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WELCOME TO OUR

# Monthly Newsletter

*we're so glad you're here!*

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WHO IS CANYON COMMUNITY ALLIANCE?

## Our Mission

CCA's mission is to **cultivate an alliance** to provide education, resources, and opportunities for the community to **improve the quality** of life while building a sustainable environment.



Utilizing the **9 pillars of self-love** to bring harmony into one's human experience:

- Intellectual
- Emotional
- Occupational
- Environment
- Community
- Physical
- Adventure
- Spiritual
- Creative Expression

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# Created To Inspire A Harmonious Community

Canyon Community Alliance is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation in the State of Arizona. Donations to CCA are tax deductible to the extent allowed under the Internal Revenue Code of the United States.

EIN # 88-1901692

[www.canyonconcommunityalliance.org](http://www.canyonconcommunityalliance.org)

DONATE | 

# In this Issue

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- UPCOMING EVENTS
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- COCONINO COUNTY HAPPENINGS
- THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

## Upcoming Events



**Get Health Insurance**  
Meet our trained assisters who will help you explore options and sign up for health insurance on the spot.



Have your health insurance questions answered and apply for health coverage at this enrollment event near you.

**January 6, 2024**  
10:00am-4:00pm / Appointments and Walk-ins Welcome

**DoubleTree by Hilton Flagstaff**  
1175 West Route 66, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001

For more information, visit [coveraz.org](http://coveraz.org) or call 1-800-377-3536.

SPONSORED BY





This event is supported by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$12,295,162 with 99% percentage funded by CMS, 0% and \$25,000 amount and 1 percentage funded by non-government source(s). The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official view of, nor an endorsement by CMS/HHS, or the U.S. Government.



**St. Mary's Food Bank**

**ST. MARY'S FOOD DISTRIBUTION**  
**JAN 11TH 10:30AM-12:30PM**  
**GRAND CANYON INN MOTEL**  
**EVERY 2ND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH**

**If you would like to add events to the newsletter please contact us.**

**[Click here to contact us!](#)**

**[Click Here for more Info!](#)**



# What Happened In 2023?

In reflecting on 2023, immense gratitude fills our hearts. **Thank you for the wonderful support** that made our events possible. Your collaboration and dedication were the driving forces behind our successful gatherings. Each moment shared was a testament to the **strength** of our community. As we step into the new year, we carry the warmth of these connections with us. **Your support is the heartbeat of our community**, and we look forward to creating more cherished moments together in 2024.

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As we bid farewell to 2023, we're thrilled to reflect on the incredible milestones we achieved together. In partnership with St. Mary's Food Bank, we proudly distributed food monthly, supporting **413 households** with an astounding **24,129 pounds of nourishment**.

We had the wonderful opportunity to create a rummage sale program due to the support from **Valle Mini Storage** and the donations from community members.

Our community meetings sparked dynamic discussions, **bringing us together to envision the future of Valle**. Your ideas and input are the driving force behind the positive changes we're implementing.

The **joy of community** echoed during our annual Easter Egg Hunt, creating **unforgettable moments** for families and friends. In that same month we received the **generous donation** of land from the Collin's Investments LLC to help bring Postal Services and a community space to our area.

**Collaboration** was key as we teamed up with S&J Mobile Cafe, Grand Canyon Rec Center, and Juniper Hill Band for the 2nd Annual S&J Mobile Cafe Pot Luck & CCA Corn Hole Tournament. It was a delightful **celebration full of community spirit!**

In October, things heated up as the weather cooled down at our 2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off & Costume Contest, followed by heartfelt moments of **gratitude** during our 2nd Annual Thanksgiving Potluck.

As we step into 2024, we're excited to **continue these traditions** and **explore new avenues** of community engagement. Your support fuels the vitality of Valle, and together, **we're creating a brighter Future**.



# Sustainable Living

## OFF-GRID WINTER CHECKLIST

### 1. Heating Essentials:

- Ensure your heating source (wood stove, propane heater, etc.) is in good working condition.
- Stock up on sufficient firewood or propane to last through the winter.
- For Firewood Permits visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/kaibab/passes-permits/forestproducts/?cid=fseprd496954>
- For County Assistance with Firewood and/or Propane visit <https://www.coconino.az.gov/149/Social-Services>

### 2. Winterize Shelter:

- Check for any drafts or leaks in your living space and seal them to conserve heat.
- Insulate windows and doors to retain warmth.

### 3. Water Management:

- Prevent freezing pipes by insulating them or using heat tape.
- Let outdoor water storage nozzles drip slightly to prevent freezing and busting.
- Have a plan for obtaining water if your regular source freezes, such as a well-insulated backup supply.

### 4. Emergency Power Supply:

- Ensure your off-grid power source (solar panels, wind turbine, generator) is winter-ready.
- Have a backup power source or generator in case of prolonged cloudy days.
- Keep candles on-hand for Emergency light.

### 5. Winter Clothing and Gear:

- Invest in proper winter clothing, including insulated boots, heavy-duty gloves, and thermal layers.
- Keep emergency supplies such as; blankets, flashlights, and non-perishable food in case of power outages.

### 6. Indoor Fire Prevention:

- Clean the Chimney annually using a Chimney Sweep Brush.
- Make sure Space Heaters have an automatic tipping shut off and/or place them on a non-flammable surface such as ceramic tile. Remove all flammable items within 3 feet.

### 7. Food Storage:

- Check and stock your pantry with non-perishable food items for times when travel is challenging.
- Need assistance with food?
  - St. Mary's Monthly Food Distribution in Valle: January 11th, 10:30am-12:30pm Grand Canyon Motel
  - Coconino County Social Services: <https://www.coconino.az.gov/149/Social-Services>

### 8. Outdoor Machinery Winterization:

- Drain gas or add fuel stabilizer (such as STA-BIL) check anti-freeze, disconnect the battery, keep equipment in a covered area or cover engine with a tarp.

### 9. Vehicle Readiness:

- Ensure your vehicle is winterized with appropriate tires, antifreeze, and emergency supplies such as a tow rope, blankets, water and snacks in case you get stuck.

### 10. Health Precautions:

- Have a basic first aid kit and necessary medications stocked.
- Stay informed about potential health risks associated with winter conditions at higher elevations.

# Natural Living

## DIY NATURAL CLEANING AGENT

Switching to natural cleaning agents not only keeps your home sparkling but also promotes a healthier environment. From the power of vinegar and baking soda for scrubbing to the refreshing scent of essential oils, embracing these natural alternatives reduces exposure to harmful chemicals and contributes to a greener, more sustainable living space.



[CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT MORE](#)

## Recipe of the Month

### SOUTHWEST WHITE CHICKEN CHILI

Shared by the 2023 1st Place CCA Chili Cook-off Award winner, Anna Freese.



#### Ingredients

- 2 large chicken breasts cooked and chopped
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 15-ounce can of black beans rinsed and drained
- 15 ounce can of pinto beans
- 10 ounces of corn cooked and drained
- ½ teaspoon ground black pepper
- ½ teaspoon cumin
- ½ teaspoon chili powder
- ½ teaspoon dried minced onion or onion powder
- 1 cup chunky salsa
- ¼ cup heavy whipping cream not whipped
- 4 ounces cream cheese Philadelphia brand, at room temperature, cubed
- 12 ounces of hatch chili queso
- ½ teaspoon salt optional or adjust to taste

#### Instructions

Pour the chicken broth, pepper, cumin, chili powder, dried minced onions, and cubed cream cheese into a large Dutch oven. Heat ingredients on low until cream cheese melts. Whisk the mixture so it becomes creamy. Add the cooked chicken, black beans, corn, salsa, and heavy cream. Stir to combine. Bring to a low boil then reduce heat to simmer. Simmer for 15 to 20 minutes with the lid on. Taste and add salt if needed. Add 12 ounces of hatch chili queso. Serve immediately.

[Click here to share your favorite recipe](#)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN

# Coconino County

### **COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVES YOUTH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROJECT**

Coconino County Board of Supervisors has greenlit the Youth Behavioral Health Project (YBHP), funded by ARPA, aimed at providing preemptive behavioral healthcare for youth aged 12-18. The project includes an innovative youth behavioral resource center in Flagstaff and services in surrounding communities including Williams and Tusayan. Guided by the Allcove Model, it emphasizes a youth-led approach and offers various support services, fostering community engagement and partnerships tailored to each location. The goal is to collaborate with existing service providers to address pressing youth needs. More information about the project and ongoing project updates can be found at

<https://coconino.az.gov/3279/Youth-Behavioral-Health-Project>

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### **Coconino County Comprehensive Plan**

This "Plan is the County's long-range policy document. It provides a twenty-year vision and guide for future physical, economic, and social development for the entire county, and contains maps, goals, policies, and implementation actions that guide decisions about the County's future, in particular land use decisions." Phase I was to create focus groups, one of which was held within Valle, which are designed to collect ideas for how the community and county should grow and what the needs, issues and trends were and how to address each of them. You can see the focus group discussion notes here using the link below.

Next will be Phase II that will begin late Winter/ early Spring of 2024. This is when the plan will be drafted and made available for public review and comments prior to the public hearings. The early part of Phase II will include more focus groups, a survey, in-person community and online open houses, and the forming of a Comprehensive Plan Advisory Group.

[HTTPS://COCONINOCOUNTY.KONVEIO.COM/ENVISION2045](https://coconinocounty.konveio.com/envision2045)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN

# Rural America

## Roadmap for Rural Progress

The **Rural Action Policy Report**, praised by Sherri Jones from the Florence Unified School District, is a valuable tool for officials and service providers to understand rural Arizona. It addresses economic development, food supply, education, health, safety, and overall vitality. It emphasizes federal dollars are not only for big cities - but she says rural towns have a harder time making federal programs work.. This initiative recommends 10% of federal program funding for lower-income counties, support for rural businesses and infrastructure, and strengthening the U.S. Postal Service. Jones stresses the need for tailored solutions, especially for unique challenges in tribal communities, aiming to diversify local economies and address economic declines in small towns. Jones added people feel the need to leave rural areas for better opportunities when they no longer see the value in staying. Jones added it is also important to acknowledge that all rural communities across Arizona are unique, and said tribal communities in particular face their own set of challenges, so there is no 'one-size-fits-all' approach.

There are 4 pillars that they would like to address:

### FEDERAL POLICY ACTION FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES

**PILLAR 1:** Protect people's freedom to live and work safely and without discrimination; Democracy | Native Nations Environmental Justice | Equitable Funding Labor Protections | Health Access | Safety for All Communities | Equal Rights

**PILLAR 2:** Invest in foundational infrastructure for thriving communities; Fair Taxes | Credit | Education | Healthcare | Child Care | Post Office | Housing | Local Capacity | Broadband

**PILLAR 3:** Safeguard the power of workers, small businesses, and family farmers to build a good life; Limit Corporate Power | Accountability for Pollution | Food Labeling | Prescription Drugs | Empower Workers | Good Jobs

**PILLAR 4:** Ensure opportunities for a more secure, prosperous, and sustainable future; Natural Resources | Public Lands | Build a Renewable Energy Future

# Thank you to all the wonderful individuals & organizations for your support in 2023!!

In **February's** issue we will have this space dedicated to sponsors. If you wish to **sponsor** CCA and its newsletter. Please email us at [info@canyoncommunityalliance.org](mailto:info@canyoncommunityalliance.org)

**Valle Hardware**  
**Valle Mini Storage**  
**Spirit of the Canyon**  
**Collins Investment**  
**Town of Tusayan**  
**Building Community**

**IMAX Theatre**  
**Wise Choice Alternatives:**

**Bill, Linda Sutton**  
**Valle Dirt Works LLC**  
**Americorp**  
**St. Marys Food Bank**  
**Grand Canyon Towing**  
**Robbco**

**Tusayan Rotary Club**  
**Grand Canyon Inn**

**Thank you to ALL the volunteers! We appreciate you. The events and programs would not be possible without you.**

**Ida Rose Florez**  
**Sarah Avelenda**  
**Ben Holladay**  
**Miranda Baldosky**  
**Amber Henderickson**  
**Barbara Hancock**  
**Anna Freese**  
**Amy Covington**







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