

MAY 2009

IT'S OUR COMMUNITY,
BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR.

Greenlee County Sheriff's Office

Special Interest Articles:

- Volunteers Needed.
- Training programs available.
- Be a Good Neighbor.

Individual Highlights:

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Visit us on the Web @
<http://www.co.greenlee.az.us/Sheriff/SheriffHomePage.aspx>

Sheriff Steve N. Tucker (928) 865-4149
stucker@co.greenlee.az.us

Volunteers Needed

The Sheriff's Office has always been dependent on the hard work and dedication of the volunteer. The volunteers of the Greenlee County Search and Rescue have provided years of outstanding service to this community and should be applauded for their dedication to the citizens of Greenlee County. The Search and Rescue organization continues to look for new volunteers. These volunteers are needed to ride horse back, walk, ride four-wheelers, or prepare food.

While the Search and Rescue provide many services to this area, their

main function is to locate lost persons within Greenlee County. If you are interested in volunteering for Search and Rescue please call Ronnie Manuz or John Hernandez at (928) 865-4160 or email them at rmanuz@co.greenlee.az.us or jhernandez@co.greenlee.az.us.

The Sheriff's Office has recently begun a new volunteer program to assist with different types of law enforcement issues within Greenlee County. These volunteers will assist the Sheriff's Office with community events,

traffic control, grant writing, filing, crime scene preservation, and many other tasks. The volunteer must complete an application, background investigation, and attend appropriate training. The first of these trainings begin in June. We have already received about 20 applications and hope to receive many more. If you are interested in volunteering contact Sheriff Tucker at (928) 865-4149 or e-mail him at stucker@co.greenlee.az.us.

Training Available to the Community

The Greenlee County Sheriff's Office can provide 15 minute to four hour classes on the physical and psychological effects of drugs on the human body and how drugs affect our schools, workplaces, and our families. We can also

provide any public safety training that your school, business, or community might need. Please give us a call and set up an appointment.

GCSO (928) 865-4149

Be a Good Neighbor

"Due to the few irresponsible drivers; the responsible operators, land owners, and the community have been affected by the consequences."

We all enjoy living in this community because of the many outdoor activities. We like to hunt, fish, and hike. We embrace the beautiful area that we have chosen to live.

Arizona state law requires a motor vehicle to be registered and insured to be operated on any roadway. Any vehicle being operated without valid registration, insurance, and a properly licensed driver is subject to being towed and impounded for 30 days.

Four-wheeler traffic has become increasingly problematic. A recent problem up the San

Francisco River resulted in some private property being closed due to certain individuals causing damage to the land.

The Sheriff's Office has received complaints from all areas of Greenlee County concerning the use of all-terrain vehicles. Due to the few irresponsible drivers the responsible operators, land owners, and the community have been affected by the consequences. Most of the complaints could be avoided by being a good neighbor. Treat the land the way you would if it were yours.

- Drive your vehicle as if your children might be walking down the road.
- Pick up your trash and carry it home with you.
- Close any gate you open.
- Do not take down a fence to access an area.
- If you see anyone not following the basic rules, report them to law enforcement.

It's time that the community gets involved. We encourage you to be a good neighbor.

Outdoor Marijuana Cultivation



- Outdoor marijuana cultivation has been on the up rise in Arizona, California, and Oregon in the past few years.
- Most outdoor cultivation sites are organized by Mexican Marijuana Cartels that pose different dangers to the public.
- Reporting of active or dormant cultivation sites from the public is extremely important for the effective detection, investigation, and eradication of marijuana cultivation sites.
- What to look for?
 - Marijuana plants
 - Black drip line tubing
 - Fertilizer bags
 - Hidden camp sites
 - Cultivated land
 - Small springs or seeps
 - Heavily used foot trails in remote areas
 - Suspicious persons in the outdoors
- Report all suspicious activity.
- Your information is vital to law enforcement.
- You will remain anonymous!

Contact Greenlee County Sheriff's Department with any information:
(928) 865-4149.

New at Greenlee County Sheriff's Office

The Greenlee County Jail used to contract out for the meals provided to the inmates. Twenty years ago this was acceptable and probably the most cost effective for the time. Due to the increase in the number of inmates being housed it has become more cost effective and better for the overall security of the jail to prepare meals in house. We have installed a kitchen and now purchase food at cost. We have utilized inmate labor to reduce cost. We are now preparing meals for a savings of about \$2,400.00 per year. We anticipate that the savings will increase while the quality of food continues to meet the federal and state standards.

The Greenlee County Jail continues to house Graham County Inmates. To this date Graham County has been billed over \$386,000.

We have recently found some issues in the structure of our 30 year old jail. We have addressed these issues by reinforcing these areas with metal plates. Jail Commander Deborah Macias has been instrumental in increasing training and updating policies for the jail staff. We have installed new cameras and recording systems to record the vital areas of the jail. This recording system protects the staff and the community from false allegations, law suits, and ensures the staff is

completing their assigned tasks.

The inmate work program continues to serve the needs of the community. This program is operated under the direction of Sheriff Tucker, Jail Commander Macias, and supervised by Detention Officer Ronnie Manuz. The inmates continue to complete the labor needed to successfully operate the **Counties Gleaning Program**. This program provides excess harvested food to those in need. The Inmates clean trash and weeds from schools, streets, yards, fields, and cemeteries. We have assisted the towns of Duncan and Clifton to complete projects. The Inmate is rewarded only by the sense of accomplishment and the feeling of giving back. We have saved money by performing labor for which the county would normally have to pay. All of the Inmates involved in the work program are serving short sentences and will quickly return to the community. They gain a sense of pride in the community in which they live because of the labor they have provided.

The Greenlee County Jail in conjunction with the Greenlee County Probation Department continues to provide a substance abuse program to all inmates. This program includes:

- Needs assessment.
- Treatment action plans.
- Required counseling.
- The opportunity for the inmate to understand addiction.
- Long term continuous treatment.

This long term treatment has proven to be effective, especially with

methamphetamine addiction.

According to Gila Health Care Staff, Greenlee County has seen a reduction in the number of persons arriving for emergency medical treatment for methamphetamine related issues. According to the Probation Department we have seen a reduction in the amount of probationers testing positive for methamphetamine. We at the Sheriff's Office have seen a reduction in the number of methamphetamine related arrests. We believe that this success is a result of:

- The community not tolerating methamphetamine use.
- Increased enforcement action by Greenlee County Narcotics Task Force.
- Education and enforcement by Greenlee County Sheriff's Office School Resource Officer Rudy Pedregon.
- The Greenlee County Meth Coalition education, treatment, and prevention program.

Every one of these programs is important to maintain and improve these results. The most important of these is the community not tolerating the problem. If you have information please contact the Sheriff's Office at [\(928\) 865-4149](tel:9288654149), or the Silent Witness Line at [\(928\) 865-1062](tel:9288651062). Together we all make the difference.



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