

WHITE MOUNTAIN Independent

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THE WHITE MOUNTAINS' AWARD-WINNING NEWSPAPER

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Dads get longest day of year

BY CONNIE LANE
Staff Writer

SHOW LOW — This year the earth is getting in on the celebration of dads with the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere, as Father's Day falls on the summer solstice.

Though Father's Day unofficially started in 1908, Washington state was first to hold an official state-wide celebration on June 19, 1910. It was all due to one widow woman bound and determined to honor her one-of-a-kind father, William Jackson Smart, a twice-married, twice-widowed, Civil War veteran on both sides of the conflict, and single father to 14 children.

In 1916, President Wilson used telegraph signals sent from Washington D.C. to unfurl a flag in Spokane D.C. to commemorate the day.

Despite all the passion and effort, the paternal holiday was slow to take off, partially because men found such celebrations

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Storms bring lightning, fire

Dangerous fire season continues with record-high temps

BY PETER ALESHIRE

Special to the Independent

Arizona firefighters continue to toil on the superheated edge of disaster, with record temperatures, kindling-dry fuels and new fires flaring almost daily.

Despite the terrible conditions, crews have held the line on the big, currently active fires scattered across the state. Still, the forecast calls for near-record temperatures and extreme fire conditions across much of the state for the next week.

The White Mountains have been largely spared the worst of a bad fire season so far, but the slow build towards monsoon conditions will likely deliver a series of dry lightning storms across much of the state before rainfall begins to bring the danger down.

Lightning sparked the Horton Fire on Wednesday, just five miles Northeast of Hannigan Meadows south of Alpine. Some 40 firefighters with five engines, a dozer and a water tender rushed to contain the blaze — burning mostly through dead snags and downed trees in the Wallow Fire Scar. As of Wednesday, it had grown to 40 acres.

Other much larger blazes also bedeviled firefighters across the state, struggling with both record temperatures that hit 117 degrees in Phoenix, topped 100 in Payson and lurched into



US Forest Service Photo

The Pinnacle Fire has burned 16,000 acres south of Bylas.

the 90s in Show Low.

The Telegraph Fire near Superior has grown to 166,000 acres, but is just 72% contained. The fire has produced numerous evacuation alerts, but exhausting efforts by 1,000 firefighters with air tanker support have so far held key fire lines — often anchored on highways.

The Telegraph and Mescal fires have now officially merged into a single 220,000 acre expanse of burned chaparral and desert grasslands. The Telegraph Fire has damaged at least 20 structures since it started on June 4 about 1.5 miles southeast of Superior. It has grown by more than 15,000 acres since last Tuesday and is now considered 59% contained.

The dry thunderstorms have

complicated efforts, causing the fire to make wind-driven runs — sometimes outflanking fire crews. "The Telegraph Fire received outflow winds from cells building over the White Mountains in the later afternoon," said the latest update in Inciweb. "Winds increased dramatically with gusts near 40 mph driving uncontained fire downslope to the south past Dripping Springs Road. After the outflow winds dissipated, fire returned to moderately active southerly growth through Sonoran Desert grass, brush, and cacti."

In the Verde Valley, the Cornville Fire briefly threatened a small community after it started from unknown causes on June 13. The fire grew to

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Shawn D. Morrow

Summit Healthcare announces new CEO

The Governing Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Shawn D. Morrow has been selected as Chief Executive Officer to replace Ron McArthur who is retiring on August 6.

Morrow is a seasoned healthcare administrator with over 20 years' experience leading tertiary, mid-size and small hospitals. He holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Murray State University and a Bachelor's Degree in Portuguese/ Business Management from

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Photos and story by Jim Headley/The Independent R&B Tree Removal's Eli Quay is suspended in a Ponderosa Pine tree by a Perkins Cinders crane to cut down the top section of the large pine Monday afternoon. The crane then flew the large section over and through other trees to land it safely on the street for removal.

Cutting tall trees in Pinetop

Excitement filled the air Monday on Blue Ridge Loop in Pinetop as R&B Tree Removal teamed up with a crane from Perkins Cinders to remove four very tall Ponderosa Pine trees from the property of George and Carol Sue Myers on South Blue Ridge Loop. The crane was enlisted to lift sections of the tall trees over other homes and tall pines in the area.



A crane from Perkins Cinders removes one of four big Ponderosa Pine trees from the property of George and Carol Sue Myers on South Blue Ridge Loop Monday.



Fishers of Men for Veterans does it again



This Flag Day poster is from 1919, the 140th Flag Day.

BY RT LYNCH

Justice Reporter

SHOW LOW — Flag Day is celebrated on June 14 every year, commemorating a resolution by the Second Continental Congress called The Flag Resolution enacted on June 14, 1777 in Philadelphia. With the words "Resolved, The flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation," the official Flag was born.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed that day as Flag Day, and in 1948, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress, according to historical sources.

This week, 190 American Flags were hard to miss across from the Victorian in Show Low. They were placed there by Fishers of Men for Veterans, a non-profit organization based in Pinetop Lakeside. The Fishers place flag displays around the holidays of Memorial Day, May 31; the Fourth of July; Veterans' Day, Nov. 11; and the anniversaries of the attack on Pearl Harbor by the Empire of Japan on Dec. 7 and September 11.

The September 11 display last year bore a significance not readily observable, including 219 American flags in the same place as this week's Flag Day display. Then, each flag represented an Arizona veteran who perished in the wars after September 11, including the

13 service members who came from local communities here.

About Fishers of Men

The name comes from the New Testament: "And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me and I will make you fishers of men." Gospel of Mark 1:17, King James Bible. The same instruction appears in two other New Testament books as well, in Matthew and not so eloquently in Luke, "Fear not; from henceforth thou shall catch men." (5:10)

In 2006, one strong lady took that passage to heart and formed non profit 501 © 3 organization, Fishers of Men for Veterans in 2008, which she calls a ministry.

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By RT Lynch/Justice Reporter 190 flags are displayed in Show Low by Fishers of Men for Veterans.

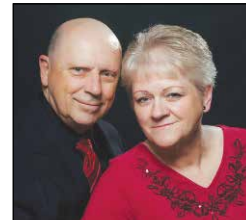
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3-day forecast

Today: Mostly sunny with winds up to 21 mph; 94/63.
Saturday: Sunny with winds up to 23 mph; 95/64.
Sunday: More sunshine with winds up to 26 mph; 94/62



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Music recital

Gentrys also to celebrate golden anniversary

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Your White Mountain Grocer

4-DAY SALE - FRI., SAT., SUN., MON.

1.59
lb
Pork Loin Country Style Ribs
Bone-In, value pack
Offers Valid through June 21, 2021

3.99
lb
Cotton Candy Grapes

9.99
ea
Ham & Cheese Melt
With fries and a medium drink