona Regional Science Fair Competition

Hosted by The EAC Discovery Park Campus

**2015
EASTERN ARIZONA
REGIONAL
Science Fair
Competition**

**The Overall Winners
in Each Grade level
will receive:**



**Nextbook 8" Tablet with 8GB Memory
Quad Core:**

- 8" touchscreen, 1024 x 768 resolution
- The Android 4.2 Jelly Bean tablet has built-in 802.11b/g/n WiFi
- Back 2MP webcam and front 0.3MP webcam
- miniHDMI port
- Email, Alarm, Photo Viewer, Google Maps, YouTube, Nook
- Ebook Store, Vudu, Flixster, Cloudlink
- Web browser and Google Play

- The Regional Science Fair is open to all Eastern Arizona (Graham & Greenlee Counties) School Districts and Charter Schools.
- There are three levels of Participation: 5th & 6th Grade, 7th & 8th Grade, and open High School and three categories in each level: Earth Science, Life Science, and Physical Science.
- Anticipating that all projects will be judged by Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Employees, and Society of Metallurgy and Exploration (SME) Members.
- 1st & 2nd Place winners will receive Trophies, Place Ribbons, and Certificate of Participation.
- 3rd Place and Honorable Mention winners will receive Place Ribbons and Certificate of Participation.

**Plus, all 1st Place winners will receive a Full-Tuition Scholarship to the
2015 EASI SUMMER SCIENCE CAMP OR H. S. FORENSICS CAMP**

Hosted by Discovery Park Campus and Eastern Arizona College

Project Displays must be delivered to the

EAC Discovery Park Campus – Ranch House by Thursday, March 5th.

Public Viewing:

Thursday, March 5th, 2014 8:00AM – 4:00PM

Friday, March 6th, 2014 1:00PM – 5:00PM

Saturday, March 7th, 2014 3:00PM – 7:00PM

Awards Ceremony –

5:00pm Saturday, March 7th in the DPC Ranch House

EAC Discovery Park Campus
Saturday Evening Lecture series
2014- 2015 Schedule

January 10, 2015—Don Lancaster “Gila Valley Day Hikes”
February 21, 2015—Dan Best “The Morenci Railway”
March 14, 2015—Kevin Hansen “Rattlesnakes”
April 11, 2015—Clay James “Calling All Critter Callers”

“SATURDAY SCIENCE CAMPS” ARE BACK!

Saturday January 24, 2015

5th and 6th grade students (see page 13 for more info)

Saturday February 21, 2015

Middle School

Saturday April 11, 2015

High School

Please contact Paul Anger at 928-428-6260 for more information about these popular science camps for kids!

The **EAC Discovery Park Campus** is available to help you have a fun, safe and educational science field trip, and best of all....***there's no cost!***

The EAC Discovery Park Campus is available by reservation for field trips on
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

(The usual time frame for a field trip is about 2-3 hours.) Scheduling a field trip is easy!
Just call or email us with: *preferred date *grade level(s) *number of students *your available
time frames *lessons, either “Habitat” or “Astronomy.”

In addition to these field trips, EAC Discovery Park offers a variety of educational opportunities
and activities that are not found anywhere else!

- ⇒ Amazing artifacts and photographs from the **Graham County Historical Society**
- ⇒ An display describing the **Electromagnetic spectrum** and light and energy
- ⇒ We have our friends **Galileo Galilei, Isaac Newton, and Albert Einstein** to help us follow
the interesting **“History of Astronomy”**
- ⇒ We also have the world’s largest permanently mounted **Camera Obscura**
 - ⇒ We have the research-grade **20” Tinsley Telescope**

Please feel free to contact Jackie at the EAC Discovery Park Campus at 928-428-6260 or dis-
coverypark@eac.edu

EASTERN ARIZONA SCIENCE INITIATIVE

PRESENTS:

***Free* SATURDAY SCIENCE CAMP**

for all 5th & 6th Grade Students!

Attention all future Scientists and Engineers!

Join us Saturday January 24, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

at the EAC Discovery Park Campus- Ranch House

For two exciting hands-on science activities

Mrs. Debbie Pearson – Safford Middle School

"CO² Expanding Experiments!!"

From Solid to Gas... to Delicious! Do Awesome experiments with Carbon Dioxide- it does some CRAZY stuff... and then create some tasty Root Beer!!



Mrs. Tawnie Anger

Thatcher Elementary

6th Grade Teacher

"Create Your Own Monster Roller Coaster!!"

Learn the tricks... (Physics) and engineering principles... Velocity, Mass, acceleration, to make a monster Roller Coaster that is not only fun, but safe! The winner will receive a free tour for them and a parent to visit the engineering marvel telescopes at the Mt. Graham International Observatory! Home of the World's most powerful Telescope – the large Binocular Telescope!

The SATURDAY SCIENCE CAMP schedule:

8:00 -8:30	Registration and snacks
8:30 - 10:00	<i>"CO² Expanding Experiments" / "Monster Roller Coaster!!"</i>
10:00 - 10:15	Break
10:15 - 11:45	<i>"Monster Roller Coaster!!" / "CO² Expanding Experiments</i>
11:45 - Noon	Feedback and Evaluation Completion

Register to attend this

FREE event:

Contact Jackie Madsen at:

jackie.madsen@eac.edu or

428-6260

Name, Grade (must be in 5th or 6th grade), School, and Parents' email or phone #

We only have room for 25 students in each lesson – Register NOW!

Grant Opportunities for Teachers from the United Way of Graham County

A new grant opportunity for Graham County teachers is now available! Please follow these steps:

1. Visit www.uwgraham.com
2. Click on “How to Apply”
3. Click on the 2014 Grant Funding Guidelines to read about the United Way’s programs and funding priorities.
4. Click on the UWGC-EducationApplication-2014

Please note that applications will be accepted and reviewed every month except December. Complete and eligible applications received by the 1st of the month will be reviewed and a decision will be made and communicated that same month. Please submit your complete application packet to uwgraham@gmail.com.

About the United Way

The United Way of Graham County is an all-volunteer organization that provides grant support to nonprofit organizations in southeastern Arizona. We serve Graham and Greenlee counties, providing funding support for causes in Education, Income and Health.

Our mission: to advance the common good by focusing on quality of life, health and education—the building blocks of a good life.

**Have you written your
grant yet?**

For assistance with your grant, please contact Paulett LeBlanc at
pleblanc@aznexus.net



Grant Funding Alerts *It's never too early to start working on a grant!*

Sponsor: Aurand Harris Grant & Fellowship

Name: All Children's Theatre Foundation Grants

Who: Small to Mid-sized not-for-profit **OR** Professional theatre artist (including teachers)
OR a collaboration of these

Cost Share: None

Amount: Up to \$5,000

Deadline: Request to submit Jan. 15, 2015; full application Apr. 9, 2015

Description: Looking for best and most creative idea that will enhance the field of theatre with the goal of promoting the theatre experience to children in all type of communities

Link: www.childrenstheatrefoundation.org/page3/page14/index.html

Sponsor: National Education Foundation

Name: Teacher Training Grants

Who: Any PreK-12 teacher or teacher assistant

Cost Share: \$15

Amount: \$400 (for tuition to online courses and instructional videos)

Deadline: Access 24/7 until Jan. 31, 2015 all 635 courses and videos

Description: To help teachers enhance teaching, classroom management and instructional technology skills as well as personal and professional skills; 24/7 unlimited access to courses and videos in Teaching Skills/Classroom Management/Soft Skills/Personal Development/Professional Development/Instructional Technology/Business/Desktop/IT

Link: www.Cyberlearning.org/grants-funding/teacher-grant

Sponsor: U.S. Soccer Foundation

Name: Safe Places to Play Grants

Who: Schools, communities

Cost Share: None shown **Amount:** See description

Deadline: Letter of Intent due Jan. 31, 2015

Description: Four categories: Synthetic Turf, Lighting, Irrigation, and Sport Court. Multi-sport field projects are eligible for funding, but such fields must be used a majority of the time for soccer. Multi-field projects are also eligible.

Link: <http://www.ussoccerfoundation.org/our-grants/>



Grant Funding Alerts

It's never too early to start working on a grant!

Sponsor: National Endowment for the Humanities

Name: Science, Technology, and Engineering

Type: Arts & Culture, Education

Amount: Up to \$1 million

Deadline: January 14, 2015

The Endowment offers both planning and implementation grants for museums, libraries, and cultural organizations.

<http://www.neh.gov/grants/mlco>

Sponsor: Department of Defense

Name: Science, Technology, and Engineering

Type: Science & Technology, Education for higher education

Amount: Up to \$30,000

Deadline: January 31, 2015

This initiative aims to stimulate young pupils in the sciences, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=250248>

Sponsor: Sodexo Foundation

Name: The Campus Kitchens Project

Who: Any high school, college, university

Cost Share: None

Amount: \$5,000

Deadline: Feb. 1, 2015

Description: National non-profit that empowers students leaders to create innovative and sustainable solutions to hunger. Funding is to start a Campus Kitchen chapter in your schools and develop project ro rescue and use food that would have gone to waste.

Link: www.campuskitchens.org/grant-opportunities/

Name: Actuarial Foundation: Advancing Student Achievement (ASA) Grant

Who: To benefit grades 4-12

Amount: \$5,000

Deadline: Open

Description: Supports math enhancement programs that bridge the gap between classroom and real world mathematics for grades 4-12 students in U.S. public and private schools. Programs eligible for support may include, but are not limited to, clubs, competitions, before and after school programs, classroom extension periods, etc. Funded programs must impact 20 to 25 students and meet a minimum of one time per month.

Link: http://www.actuarialfoundation.org/programs/teachers/what_asa_grant.shtml



Grant Funding Alerts

It's never too early to start working on a grant!

Freeport-McMoRan Inc. Grants

Mini-Grants for Education Application Window: May 1st –Oct. 1st

Please visit www.freeportinmycommunity.com

Grants in the range of \$100—\$500 a school is eligible to receive up to four mini-grants per year. Additional grant opportunities are available including the STEM Education grant. Graham County received nearly \$500,000 in the recent round of Community Investment Fund grant awards held in August. Thank you Freeport-McMoRan!

Youth and Community Development Grants

Sponsor: Office Depot Foundation

Deadline: Monthly

Amount: \$50-\$3,000

Description: The Foundation provides funding to the following program areas: 1. Giving Children Tools for Success—Supporting activities that give young people tools to succeed in the school and in life through education and inspiration. 2. Building Capacity to Serve Communities—Supporting programs that help non-profit organizations to serve the needs of their communities efficiently and effectively. 3. Disaster Preparedness, Relief, Recovery and Rebuilding....

<http://officedepotfoundation.org>

Kinder Morgan Foundation K-12 Education, Environmental Education, Arts, and Youth Development Grants

Deadline: 10th of every month Amount: \$1,000—\$5,000

"The Kinder Morgan Foundation believes that today's youth are tomorrow's leaders, and our mission is to provide them with opportunities to learn and grow. Our goal is to help today's science, math and music students become the engineers, educators and musicians who will support our diverse communities for many years to come."

<http://www.kindermorgan.com/community/>

Toshiba America Foundation for Grades 6-12

Wanted: Classroom Innovators! Toshiba America Foundation accepts applications from teachers who are passionate about making science and mathematics more engaging for their students.

6-12 Grant requests for \$5,000 or less are accepted on a rolling basis, through the calendar year

6-12 Grant requests for \$5,000 or more are accepted and reviewed twice a year—August 1st and

February 1st of each year.

<http://www.toshiba.com/taf/612.jsp>

Professional Development Opportunities/ Grant Funding Alerts

Strengthening Secondary Education

Deadline: Open

Amount: \$100,000—\$200,000

Sponsor: Arthur Vining Davis Foundation

Type: Education

Grants are made for innovative professional development programs that strengthen teachers and their teaching in grades 9-12.

<http://www.avdf.org/FoundationsPrograms/SecondaryEducation.aspx>

Shakespeare in American Communities

Deadline: February 25, 2015

Amount: \$25,000

Sponsor: National Endowment for the Arts

Type: Arts & Culture, Education

The Endowment will fund nonprofit theater companies to perform works by Shakespeare for middle and high school students between Aug. 1, 2015 and July 31, 2016. <http://www.shakespeareinamericancommunities.org/about/application-process/2015-2016-rfp>

D-Backs Program Grants

D-Backs program grants are given statewide to non-profit organizations. Funds for these grants are raised throughout the season through team fundraising events, including the annual Evening on the Diamond benefit dinner, Shirts Off Our D-Backs and additional events. All 501(c) 3 non-profit organization in Arizona are welcome to apply for funding, however, funding must be serving the people of Arizona. The deadline is open and the amount of grant funding available for projects is \$1,000—\$5,000. For more info: <http://arizona.diamondbacks.mlb.com/ari/community/grants.jsp>

Daily Point of Light Award

Deadline: Rolling

The power of the individual to spark change and improve the world—that's what the Daily Point of Light Award celebrates. Nominate a local hero for this award. Recognition includes a certificate signed by President George H.W. Bush.

<http://www.pointsoflight.org/programs/recognition>

VEX Robotics

Schools interested in learning more about VEX Robotics and available grants should visit

<http://www.vexrobotics.com>

www.roboticseducation.org www.robotevents.com

Grant Funding Alerts *It's never too early to start working on a grant!*

Name: Annenberg Foundation

Who: Areas of arts, culture and humanities, civic and community, environment, education, and human health and wellness

Amount: \$10,000 - \$100,000

Deadline: Rolling

Link: <http://www.annenbergfoundation.org/grantmaking/how-to-apply>

Name: Arthur Vining Davis Foundations **Who:** Projects for improving teaching

Amount: \$100,000-\$200,000

Deadline: Rolling

Description: Projects may cover a wide range of initiatives intended to improve teaching. For example, projects might be designed to improve professional development for in-service and pre-service teachers, strengthen teaching skills, support practical research in teacher and high school education, or encourage innovative use of technology and new techniques for presentation of classroom materials in high schools

Link: www.avdf.org

Name: Ceres Foundation Grants

Who: For benefit of disadvantaged youth and vulnerable families

Amount: Up to \$240,000

Deadline: Rolling

Description: To expand opportunities for disadvantaged youth and vulnerable families to develop and make full use of their potential, so that they will be able to earn decent livings, enjoy healthy relationships, pursue their ambitions, and participate in their communities.

Link: <http://foundationcenter.org/grantmaker/ceres/>

Name: JP Morgan Chase Grants

Who: Open for non-profit organizations

Amount: Varies

Deadline: Rolling

Description: Create Pathways to Opportunity - a holistic approach to ensure that individuals have access to the knowledge, skills, resources, and capital they need to secure their futures and compete in the global economy.

Link: <http://www.jpmorganchase.com/corporate/Corporate-Responsibility/grant-programs.htm>

Grant Funding Alerts *It's never too early to start working on a grant!*

Youth Program Grants

Deadline: Open

Sponsor: The Entertainment Software Association Foundation

Amount: Varies

Type: Social & Economic, Arts & Culture

The ESA Foundation is dedicated to supporting positive programs and opportunities that make a difference in the lives of America's youth.

<http://www.esafoundation.org/application.asp>

KaBOOM! Spruce Project Grants

Deadline: Rolling

Are you itching to serve? Organize your friends, clean up a playground, and you can become eligible for \$750, courtesy of Dr. Pepper Snapple Group. The grant is part of the Let's Play initiative to get kids and families active.

<http://grants.kaboom.org>

Name: Little Kids Rock Music Professional Development & Equipment Program

Who: Public school districts

Amount: Varies

Deadline: Rolling

Description: Teachers receive training & donation of curricula, instruments and other resources so that they can launch Modern Band music programming for students at their schools. Partners with public school districts in some of the nation's most economically disadvantaged communities with the goal of ensuring that all students (K-12) have access to music education and its many benefits.

Teachers apply to be trained to use our innovative and transformational methodology. After their training is complete, teachers receive a donation of curricula, instruments and other resources so that they can launch Modern Band music programming for students at their schools

Link: <http://www.littlekidsrock.org/the-program/how-it-works/>

Name: Toyota USA Foundation: STEM Grants

Who: Schools, organizations to improve STEM education

Amount: \$200,000

Deadline: Rolling

Description: To improve k-12 education by supporting innovative programs in the areas of math, science, and environmental science.

Link: <http://toyota.com/about/philanthropy/guidelines/index.html>

Grant Funding Alerts *It's never too early to start working on a grant!*

Sponsor: Major League Baseball and Major League Baseball Players Association

Name: Baseball Tomorrow Fund

Who: Youth programs

Cost Share: None Shown **Amount:** Typically \$50,000-\$100,000

Deadline: Quarterly

Description: To promote and enhance the growth of youth participation in baseball and softball around the world by funding programs, fields, coaches' training, uniforms, and equipment. Grants are intended to finance a new program, expand or improve an existing program, undertake a new collaborative effort, or obtain facilities or equipment necessary for youth baseball or softball programs. Supports projects that meet the following evaluation criteria: increase the number of youth participating in baseball and softball programs; improve the quality of youth baseball and softball programs.

Link: http://web.mlbcommunity.org/index.jspcontent=programs&program=baseball_tomorrow_fund

Sponsor: National Endowment for the Humanities

Name: Youth Program Awards

Amount: \$10,000

Deadline: February 2, 2015

Description: The Endowment will award 12 programs for excellence in arts and humanities programs. After-school and out-of-school time arts and humanities programs sponsored by museums, libraries, performing arts organizations; educational institutions (e.g., preschools; elementary, middle, and high schools; universities; and colleges), arts centers, community service organizations, businesses, and eligible government entities are encouraged to submit an application.

<http://www.nahyp.org/how-to-apply/>

Sponsor: U.S. General Services Administration

Name: Computers for Learning

Who: Schools and educational nonprofits

Amount: based on need **Cost Share:** None **Deadline:** rolling

Description: Computers for Learning (CFL) program allows schools and educational nonprofits to view and select computer equipment that federal agencies have reported as excess. The CFL program includes making modern computer technology an integral part of every classroom, connecting classrooms to the national infrastructure, providing teachers with the professional development they need to use new technologies effectively, and encouraging the use of innovative educational software.

Link: http://computersforlearning.gov/htm/hp_aboutprogram.htm

Whew—you are finally at the end of this newsletter!

Sumdog Contests are back!

Sumdog math contests have started again! The contests run Friday through the next Thursday. Graham and Greenlee teachers and students can pencil in the following dates for this school year:

January 30, 2015 April 24, 2015

For information on Sumdog please visit <http://www.sumdog.com>

National Science Foundation Grant Helps STEM Professionals Transition to Teaching

\$16.5K Stipend Available for 15 Eligible Candidates to Complete Rio Salado Teacher Ed Program

(Tempe, Arizona – December 5, 2014) Fifteen science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) professionals have a chance at recareering as secondary classroom teachers— with the help of a generous \$16.5K stipend provided by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and Rio Salado's fast-track teacher education program. The deadline to apply is Feb. 3, 2015. For more details, visit www.riosalado.edu/noyce or call [480-517-8066](tel:480-517-8066).

Volunteer Opportunities at Discovery Park

Every Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. the Greenhouse at Discovery Park will be open for people to come in, say "hi" and volunteer a bit of their time helping to grow native plants for various restoration projects in our area. This is also a great time to ask questions about the status of the Gila River Restoration Project headed by the Gila Watershed Partnership.

For more information or alternate hours, contact:

Justin Johnson, Plant Propagation Coordinator, Gila Watershed Partnership

605-270-3201 or jjohnson.gwp@gmail.com

Stress Busters

(from *Lists to Live By*, compiled by Alice Gray, Steve Stephens & John Van Diest)

1. **Develop Order** Tidy up. Put things away. Toss clutter. You can restore a sense of calm to a room with a thirty-minute "sort and dump."
2. **Divert Your Focus** Diversions give the mind a break from problem solving and burden bearing. It is impossible to be consumed with worry when something else is captivating your interest.
3. **Diffuse** Push the pressures out of your body through twenty minutes of aerobic exercise.
4. **Debrief** Talk out your tension with a safe and trusted friend.
5. **Diversify** Change channels in your brain. Problem solving is more effective when the mind frequently rests from a problem rather than obsessing on it continuously.