

# Mohave

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

# County

## NEWSLETTER



By Tami Ursenbach

Dear Business Owners, Partners, and Community Members,

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve Mohave County over the past 6½ years and to play a role in the remarkable growth and transformation we've experienced. The rewards of this work are reflected in the economic expansion, community development, and increased opportunities for our residents.

The progress we've seen includes the successful attraction of new companies, the expansion of existing local businesses, implementation of workforce training programs, creation of quality jobs, and the development of impactful public-private partnerships. These efforts are making a lasting difference across our region.

Despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021, Mohave County continued to grow and move forward. Recent data highlights our county's upward trajectory:

	2018	2024
<b>Population</b>	207,200	220,816
Personal Income (Per capita)	\$30,865	\$41,331
<b>Education</b>		
9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> , no Diploma	16,524	14,213
High School Graduation (or equivalent)	54,726	58,746
Some College, No Degree	44,534	49,372
Associate Degree	12,118	16,059
Bachelor's Degree	12,194	15,551
Graduate, Professional or Doctorate	6,782	9,673
<b>Residential Building Permits</b>		
Total Permits Filed	913	2,828

These figures reflect the significant strides we've made in education, economic prosperity, and housing development.

One particularly exciting milestone is the continued expansion of **Interstate Warehousing**, operated by the Tippmann Group. After breaking ground in December 2022, the company officially opened its doors in February 2024. Now, just over a year later, they are unveiling **Phase 2**, bringing their total facility to an impressive **473,700 square feet**. This development represents a major investment in our region and continues to provide well-paying jobs to our local workforce.

As we move forward, I remain committed to supporting the ongoing growth of Mohave County. The future is bright, and I am proud to be part of a community that continues to rise to meet its full potential.

Best Regards,

Tami

*From the Desk  
of Michelle*



## Is Your Business Ready for the Voice Search Revolution?

In an era where “Hey Siri” and “Alexa, find me...” are becoming second nature, the way consumers search for businesses is rapidly changing. Voice search is no longer a futuristic novelty—it’s happening now, and it’s reshaping how people discover local goods and services.

From smart speakers in living rooms to virtual assistants on mobile phones, voice technology is deeply integrated into everyday life. If your business isn’t optimized for voice search, you could be missing out on a significant opportunity to be found by potential customers.

Here’s the good news: understanding the basics of voice search and taking a few simple steps can give you a leg up on the competition. Voice queries tend to be more conversational and location-specific. That means if your online presence is clear, accurate, and includes local keywords (think: “Mexican restaurant near Kingman” or “auto repair open now in Bullhead City”), you’re more likely to be the answer Alexa reads out loud.

Not sure where to start? Try this:

- Ensure your Google Business Profile is complete and accurate.
- Include natural, question-based phrases in your website content (think FAQs).
- Keep business hours, contact info, and location consistent across all platforms.

The voice search trend isn’t slowing down—and staying informed now can help your business stay visible tomorrow.

If you’d like help getting your business voice-search ready, our office is here to assist. Call us at (928) 757-5055. Let’s make sure that when someone says, “Hey Siri, find the best local business,” your name is the one they hear.

## Newsletter

Each month, we provide helpful resources, ideas, trainings, and informative articles to support businesses in Mohave County.

We hope that businesses in the county will find this information useful or share it with companies that may benefit from it.

If your company needs specific assistance in any area, please feel free to contact:

**Michelle Loeber**

Phone: 928-757-0917

Email: [loebem@mohave.gov](mailto:loebem@mohave.gov)



Enjoy National Root Beer Float Day - Aug 6th



## Mohave Community College Small Business Development Center Webinars

### AZ Business Startup Clinic

Learn about Arizona business compliance, required licenses, and best practices to start or grow your business, and get access to a custom ACA checklist and helpful resources.

**Wednesday, Aug 13, 2025 | 10:00 AM**



Online



No fee



[Register Here](#)

### Master Your Business Finances Series: 5 Steps to Increase Your Profitability

Learn the 5 Steps to boost business profits by mastering financial decision-making, with expert guidance from Jeanette Pigeon and Alex Potter, plus access to free tools and training for Mohave and Pima County entrepreneurs.

**Wednesday, Aug 20, 2025 | 12:00PM**



Online



No fee



[Register Here](#)

#### Attention Tourism Professionals!

We're taking a short break - there will be no Regional Tourism Meeting in August.

Meetings will resume in September, and we'll share a flyer with all the details next month. Enjoy your summer and we look forward to reconnecting soon!



**MOHAVE COUNTY**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM



## Arizona Business Leaders Form Arizona Small Business Growth Coalition

PHOENIX, AZ (July 23, 2025) – Today, the Arizona Commerce Authority and Arizona business leaders announced the launch of the Arizona Small Business Growth Coalition (SBGC), a statewide alliance of trusted small business providers committed to advancing Arizona’s economic vitality through entrepreneurship. Convened by the Arizona Commerce Authority, the coalition will foster alignment, collaboration, and collective actions to support small businesses across Arizona.

At a charter signing ceremony held at the Arizona Commerce Authority, founding members of the SBGC reinforced their commitment to advancing Arizona’s entrepreneurial vitality and supporting Arizona small business growth.



“Arizona small businesses are pillars in local communities statewide, creating good-paying jobs and stimulating economic growth,” said Sandra Watson, President and CEO of the Arizona Commerce Authority. “These are the risk takers and innovators who make up the foundation of our diverse and dynamic economy. We are thrilled to launch the Arizona Small Business Growth Coalition alongside our incredible partners and maximize support for Arizona’s entrepreneurs and small business owners.”

The strategic goals of the SBGC within the next two years include:

- Securing \$50 million in small business grants, loans, and investments
- Helping 500 small businesses receive funding
- And providing 5,000 Arizona small business assists

The SBGC will support Arizona’s small business goals including providing 1,000 unique small business assists per year over the next three years and supporting the start of 10,000 homegrown businesses by 2030. The ACA supports small businesses through a variety of services and programs, including the [State Small Business Credit Initiative](#) (SSBCI) Technical Assistance Program and the Arizona Loan Guarantee Program, which helps partnering lenders mitigate risk so they can increase capital available to small businesses located across the state.

## Arizona Business Leaders Form Arizona Small Business Growth Coalition *Continued*

“It's critical that Arizona's leaders commit to recognizing their small businesses as community stakeholders, especially in times like these,” said Kimber Lanning, CEO and Founder, Local First Arizona. “Together with other small business service providers, our top priority is to help small businesses successfully navigate the current economic landscape and build a thriving future for our local economy.”

“At the Arizona Small Business Association, we believe that the strength of our small business community lies in collaboration,” said Debbie Hann, Interim CEO, Arizona Small Business Association. “The Arizona Small Business Growth Coalition brings together trusted partners across the state to align our efforts and create real, measurable impact. By working hand in hand, we're ensuring that every entrepreneur, regardless of where they are or what stage they're in, has access to the resources, knowledge, and support they need to thrive. Together, we're building a stronger, more resilient Arizona economy, one small business at a time.”

“At the Better Business Bureau, we believe that trust is the foundation of a strong local economy,” said Matthew Fehling, President and CEO, Better Business Bureau serving the Pacific Southwest and Central California. “By joining this coalition, we reaffirm our commitment to advancing marketplace trust and ensuring that small businesses have the resources, relationships, and reputation they need to succeed. Together, we are building a more ethical, resilient, and opportunity-rich Arizona.”

“We're proud to join the Arizona Small Business Growth Coalition, which will further ongoing and strategic efforts to support our small business community. The goals of the SBGC align with Prestamos CDFI's efforts and we look forward to working alongside the ACA and SBGC members to help Arizona entrepreneurs and small business owners grow,” said Teresa Miranda, Vice President of Prestamos CDFI.

“SCORE is proud to join the Arizona Small Business Growth Coalition to champion entrepreneurship in every corner of our state,” said Gail Matthews, District Director, SCORE Arizona & Utah. “From the rural towns of Northern Arizona to the innovation hubs of Phoenix and Tucson, small businesses are the heartbeat of our economy. This coalition is more than a partnership—it's a statewide movement to empower entrepreneurs with the tools, mentorship, and momentum they need to thrive.”

“Arizona is home to innovators who are creating exciting new businesses and stimulating economic growth – the Small Business Growth Coalition will help connect more Arizona small businesses with the resources and support they need to succeed,” said Paula Wittekind, Interim State Director, Arizona Small Business Development Centers.



# Community Spotlight

## *Desert Mail and Market*

Owner: Samantha Scarpine

📍 7252 Concho Dr., Kingman, AZ 86401

☎ (928) 753-9755

### ► Connection, Convenience, Community

Desert Mail and Market is a place built on connection, service, and supporting the everyday needs of the Valle Vista community. As the new owner, my mission is simple. I want to help however I can by offering a variety of services and products that save people time and make life easier, especially for those who find it challenging to go into town.

We offer mailbox rentals, shipping labels, stamps, and mailing services through USPS, FedEx, and UPS. You can also come in to print, copy, scan, fax, or take care of notary needs. Whether you are mailing a package or handling important paperwork, I want Desert Mail and Market to be a place where people can get things done with ease and a smile.

Beyond mailing services, we support local creativity by carrying handcrafted items such as candles, jewelry, beauty products, purses, and thoughtful gifts. We also carry farm fresh eggs, quail eggs, and pure Arizona honey. Our shelves are always growing with new local products and seasonal finds.

### ► Meet the Owner

A little about me — I've spent over 15 years in the wedding and events industry, creating beautiful and memorable experiences for clients. After moving to Valle Vista just about a year ago, I quickly fell in love with the charm of this

community and knew I wanted to plant roots and contribute in a meaningful way. I have big ideas for our little shop and am excited to see it grow.

### ► Future Plans

Looking ahead, I plan to create a flexible meeting space that can be used for business gatherings, real estate agents, board meetings, and other professionals who need access to copy, scan, print, and fax services. I also hope to offer space for craft classes, social mix and mingles, and other community events, all available for a small room rental fee.

### ► Community First

One of our fun features already in place is the community puzzle exchange, where neighbors can trade puzzles and enjoy a little time to unwind. It is the small touches like that that make Desert Mail and Market feel like more than just a store — it is a place where community comes first.

I am proud to call Valle Vista home and look forward to serving and growing with you all.



# Arizona's New Heat Safety EO: What to Know as Temperatures Rise

By Michael Rubin and Sarah A. Fisher © Ogletree Deakins, SHRM

On May 22, Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs signed [Executive Order \(EO\) 2025-09](#) as part of the state's broader initiative to enhance worker safety amid rising summer temperatures. The Industrial Commission of Arizona's (ICA's) Arizona Division of Occupational Safety and Health (ADOSH) will establish a [Workplace Heat Safety Task Force](#) to draft and recommend heat safety guidelines for employers by the end of 2025. This task force will include private-sector members, public-sector members, worker representatives, and occupational safety and health experts to create clear and effective guidance for managing heat risks.



EO 2025-09 builds on Hobbs' Extreme Heat Preparedness Plan, launched in 2023, which aimed to address the increasing temperatures in Arizona. ADOSH also implemented its heat [State Emphasis Program \(SEP\)](#), allowing inspectors to focus on heat-related injury and illness prevention such as ensuring access to water, rest, and shade. Together, the preparedness plan, the SEP, and the EO position Arizona as an aggressive advocate against heat illness. In contrast, federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards have only gone as far as to recognize heat as a safety hazard, but no specific guidelines have been implemented.

The task force's guidelines, set to be completed by Dec. 31, will clarify what constitutes a heat safety hazard under the Occupational Safety and Health Act's (OSH Act's) General Duty Clause. These guidelines will inform how ADOSH's compliance safety and health officers (CSHO) enforce heat safety standards. While the specifics of the guidelines are still being developed, the task force will use heat data compiled for the SEP to go beyond basic recommendations like water, rest, acclimatization, and shade. The guidelines will offer detailed, industry-specific recommendations to help employers develop practical and effective heat safety plans.

Once completed, the guidelines will be recommended for approval by the ICA, with the intent to implement them by summer 2026. Therefore, the EO does not have an immediate impact on employers or their responsibilities under the OSH Act's General Duty Clause. In the meantime, ADOSH CSHOs will continue to evaluate worksites for potential heat hazards during inspections, in line with the SEP. Employers may want to prepare to address heat-related hazards by developing safety programs, consistent with the recommendations set forth by the SEP, in advance of the implementation of the new guidelines. Employers can also sign up for [email notifications](#) to receive updates directly from ADOSH as the task force progresses.







**CORPORATE  
EDUCATION**

# **SPEAK CLEARLY AND LISTEN ACTIVELY!**

## **COMMUNICATING EFFECTIVELY**

Enroll your employees in Mohave Community College's Corporate Education Leadership Training Programs for business professionals!

### **ABOUT THE PROGRAM**

Effective communication is the cornerstone of business success, as it enhances collaboration, boosts productivity, and fosters strong relationships. This Program investigates the four principles of effective communication.

### **WHY ENROLL YOUR STAFF**



#### **Enhanced Collaboration**

It is critical to your business that there is an environment of collaboration to get things done. This only happens if communication is clear, concise, and often.



#### **Increased Productivity**

A culture of strong communication enhances employee engagement, morale, creating a more efficient and productive workplace.



#### **Improved Problem Solving**

The exchange of thoughts and ideas not only helps identify the root causes of problems but also fosters creativity and innovation, which enables businesses to tackle issues more effectively.

MCC Corporate Education classes are non-credit workforce training courses for individuals and employers.

### **WHAT YOU'LL LEARN**

#### **Clarity**

Make sure your messaging is clear and easily understood. Avoid jargon.

#### **Conciseness**

Be brief and to the point. Avoid unnecessary details that can distract the main message.

#### **Feedback**

Encourage and be open to feedback. This allows for two-way communication and ensures that the message is understood correctly.

#### **Consistency**

Ensure your message is consistent and does not contradict itself.

**For more information, contact [Corporate-ed@mohave.edu](mailto:Corporate-ed@mohave.edu)**



**MOHAVE COUNTY**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM



# Ask HR: How Can I Manage Stress in the Workplace?

*By SHRM President and Chief Executive Officer Johnny C. Taylor, Jr., SHRM-SCP*

According to an American Psychological Association study, nearly 60 percent of those surveyed reported work-related stress marked by lack of motivation or energy and lack of effort at work. No sector, industry or vocation is immune from work-related stress. Fortunately, there are some practical steps you can take to preserve your well-being.

Give yourself permission to prioritize your self-care and well-being. Maintain a healthy diet, exercise regularly, seek professional support when needed and take mental health days as you can. Look into your company's employee assistance program (EAP) or seek out options through your health insurance. There are also several mental health apps available to help you relax and manage your day-to-day concerns. Self-care and well-being are key factors in decreasing stress.

The last few years have been challenging for us all, but you have survived. Give yourself some credit. Play to your strengths and don't forget your accomplishments.

Find ways to manage workplace expectations. Try some time management exercises like developing a list of priorities each day, then checking them off as you complete them. When you have conflicting priorities, work with your supervisor to determine a plan of action.

Try not to project too far into the future. Stay in the moment. You can't control the future. Planning can be helpful—even therapeutic for some—but even the best-laid plans need to have some flexibility built in.

I'll add this: Remember that it's OK to ask for help. As humans, we aren't meant to operate in isolation. Connecting and collaborating with others is how we survive and thrive. It's OK to admit when you need assistance with a project or task. It's perfectly acceptable to respectfully decline to take on another project at work that would affect the deliverables of projects you are currently working on.

By using these methods, you can reduce your stress. Reducing your stress will give you your confidence and energy back and allow you to be more productive.





**MOHAVE COUNTY**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM



**MANUFACTURING  
WORKFORCE**

NORTHERN  
ARIZONA  
GOOD JOBS  
NETWORK  
GRANT

**SKILLS STRATEGY  
ROUNDTABLE**

*We invite you to  
join us for a roundtable  
discussion on equipping  
a skilled workforce  
tailored to meet your  
company's needs.*



**AUG 14, 2025**  
**2:00 PM TO 3:00 PM**

**MOHAVE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT  
SERVICES BUILDING**

Boriana Conference Room  
1st Floor  
3250 E. Kino  
Kingman, AZ 86409

**CONTACT**

RSVP

Michelle Loeber  
928-757-0917  
loebem@mohave.gov

[www.mohave.gov](http://www.mohave.gov)



**MOHAVE COUNTY**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

# Thriving in Rural Communities: Connection, Heritage, and Smart Growth

By Tami Ursenbach

Small rural areas—often separated by miles of open land and with minimal retail infrastructure—may appear isolated, but many are quietly thriving through deep social ties, cultural pride, and intentional economic strategies. While these communities face unique challenges, such as limited services and long travel distances, they find strength in shared values, strong leadership, and an enduring sense of place.



## Connection in the Wide Open

Despite the distance between homes and towns, these rural communities excel in forming strong, supportive relationships. Neighbors, though physically far apart, remain tightly connected through schools, churches, local events, and volunteer organizations. Social gatherings take on added meaning, serving as essential opportunities for face-to-face interaction and mutual support.

Community engagement is critical. Residents often play multiple roles—coach, council member, business owner—ensuring things get done and that voices are heard. This overlapping involvement creates a unique intimacy where everyone is essential, and accountability is local.

## Preserving History and Identity

In areas with sparse commercial development, cultural heritage becomes a central asset. Preserving historical buildings, family legacies, and regional traditions instills a strong sense of identity. Annual festivals, holiday events, and shared stories passed down through generations serve as anchors that tie people to their land and each other.

With limited retail or entertainment options, traditions and community gatherings often *are* the entertainment. Whether it's a harvest festival, a local rodeo, or a holiday potluck, these events reinforce a sense of pride and belonging that commercial amenities cannot replace.

## Resilient Economic Strategies

Without big-box stores or shopping districts, economic survival in these areas depends on resourcefulness. Supporting small-scale, often home-based businesses is key—from farmstands to mobile services and remote work opportunities. Internet access, though not always perfect, is increasingly vital for allowing residents to work from home or manage online enterprises.





# Thriving in Rural Communities: Connection, Heritage, and Smart Growth *Continued*

Infrastructure investment, even on a small scale, can have an outsized impact. Better roads, reliable utilities, and broadband expansion open the door for growth and attract families seeking a quieter, more affordable lifestyle.



Tourism can also be leveraged thoughtfully. A well-preserved ghost town, scenic ranchland, or historic trail can draw visitors and bring in revenue, even if retail is minimal. Clear signage, local guides, and simple amenities can make a big difference in how outsiders experience these remote gems.



## **Leadership and Long-Term Vision**

Sustainable success in spread-out rural areas relies heavily on forward-thinking leadership and strategic planning. Local leaders—often volunteers or part-time officials—must think creatively about how to serve the community with limited resources.

Collaboration with regional partners, grant writing, and grassroots organizing are often essential tools. Just as important is a strong sense of community ownership. Residents who feel connected to their area's future are more likely to engage in planning, pitch in during tough times, and invest in long-term improvements.

## **Conclusion**

Small, remote rural communities may be miles apart and light on retail, but they are rich in connection, history, and resilience. By valuing people over amenities, leveraging their unique assets, and thinking creatively about the future, these communities not only survive—they thrive.

# CHLORIDE, AZ EVENT SCHEDULE

2025

**EVERY  
MONTH**

## 2ND SATURDAY

Come shop while learning Chloride History! A Monthly Event.

## OLD MINERS DAY PARADE

Celebrating our mining history !!

**SEPT  
27**

**NOV  
8**

## ALL TOWN YARD SALE

Approximately 20 homes typically join

## SPOTS OPEN FOR VENDORS AND FOOD TRUCKS



**MORE INFO:**

**VISITCHLORIDEAZ.COM**

chloridechamber@gmail.com



**MOHAVE COUNTY**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

# Northern Arizona Good Jobs Network Grant – Expanding Opportunities Across Our Region

*By Tami Ursenbach*

Over the past two years, we have worked diligently to develop industry-specific training programs across five northern Arizona counties through the Northern Arizona Good Jobs Network Grant. This initiative focuses on supporting workforce development in the fields of construction, healthcare, hospitality, manufacturing, and transportation.

Through extensive collaboration with local companies in each county, we have identified targeted needs within these industries and tailored our programs accordingly.

In the construction sector, we have developed an accelerated training program centered on building tiny homes. This hands-on approach allows participants to gain practical experience across multiple trade areas. Here in Mohave County, our training is different and is offered this program free of charge, with participants earning certificates after completing each online module.

In healthcare, the focus is on Medical Assistant training, while the hospitality sector is emphasizing small engine repair, specifically to support water-based recreational activities in Lake Havasu City and Bullhead City and food service management.

Our Mohave County Economic Development office is leading the manufacturing training efforts for all five counties. We will soon be rolling out a comprehensive training software platform, which includes over 500 self-paced courses. Many of these courses overlap with construction, offering participants flexible options. For example, someone learning about electrical systems or HVAC can apply these skills in either industry.

All training programs are completely free and can be accessed from a computer, tablet, or smartphone. For those without access to a device, designated locations are available for on-site learning. The platform offers 80 rotating seats, and while space is limited, interested individuals will be placed on a waiting list if all seats are currently full.

We are proud to support the residents of Mohave County in building the skills needed for lasting employment and career advancement.

If you or someone you know would like to learn more or enroll in one of our programs, please contact us at [economic@mohave.gov](mailto:economic@mohave.gov).





# Roaming



# Cactus

**Each month, we will feature a different area of the County or a point of interest. Our goal is to inspire you to visit these locations and promote them to travelers beyond our area. Together, we can boost tourism and showcase the beauty of Mohave County!**

## Discover the Hidden Magic of Shaffer Springs, Arizona

*By Tami Ursenbach*

Tucked along the winding curves of the historic Route 66 between Kingman and Oatman lies one of Arizona's best-kept secrets—Shaffer Springs. Often missed by those speeding through the desert landscape, this natural wonder is a rare and enchanting stop that transforms a simple road trip into an unforgettable adventure.

As you make your way along the iconic “Mother Road,” just past mile marker 30, the desert begins to whisper of old stories, and suddenly, you’ll find yourself approaching a cliffside staircase carved directly into Black Mountains rock. No sign announces your arrival—this is a place you discover by intuition, or by knowing what the locals know. And once you step out of your car and begin descending those thirty stone steps, you’ll understand why this place is so special.

Shaffer Springs, sometimes called Shaffer’s Fish Bowl, is more than just a seep from the desert cliffs. It’s a living monument to both nature and human ingenuity. Constructed in the 1930s by a man named Shaffer—likely as part of New Deal-era work—the spring was captured in a beautiful stone and concrete basin. It continues to bubble quietly from the rocks, offering a cool, clear pool of water in the middle of the sun-scorched desert.

What makes Shaffer Springs so delightful is its unexpected serenity. As you reach the spring, you’ll find goldfish swimming in its depths—yes, real fish, carefully maintained by locals over the decades. Their presence helps keep the water clean and adds a splash of color and whimsy. Look closer and you might spot tiny snails and even the occasional desert flower growing along the edge. Wild burros, often seen in nearby Oatman, sometimes visit the spring for a drink, adding a touch of Wild West charm to your visit.

This is the kind of place that doesn’t try to impress with grand scale, but instead surprises you with peace, detail, and authenticity. You’ll feel like you’ve stumbled into a desert oasis known only to those who’ve truly explored Arizona’s backroads. The panoramic views from the top of the steps are breathtaking, and the quiet is only broken by the occasional buzz of bees or the soft splash of fish in the bowl.

Shaffer Springs is not just a place to see—it’s a place to feel. It connects you to the spirit of Route 66, the resilience of early roadbuilders, and the quiet persistence of nature. Whether you’re an avid road-tripper, a photographer chasing unique spots, or a family looking for a quick break with a story to tell, this is a stop that should be circled on your map.

So when you're planning your journey along Route 66, don't just breeze by this stretch of highway. Pull over. Climb down. Take a breath. And experience one of Arizona's most charming hidden gems—Shaffer Springs, where time slows down, fish swim in the desert, and memories are made in the most unexpected places.

# Tourism Meeting Notes



**Date:** Thursday, July 17, 2025

**Location:** Wildcatter Winery / Kingman, AZ

**Facilitator:** Michelle Loeber, Specialist / Mohave County Economic Development & Tourism

## Venue & Host

Special thanks to *Wildcatter Winery* and owner Micah Spencer for hosting. Micah is a certified winemaker and formerly worked as a petroleum engineer.



## Presentation: Wildcatter Winery

Micah transitioned from the oil and gas industry and purchased the property in 2020 (then known as Cella Winery). In 2025, he rebranded it as *Wildcatter Winery* to reflect both his energy background and the winery's unconventional location in a region not traditionally known for viticulture.

Micah studied winemaking at Yavapai College and has since led Wildcatter to become the first winery in Mohave County to win awards at prestigious competitions.

## Wines Produced:

Zinfandel, Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec, Sangiovese, Merlot, Chardonnay, Nero d'Avola, Moscato, and Barbera.



# Tourism Meeting Notes *Continued*

The winery and tasting room are open Friday–Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wines are also available at local retailers including Red Cellar (Kingman), Sedona Liquors (Sedona), Vinozona (Sedona, Cottonwood, Jerome).

The property is RV-friendly, welcoming visitors to stay while enjoying wine tastings. Volunteers are recruited for the annual grape harvest. All production — including harvesting, fermentation, barrel aging, bottling, and labeling — takes place on-site, with an annual output of approximately 6,000 bottles.

## **Vistas' Restaurant Preview**

Ann Seney offered a preview of her upcoming restaurant, *Vistas*, by providing samples from her future small plates and appetizers menu. Designed to complement local wines, the cuisine will be upscale and European-inspired. The venue will also feature a tearoom and lodging options. Opening is anticipated within the next year.



## **Community Updates**

- **Kingman Chamber of Commerce**
  - First Fridays continue to grow, with attendance reaching 7,000 at the most recent event.
  - The August event will feature 105 vendors.
- **Cosmic Bounce House & Event Rentals**
  - Promoted services including inflatable rentals, party equipment, photo booths, concessions, and event setups for a wide range of occasions.
- **Beale Street Theater**
  - Held a soft opening on July 4.
  - Fundraising continues via the *Adopt a Seat* program.
  - Will host programming during August's First Fridays.
- **Chloride Chamber of Commerce**
  - Local businesses will now coordinate hours on the second Saturday of each month (10 a.m.–2 p.m.).
  - The Old Miners' Day Parade will be held on October 7.
  - Promoted a coloring book about Chloride's history, now available on Amazon.
- **Blythe Chamber of Commerce**
  - Hosting a Charity Off-Road Vehicle Fun Run on October 18, 2025.