Monave DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE County NEWSLETTER



By Tami Ursenbach

Dear Mohave County,

Harvesting the Knowledge of the Past for Future Community Growth

Communities thrive when they recognize that their greatest resource is not only the land they live on or the infrastructure they build, but also the wisdom carried forward from the past. History—whether preserved in traditions, lived experiences, or written records—provides a foundation that can guide decision-making and inspire innovation for future development. When communities intentionally harvest this knowledge, they create sustainable growth rooted in lessons that have already stood the test of time.

One of the most powerful ways to use the past for future growth is by understanding patterns of resilience. Every community has faced challenges—economic downturns, environmental hardships, or periods of transition. By studying how previous generations overcame obstacles, modern leaders can identify strategies that work and avoid repeating costly mistakes. For example, agricultural practices developed in harsh climates, traditional water management techniques, or early methods of resource sharing can offer solutions to today's sustainability challenges.

The past also offers lessons in values and culture, which strengthen social bonds and identity. Traditions, stories, and local heritage are not simply nostalgic reflections—they are tools that help people feel connected to one another and invested in their shared future. Communities that celebrate their history through education, festivals, and preservation efforts often see greater civic engagement and pride, which are essential ingredients for collective progress.

At the same time, harvesting knowledge of the past does not mean remaining stagnant. It means blending time-tested wisdom with modern tools and innovations. For instance, combining traditional land stewardship with modern technology can help balance growth with environmental protection. Integrating historic downtown revitalization with contemporary urban planning can generate economic opportunities while preserving character and identity.

In essence, the past is a blueprint, but the future is the canvas. Communities that choose to learn from their heritage while embracing new opportunities will be better positioned to grow sustainably, foster innovation, and remain resilient in the face of change. By harvesting knowledge of the past, we do not simply honor where we came from—we ensure a brighter, stronger future for the generations ahead.

Best Regards, Tami





Turning Over a New Leaf: Harvesting Opportunity in Mohave County

As the seasons change, it's a natural time to pause, reflect, and look ahead. Just as the desert blooms with a little care and attention, businesses in Mohave County can also grow stronger with the right support and fresh ideas.



At Mohave County Economic Development, we're here to help you "turn over a new leaf." Maybe that means exploring new markets, adopting innovative tools, or strengthening your workforce. Whatever your next chapter looks like, our Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) program is designed to walk alongside you with resources, insights, and connections.

But at the heart of it all—it's about community. When local businesses thrive, our whole county thrives. That's why I'd love the opportunity to get to know *your* business better. A quick conversation can go a long way in uncovering opportunities, solving challenges, and planting seeds for growth.

A "Harvest of Opportunity" is waiting here in Mohave County. Let's connect, share ideas, and work together to keep our local economy strong. If you'd like to set up a meeting, please give me a call at (928) 757-0917 or shoot me an email at loebem@mohave.gov - I'd be happy to sit down with you.

Together, we can turn over a new leaf and celebrate the rewards of growth, right here at home!



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: <u>loebem@mohave.gov</u>



Tax Savings Strategies for Small Businesses







📰 Oct 7, 2025 | 📕 Free Virtual Event

Stop Leaving Money on the Table! Join retired CPA Joe Heinrich for a SCORE workshop on the smartest tax strategies for small business owners. Learn to maximize deductions, choose the right retirement plan, and navigate cash vs. accrual accounting—all with real-world examples you can use immediately.

Register Now for this essential workshop and start saving!

AI For Business Series: Learn Artificial **Intelligence Prompts That Get Results**







Oct 8, 2025 | Free Virtual Event

This is a can't-miss session for anyone using AI in business. Discover how to craft prompts that save time, sharpen insights, and maximize productivity—presented by the Mohave SBDC and Mohave College. Register Now – Your next breakthrough could start here!

ATTENTION!

The November and December Manufacturing Workforce Roundtable Meetings have been canceled. Meetings will resume on a quarterly basis beginning January 8, 2026.



AI at Work: Opportunities, Challenges, and Insights

By Beatriz Soto



From new job creation to "workslop," AI is reshaping workplaces in ways leaders and employees can't ignore.

Ben Horowitz, co-founder of Andreessen Horowitz, compares today's AI moment to the invention of the spreadsheet, which unexpectedly transformed industries. Early signs are appearing in Hollywood, where AI helps directors cut costs and assists writers in refining dialogue. Far from replacing creativity, these tools are expanding it—hinting at entirely new jobs and sectors still to come.

AI is also proving its value in learning and development. A BCG Henderson Institute study found AI tutors deliver results comparable to classroom training while offering faster, more personalized feedback. Learners with lower starting skills showed the biggest gains, suggesting AI can help scale human-skills training in areas like problem-solving, collaboration, and creativity.

Yet workforce strategy lags behind adoption. Rachel Lipson, co-founder and Scholar in Residence at the Project on Workforce and author of a paper for the Aspen Institute, notes that U.S. programs are treated as anti-poverty initiatives rather than productivity investments. She advocates an R&D-style approach that targets emerging jobs, retooled roles, and legacy positions nearing retirement - critical for keeping technology-driven sectors competitive.

Within companies, adoption is accelerating but uneven. A Google Cloud DORA survey found 90% of tech employees now use AI, mainly for coding, yet trust remains mixed, and entry-level opportunities are shrinking. Similarly, a WalkMe survey shows most employees use unapproved AI tools without training, creating inefficiencies and risks.

Adding to the challenge is "workslop"—content generated by AI that appears polished but adds little value. Research from BetterUp Labs and the Stanford Social Media Lab finds workslop wastes time, undermines trust, and hampers collaboration. Without clear norms and purposeful use, AI can create busy work disguised as productivity.

Bottom line: AI offers enormous potential, but capturing its benefits requires strategy, training, and cultural readiness. Organizations that invest in these areas will harness innovation, while those that don't risk being buried in inefficiency.





Mohave College Corporate Education: Your Partner for Workforce Development

By Gina Kremper

Did you know that companies that offer comprehensive training programs have 218% higher income per employee than those without formalized training? Moreover, these companies also enjoy a 24% higher profit margin than those that invest less in training. This underscores the importance of workforce development for businesses like yours.

At Mohave College, we understand that a skilled and motivated workforce is the foundation of any successful business. In total, our Corporate Education Program provided tailored professional development to 929 employees across 18 distinct businesses through 26 unique projects over the past year, highlighting our commitment to fostering workforce excellence. Whether your team needs to improve communication, master leadership skills, or enhance problem-solving abilities, our customized solutions can help you achieve your goals.

We are proud to partner with a diverse range of organizations—from municipalities and manufacturers to distribution centers and educational institutions—to address their unique training needs. Our courses equip your employees with the essential tools they need to excel in their roles, contributing directly to increased productivity and innovation.

Our Specialized Training Areas

Our curriculum is built on industry-leading content, ensuring your team has access to the most current knowledge and best practices. We specialize in courses that address core business challenges, including:

- **Leadership and Team Cohesion:** Developing a high-performing culture with courses on effective leadership, motivation, and communication.
- **Operational Excellence:** Implementing Lean principles to improve efficiency, reduce waste, and connect with your company's core mission.
- **Technology and Digital Literacy:** Offering training in the Microsoft Suite at all levels of competency, as well as an introduction to Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its practical applications for enhancing daily tasks.

Flexible and Customized Solutions

Our approach is centered on flexibility to meet the unique demands of your business. We offer a variety of delivery formats, including hands-on workshops, multi-day seminars, customized courses, and retreat-style events. All training can be conducted on-site at your business, at one of our convenient campus locations, at a community venue, or online.

Let us partner with you to overcome your biggest workforce challenges. Together, we can maximize your team's potential and pave the way for a brighter future for your business! For more information contact us at Corporate-ed@mohave.edu or call us at 928-757-0868





Help Us Build Mohave County's Digital Tourism Guide

Mohave County Economic Development and Tourism is excited to share that we are in the early stages of creating a **digital tourism guide** to showcase everything our region has to offer visitors. This guide will be a dynamic, easily accessible resource highlighting the incredible attractions, events, businesses, and experiences that make Mohave County a destination worth discovering.

We know that the best way to capture the true spirit of our county is by including the voices and contributions of those who live and work here in the tourism industry. That's why we're making an **open call for content submissions**. Whether you represent a lodging property, restaurant, tour company, retail shop, attraction, or host community events, this is a great opportunity to share your story and be part of a resource that will reach visitors worldwide.

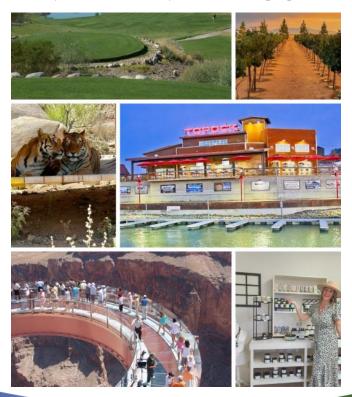
Types of content we're seeking include:

- High-quality photos of your business, attraction, or event
- Short write-ups describing unique experiences or services you provide
- Upcoming event information
- Special offers or visitor highlights that set your location apart

The digital guide will serve as both an inspiration tool for travelers planning their visit and a practical resource once they arrive. With so many diverse landscapes and experiences across Mohave County—from riverfront adventures and Route 66 history to desert exploration and cultural attractions—we want to ensure every corner of our county is represented.

If your business or attraction would like to be included, please email submissions to **tourism@mohave.gov** with the subject line: *Tourism Guide Content*. This is a fantastic chance to shine a spotlight on your business or attraction while collectively strengthening the visibility of Mohave County as a premier travel destination.

Together, let's create a digital guide that truly reflects the richness of our county and inspires visitors to explore it all! Because no one tells the story of Mohave County better than the people who call it home.





Unleashing Innovation: Arizona Tech Week 2026

By Beatriz Soto

Arizona is stepping into the spotlight as a national tech powerhouse with the inaugural **Arizona Tech Week 2026**. From April 6 to 12, the Grand Canyon State will transform into a dynamic hub of innovation, bringing together entrepreneurs, investors, and tech enthusiasts for a weeklong celebration of cutting-edge technology and groundbreaking ideas.

What to Expect

This first-of-its-kind, statewide decentralized tech conference will feature:

- Over 25,000 participants, including 5,000 investors, 10,000 startups, and 10,000 influencers
- **Keynotes and panels** with industry leaders
- **Pitch competitions** showcasing the next big ideas
- Networking events connecting visionaries from across the globe
- Exclusive Arizona experiences highlighting the state's unique tech landscape

Whether you're a startup founder, an investor, or simply passionate about technology, Arizona Tech Week offers unparalleled opportunities to connect, learn, and grow.

Why Arizona?

Arizona is rapidly emerging as a global tech leader, with billions in new investments, a surge of startups, and a deep pool of skilled talent. From next-gen technologies like AI and automated vehicles to North America's most advanced microchip factories, Arizona isn't just keeping pace with the future - we're shaping it.

Join Us Across the State

Events will take place in various locations across Arizona, offering a firsthand look at the groundbreaking innovations and thriving industries putting the state on the map. From the tech corridors of Phoenix to the innovative hubs in Tucson, each day promises new insights and opportunities.

Get Involved

Don't miss your chance to be part of this historic celebration of innovation! Register your event today and join Arizona's tech revolution. We've heard folks mention everything from Tech Pop-Up Fairs and EV Museum features to immersive experiences. The best part? You get to decide what to bring to the table - create something new, showcase your ideas, or highlight your local tech talent at Arizona Tech Week 2026!





Community Spotlight

Kingman Rental Bikes



About Kingman Rental Bikes

Kingman Rental Bikes is a locally owned and operated bike rental and bicycle museum. Jenn Tramaglino, founder of Kingman Rental Bikes, grew up in Kingman and has had a family business, in the Downtown tourist corridor since 1985. Kingman Rental Bikes has seasonal hours and as of October 2025, is open at 10am on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Rentals start at \$10 per hour.

► Kingman on the Go: Rent a Bike and See It All

Kingman Rental Bikes provides a fleet of high-quality Micargi Cruiser bicycles for rent by the hour. Guests can cruise Route 66 and visit the historic downtown area for landmarks, museums, parks, shopping and dining. Kingman Rental Bikes offers a convenient, healthy, and sustainable way to see the sights. All rentals include a helmet, a lock and an introduction to Arizona and City of Kingman laws during "Bike Class" to ensure a safe and enjoyable ride. Kingman Rental Bikes is committed to promoting outdoor activity, tourism, and a greener mode of transportation.

"We hope this service enhances how visitors experience our downtown area," said Jenn Tramaglino, founder of Kingman Rental Bikes. "Kingman has so many fun things to do downtown, and a bike makes it easy for people to cruise around, find treasure at the local shops, see the sights and find great places to eat or grab a drink after their ride."

Located in the heart of Downtown Kingman at 201 E. Andy Devine Avenue, inside a remodeled Mobil gas station, Kingman Rentals Bikes is also home to Route 66 Bicycle Museum and a "Road Trip Fun & Games" themed Gift Shop. Route 66 Bicycle Museum hosts a collection of vintage, retro and very unique cycles of all sorts, along with a still-growing collection of cycling memorabilia. The gift shop at Kingman Bike Rentals has toys, games, art supplies and books for kids of all ages to have some fun on their road trip or bring home a gift for their loved ones.

Contact Information

Owner: Jenn Tramaglino

Address: 201 E. Andy Devine Ave.

Kingman, AZ 86401

Phone: 1-866-40-BIKES (24537)

If you would like your business spotlight in the newsletter, contact Michelle Loeber at loebem@mohave.gov.



Mohave County Update: Northern Arizona Good Jobs Network

By Tami Ursenbach

We are now in the implementation phase of the Northern Arizona Good Jobs Network grant. This means we are now delivering training, wrapping support services, and connecting trainees to jobs.

FREE trainings are being offered to anyone in the 5 northern counties. Mohave County residents are able to take advantage of training in Basic Manufacturing through Mohave County Economic Development Department and Non-Technical Trainings (soft skills) through Mohave College. White Mountain Economic Development is also offering Food Service trainings in Mohave County.

We want to welcome **Tyra Cheney** for agreeing to be our *Program Facilitator* for the NAGJN grant. Tyra comes to us with a love and compassion to help people as well as she understands the learning platform and will be a resource to all participants.

Tyra will be the main point of contact for people looking to participate in online manufacturing and construction trainings. Michelle Loeber will continue to work with employers to support their needs.

The courses are online and FREE. They are interactive and very informative. Note: *The only courses that require a fee are OSHA 10 at \$65 and OSHA 30 \$165. Fees pay for certification through OSHA.*

For Job Seekers / Incumbent Workers

1. Stay informed & get connected

Sign up for updates from Mohave County Economic Development office for workforce trainings. Also sign up for Mohave College and Arizona@Work for additional trainings.

2. Enroll in training / readiness workshops

Take advantage of free manufacturing and construction online/self-paced modules by contacting our office.

3. Engage employers & apprenticeship models

Seek apprenticeships or "earn-while-you-learn" opportunities that combine training with paid work (this is a goal of the NAGJN and the Workforce Development Board).

Provide feedback to training providers about employer needs, schedule flexibility, and necessary supports.

For Community Partners

1. Participate in design & feedback loops

Engage in employer Manufacturing Roundtables to help shape the curriculum and training models (so they match real hiring needs). Share local labor data, employer forecasts, and barrier analyses (transportation, broadband, childcare) to inform program design.

2. Apply for wraparound service funding

Nonprofits, community organizations, or municipal agencies can submit proposals when Local First issues the RFA to provide wraparound services (transportation and childcare) to trainees in Mohave.

3. Strengthen partnerships across the ecosystem

Connect local employers, workforce agencies, schools, nonprofits, and community colleges.

Align complementary programs (e.g. existing WIOA offerings, county adult education, job training centers) so they support, rather than duplicate, new training under NAGJN.

4. Monitor & evaluate progress

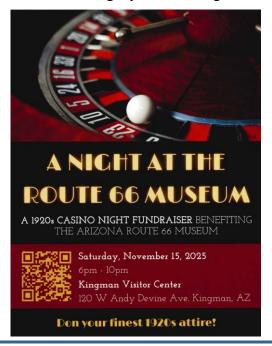
We will be tracking metrics such as enrollment numbers, retention/completion rates, job placements, wage growth, and barriers overcome and sharing our findings.

Use those data to improve program design, target supports and adjust strategies over time.



REGIONAL SPOTLIGHT

Don't miss the exciting kick-off event for the Route 66 Centennial Celebration, launching a year of unforgettable tributes to America's most iconic highway!





FACEBOOK

Stay in the loop on all things Mohave County tourism – follow our **Regional Tourism Facebook page** and give us a like today!





Overcoming the Lack of Energy in Rural Areas

By Tami Ursenbach

Access to reliable energy is no longer a luxury—it is a necessity for modern life, economic development, and community well-being. Yet, many rural areas continue to struggle with limited or unreliable energy infrastructure. The lack of consistent power hinders growth, restricts access to technology, and makes it difficult for families and businesses to thrive. Overcoming this challenge requires a combination of innovation, collaboration, and investment in sustainable solutions.

1. Harnessing Renewable Energy Sources

One of the most practical strategies for rural communities is to adopt localized energy plan to have small modular power generation. Incentivizing energy companies to locate in the county to generate clean power close to where it is needed (natural gas, biomass, geothermal, hydropower, and even solar and wind), reducing dependency on distant power grids. These solutions not only bring electricity but also reduce long-term costs and create local jobs.

2. Expanding Microgrids and Distributed Energy

Instead of relying solely on large utility companies, rural regions can benefit from microgrids—small, independent energy networks that serve a specific area. Microgrids can operate independently or connect with larger grids, providing flexibility and resilience. Distributed energy systems allow communities, schools, and businesses to produce their own electricity, creating stability even during regional outages.

3. Community Education and Workforce Training

Sustainable energy solutions are most effective when local communities are directly involved. Training rural residents in installation, maintenance, and energy efficiency creates a skilled workforce and keeps resources within the community. Education on energy-saving practices—such as efficient appliances, smart meters, and conservation—further stretches available resources and lowers costs.

4. Bridging the Gap with Transitional Solutions

While long-term projects are essential, immediate relief can come through transitional strategies. Small modular units such as natural gas units, shared community charging stations, and energy-efficient building retrofits can quickly improve quality of life while larger infrastructure projects are underway.

Looking Ahead

Energy access is the foundation for growth in rural areas. By leveraging a diversification of technologies, embracing microgrids, strengthening partnerships, and empowering communities, the lack of energy can be transformed from a barrier into an opportunity. Rural regions have the potential to attract different energy sources —building resilient systems that support families, attract businesses, and secure a brighter future for generations to come.



Mohave County Tourism Heads to the American Film Market Expo

By Michelle Loeber



Mohave County Economic Development and Tourism is thrilled to announce our upcoming participation in the **American Film Market (AFM) Expo**, taking place November 11–16 in Los Angeles. This world-renowned event brings together film industry professionals from more than 70 countries, including acquisition and development executives, agents, directors, distributors, film commissioners, and producers. It is one of the premier opportunities to showcase destinations to the decision-makers who choose filming locations. This is the event where more than \$1 Billion in distribution and film financing deals are closed each year.

We are proud to attend alongside two valued partners: Adam Geller, Tourism Administrative Coordinator for the City of Kingman Tourism Office, and Jackie Jensen, Director of Marketing and Tourism for the City of Bullhead City. Together, we will represent Mohave County and highlight the remarkable natural beauty, diverse landscapes, and unmatched filming opportunities that our region has to offer.

From the striking desert vistas and rugged mountain ranges to the mighty Colorado River and iconic Route 66, Mohave County offers a cinematic backdrop unlike any other. With our close proximity to Hollywood, our county is perfectly positioned to attract productions seeking authenticity, wide-open spaces, and unique Southwestern character.

Participation in the AFM Expo is not only a chance to share our story with global film professionals but also to strengthen partnerships that can bring long-term benefits to our communities. By putting Mohave County on the map as a premier filming destination, we are opening doors for economic growth, increased tourism, and future opportunities that spotlight the splendor of our corner of Arizona.

As we head into this exciting event, we are confident that **Mohave County will shine on the big screen.**



America 250: Honoring the Past, Inspiring the Future

By Beatriz Soto

In 2026, the United States will commemorate a monumental milestone - the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. This historic event, known as *America250*, invites all Americans to reflect on the nation's journey, honor its diverse heritage, and look forward to a future built on unity and progress.

A Year-Long Celebration

America250 is not just a one-day event but a year-long celebration that began on Memorial Day 2025 and will culminate on July 4, 2026. Organized by the Salute to America 250 Task Force, this initiative brings together federal, state, and local governments, along with private and nonprofit organizations, to celebrate the nation's rich history and diverse cultures. The celebration aims to inspire a renewed love for American history and ignite a spirit of innovation that will propel the nation into its next 250 years.

Key State Events and Activities

- **Passport250 Arizona**: Arizona has launched *Passport250*, an interactive digital guide highlighting 250 iconic places across the state. From historic landmarks to natural wonders and cultural treasures, Arizonans and visitors can take part in themed challenges like *Hike250*, *Dine250*, and *Treasures250*. Participants earn recognition as they explore and complete lists, making it a fun and engaging way to celebrate both Arizona's heritage and America's 250th anniversary.
- Traveling Liberty Bell Exhibit: A replica of the Liberty Bell is touring all 15 Arizona counties, accompanied by historic documents, art pieces, and interactive exhibits that highlight Arizona's contributions to America's story.
- **Operation Freedom March**: A statewide initiative inviting service members, veterans, families, and supporters to collectively complete the entire 800-mile Arizona National Scenic Trail over the course of one year, from July 4, 2025, to July 4, 2026.

Get Involved

America250 encourages everyone to take part in the celebration by attending local events, volunteering, or sharing personal stories. One of the key initiatives is creating the largest audiovisual archive of American voices ever assembled, preserving the experiences of everyday people for future generations.

Looking Ahead

As July 4, 2026 approaches, *America250* is more than a commemoration -it's a call to honor our past, celebrate our present, and chart a bold course for the future. Together, communities across the nation will reflect on the founding ideals of liberty and justice while embracing the opportunities of the next 250 years.

For more information and to find events near you, visit America250.org or Arizona's hub at AZ250.



Mark Your Calendar!

The October Regional Tourism Meeting is almost here.

Join us for an exciting lineup of speakers and insights you won't want to miss! RSVP by October 10th with Beatriz Soto at sotobe@mohave.gov to secure your spot.



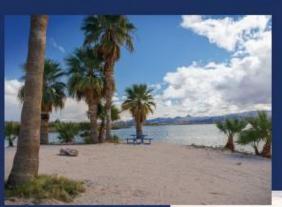
Discover the Future of Tourism in Our State and Region

Join us for an engaging session highlighting current developments and future opportunities in tourism.

- Alex Ridgway, Interim State Director, Governor's Office of Tourism sharing key updates and insights for our state and region.
- Daniel Roddy, Western Region Manager, Arizona State Parks and Trails – showcasing the rich landscapes and attractions that draw visitors from around the world.
- Cal Sheehy, Mayor of Lake Havasu City offering inspiring remarks on the impact of tourism in our community.



Alex Ridgway



Location: Lake Havasu State Park

The Point Beach Pavilion

699 London Bridge Rd, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403



Daniel Roddy



Cal Sheehy

Date & Time: October 16, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

RSVP with Beatriz Soto at Sotobe@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 Gem of Mohave County – Burro Creek Campground!

By Beatriz Soto

Looking for a desert adventure that combines breathtaking scenery, wildlife encounters, and a peaceful getaway? Burro Creek Campground is calling your name! Nestled where the Sonoran and Mojave deserts meet, this serene campground offers a unique escape just a short drive from Kingman or Wickenburg.

Imagine camping beneath towering saguaro-studded cliffs, wading in the clear waters of Burro Creek, or gazing at a star-studded sky far from city lights. Whether you're hiking, birdwatching, photographing stunning landscapes, or just relaxing by a campfire, Burro Creek is a playground for nature lovers and adventurers alike.

What Awaits You:

- •23 individual campsites, plus group and day-use areas
- •Access to flush toilets, drinking water, picnic tables, and fire rings
- •Incredible opportunities for hiking, rockhounding, and wildlife spotting
- •Close encounters with desert bighorn sheep, javelina, and countless bird species

Plan Your Visit:

- •Individual campsites: \$14/night (senior discount \$7)
- •Group site: \$50/night
- •Some sites available via first-come, first-served, others are reservable at Recreation.gov

Just 60 miles northwest of Wickenburg on Highway 93, Burro Creek Campground is easy to reach yet feels worlds away.

Don't just take our word for it—experience the magic of Burro Creek for yourself. Pack your gear, bring your sense of adventure, and create memories that will last a lifetime!



Tourism Meeting Notes



Date: Thursday, September 18, 2025

Location: Mohave County Administration Building - Saguaro Conference Rooms

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

Presentations:

<u>Supervisor Rich Lettman – Mohave County Board of Supervisors</u> 75th Anniversary of Davis Dam

- Davis Dam, spanning the Colorado River between Arizona and Nevada, was completed in 1952 and anchors Mohave County's western border.
- A Davis Dam 75th Anniversary Steering Committee is planning commemorative activities, including public access resolutions and invitations to the Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with local cities, chambers, and stakeholders.
- Key goals: recognize the dam's construction history, its community impact, and provide opportunities for public celebration.
- Bullhead City School District has requested to resume field trips to Davis Dam; tours have been suspended since 9/11/2001.
- National Public Lands Day: Bureau of Reclamation will open the power plant for public tours on September 27, 2025.
- Commemorative Summit: Scheduled for January 8, 2026, to bring together local leaders and stakeholders to discuss regional land and water use and celebrate Davis Dam's historical significance.

Colorado River Valley Rebranding

- Mohave County is coordinating efforts to rebrand the Colorado River Valley as a premier destination for tourism, recreation, and economic development.
- Plans include new signage on the Arizona side through ADOT.
- Efforts are expected to accelerate in 2026.

<u>Katie Barthlow, Communications Specialist – Historic Route 66 Association</u> 100 Years of Route 66 – what to expect in Mohave County in 2026

• Route 66 Centennial Celebration: 2026 marks 100 years; tourism is expected to increase, coinciding with America250.



Tourism Meeting Notes Continued

- Kickoff Event: "A Night at the Route 66 Museum" casino night fundraiser for the Arizona Route 66 Museum on November 15, 2025.
- Key 2026 Events:

Detroit Auto Show Tour: January 3–12

o Copperstate 1000: April 11–15

Great Race: June 20–28 Route 66 Caravan: June

 Resources available at <u>Historic 66 AZ</u>, including guided audio tours, an Arizona Route 66 guide, and trip itineraries.

Community Updates

- **Grand Canyon Caverns & Inn** Recently had a grand reopening after a three-year hiatus. Now under Havasupai Tribe ownership, the property has undergone major renovations. The cavern suite will be removed after this year and replaced with a high-end gift shop, as the property is being revamped into a resort-style destination.
- **Economic Development Advisory Commission (EDAC)** Actively shaping the city's economic future through strategic planning efforts. Featured area events can be found at **Explore Kingman**.
- **Vistas** Their site plan was approved two weeks ago, allowing them to proceed with permits, property development, and business preparation.
- **Kingman Center for the Arts** Upcoming events at the Beale Street Theater include:
 - October: Ghost Walks and hypnotist
 - November 6: Violinist Rob Landes
 - November 14: Western Showcase
 - o Full event calendar is available at Kingman Arts
- Lake Havasu Area Chamber of Commerce events include:
 - o 15th Annual Desert Bash & Off-Road Poker Run: December 5–7, 2025
 - o 40th Annual Winterfest Street Festival in Lake Havasu City: February 1–2, 2026

- Mohave Mortgages Offers freelance video content and social media services.
- **City of Needles, CA** Hosting a Route 66 Info Fair on February 14, 2026, at the historic El Garces Harvey House.
- **Mohave County Economic Development** Creating a digital Mohave County tourism magazine. Anyone interested in contributing should contact their office.

