

### Mayor's Monthly Message: July 2019

I hope you are enjoying your summertime! Florence is always a great place to celebrate the Fourth of July at our Heritage Park each year. Thursday is the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July's, Freedom Fest event. An entire day and evening of 4<sup>th</sup> of July programming begins with free open swim at the Florence Aquatic Center from noon until 5:00 p.m. Requested admission is a new backpack or school supplies, which will be donated to FUSD. Spectators and participants alike enjoy the annual Cannonball Contest which begins at 3:00 p.m. Freedom Fest shifts to Heritage Park at 5:00 p.m., offering bingo (prizes donated by local businesses), inflatables, and food vendors. Free watermelon will be available and distributed by members of the Robles Boxing Club. Teen Council members will coordinate a variety of games for kids from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Onsite registration for the annual Cornhole Tournament will be accepted until 5:30 p.m. or until 24 teams are registered. For only \$30 per team (ages 18 and up), participants can compete against up to 24 teams. The tournament begins at 6:00 p.m. The grand prize is two new Cornhole Tournament boards. The 10<sup>th</sup> and Main Band takes the stage from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., followed by a spectacular fireworks display. Community Services Department is grateful to SRP for its \$5,000 community grant towards this event. SRP representatives will have water-safety information at the aquatic center as well as other giveaways.

At the July 1, 2019 Council Meeting, the Town Council challenged Florence Unified School District and the Florence business community to create a PB&J Drive with a goal of 2, 500 jars. The PB&J Drive is a partnership with the United Way of Pinal County, Florence Unified School District, local businesses, and our community as a whole. The drive will last for a total of three weeks and the results will be presented at the August 19, 2019 council meeting. As a whole, Pinal County has the third highest level of food insecure children in the state, but with this collection underway, our goal is that local students will never go home hungry. I want to encourage everyone to participate and give if they can to this great cause. ☺

In addition to kicking off July with our main 4<sup>th</sup> of July event and upcoming community challenge, the Town of Florence has been busy planning many other summer fun activities. To find upcoming events and activities, please visit our Town website: [www.florenceaz.gov](http://www.florenceaz.gov).

As always, there are great things happening in Florence, AZ. We have the best community and people! Stay safe and enjoy. ☺

Sincerely,

Tara Walter  
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