

St. David Heritage & Cultural Arts Society
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St. David Heritage & Cultural Arts Society

Our Mission: To serve the community of St. David and the San Pedro Valley as a society enabling the preservation and development of our historical and physical heritage, while promoting the cultural arts.

JUNE-JULY 2019

EVENTS & NEWS



Did you know that Apache Nitrogen Products is a major sponsor of our Pioneer Days celebration? This is their historic fire engine, and it will be in the parade. Thanks, Apache!

www.SaintDavidHeritage.org
Facebook: St. David Heritage & Cultural Arts Society
SaintDavidHeritage@gmail.com

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"SHOUT OUT TO SERVICE"— St. David PIONEER DAYS JULY 19-20

Who comes to your mind when you think of giving a "shout out" to service? Come celebrate them at St. David Pioneer Days!

Join with neighbors and friends from the San Pedro Valley for a truly great time: Learn of the longest infantry march in U.S. history, plow with a ox, meet the St. David Fire Department, experience some living history. Join the parade, games, barbecue, foot rodeo, music and vendors under the stars. Win fabulous prizes or the Heritage Quilt, and of course, enjoy the FIREWORKS!

Here are some things you will want to know:

- The theme for this year's parade and events is: "Shout Out to Service."
- We'd love to have you or your organization be in the parade, be a vendor, donate a drawing item, or help with an event. See the Pioneer Days insert and page 2 for more information.
- A schedule of events is included on the Pioneer Days insert in this issue, and on our website and Facebook pages. Questions? Email us! (See addresses at left).
- Please spread the word to others who love the San Pedro Valley, and "Like" us on Facebook!

FIREWORKS DONATIONS NEEDED -- will you help?

Make a Fireworks donation and qualify for great Pioneer Days drawing prizes and more.

See back page for details; learn how to receive a **FREE Chile Peppers & Mastodons** book with your Heritage Quilt ticket order, fireworks, membership, or other contribution.

Honoring Shawna & Loyal Gephart and the St. David Volunteer Fire Department

Do you know the names Shawna and Loyal Gephart? If you don't, then it's time to meet them. If you do, then you want to be on hand after the Pioneer Days Parade on July 20th to give them a round of applause and thanks for steering the Saint David Volunteer Fire Department for the last 25 years!



The Gepharts are No. 1!

If you've had a fire on your property, fallen off your roof, had a heart attack or had a tree blown down in a microburst, Shawna and Loyal were most likely critical to getting you the help you needed.

The fire department was started in 1992 with an old donated truck housed in a pole barn. Leadership
(Fire Department....Continued on page 2)



2019 Heritage Quilt It Could Be Yours!

Queen Size, by Wilda Dillman
Valued at \$1,500

- NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN -
SEE PIONEER DAY INSERT
OR ORDER FORM ON PAGE 4
FOR TICKET INFO

(Fire Department.... Continued from page 1)

shifted several times until 1995 when Shawna Gephart was given a garbage bag full of unfinished paperwork and 'asked' to take it on. She took on the job with care and ferocity, organizing and completing the paperwork, learning how to drive the truck and pointing it straight into the future. She became Fire Chief in 1996 and held the title until 2005 when her husband, Loyal Gephart, took over the position. Whoever holds the title, know that the SDFD is their baby, they adopted it and they've guided it to success.

To give you some examples, instead of a donated truck, SDFD now owns several trucks, either outright or on a lease purchase plan. Instead of borrowing a pole barn, SDFD is now housed in a modern fire house on land generously donated by Max Kartchner. Today our firefighters wear protective gear and are professionally trained and certified. Instead of praying that someone will pick up the phone in your time of need, SDFD is part of the county wide 911 and mutual aid network. The Gepharts have brought us to this point.



Loyal and Shawna Gephart
2019 Pioneer Days Grand Marshals

The missing piece in this story is YOU!

Come to St. David School's Lansing Auditorium on Saturday, July 20, after the parade (10:00-11:00 a.m.) to honor Shawna and Loyal and all the many volunteers who have served our community in the SDFD over the last 30 years.

Come and listen, ask questions, shake hands and sit in cool, air conditioned comfort and hear stories about your fire department. Thank those who helped you in your time of need. Learn how you can pay it forward... Become a volunteer.

Of course those able to fight fires are always needed but so are people who can furnish soft drinks or water to a fire scene, bring food, babysit the kids of the fire fighters, sweep out the fire house, water and fuss over the landscape around the firehouse and the list will go on and on. Many are called for and we hope you can be part of the answer to ensure that SDFD



How many SDFD fire trucks will you see at Pioneer Days? Count them....during the plowing demo, in the parade, on the school grounds during the games, and helping with the fireworks. Thanks, St. David Fire Department!

Pioneer Days a Valley-wide Celebration

The St. David Heritage Society has for a number of years coordinated the popular annual St. David Pioneer Days events and seeks additional partners and participation in a way that builds connections in our broader San Pedro Valley community.

This year's celebration is themed, "Shout Out to Service," and most activities take place on the St. David School grounds.

The roots of this annual celebration began in 1877 when a handful of Mormon pioneer families settled along the San Pedro River, beginning the community of St. David. The next year these same pioneers participated in the building of Camp Huachuca, then Tombstone, and soon after began freighting ore and commodities to and from the railroad lines in Benson and further. Our San Pedro Valley communities have been connected ever since.

Pioneer Days events happen with the participation and help of many volunteers from local churches, school groups, and businesses in St. David, Benson, and Pomerene. It is our hope that we can sustain meaningful traditions in a way that strengthens our communities and our families.

Highlight Your Church, Business, Organization or Family

The Heritage Society would love to have your family, church, business or organization join with ours and others in the San Pedro Valley to celebrate the rich heritage we share. There are a number of Pioneer Days opportunities available:

- Encouraging your families, neighbors, and friends to come and enjoy the events
- A parade entry highlighting your church, organization, business or families
- Vendor space for the Saturday evening events culminating in a wonderful fireworks display
- Volunteer opportunities of all kinds
- Donation of an item for our fireworks drawings

Vendors: Dabnee Martin -- dabnee.martin13@gmail.com (put "Vendor Fair" in the subject line) or 520-686-3749.
Saturday evening booth space \$10 plus drawing item.

Parade: Janet Stover, jstover43@gmail.com, 520-954-2734

Questions? Email saintdavidheritage@gmail.com

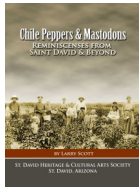
Schedule and details for participation are available on our website at www.saintdavidheritage.org (and are included in the flyer insert in this newsletter)



Important Bits & Pieces...

2019 HERITAGE SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCED; STUDENT VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT— A \$500 scholarship was recently awarded to Mimi Busby, 2019 St. David High School graduates, for her service to the school and community through her volunteer efforts for events and projects of the St. David Heritage Society. Congratulation, Mimi, and thank you for your dedicated service! — Students who volunteer their help with our many projects and events will be able to apply for future scholarships, and may track their efforts throughout their high school years. For more information, students should contact Barbie Grapp, the scholarship counselor at St. David High School. We can use student help for the upcoming Pioneer Days! Contact us at saintdavidheritage@gmail.com. To make a contribution to the Heritage Scholarship Fund use the form on page 4 of this newsletter.

TWO POPULAR ST. DAVID HISTORY BOOKS are always available for order and at our events. Stop by the 1938 Building during Pioneer Days or at our booth at the Fireworks events and pick up your copies: Larry Scott's *Chile Peppers & Mastodons* and the early history, *Mormon Pioneers of the San Pedro Valley—St. David, Arizona*.



See form on page 4 to order, and see how you can qualify for a **FREE Chile Peppers & Mastodons** book!

St. David's Trees Looking Better

As you drive into St. David from Benson, you can't help but notice and appreciate the iconic trees along the south side of Highway 80. Those trees benefitted for decades from the irrigation water that flowed more regularly to various farms along the route. Fewer farms in the area and less irrigation water flowing has taken a toll on the trees in more recent times. Thanks to donations to our St. David Trees Fund, we have been able to provide additional "ditch water" to the trees as needed, and they are regaining their healthy appearance. Donations can be made on page 4. Thanks!

An Especially Easy Way to Help

Do you know that one of the easiest ways you can assist with the projects and events of the St. David Heritage Society is to **do your online Amazon shopping by going to the [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) site?**

We hope you will designate St. David Heritage & Cultural Arts Society to receive the donations.

Thank you!

Shop at AmazonSmile
and Amazon will make a donation to:
St David Heritage & Cultural Arts Society

Get started

amazon smile

NEW! St. David School Yearbooks Project Becoming Searchable Online

Digitizing the St. David School Library and St. David Heritage Society yearbook collections into one publicly accessible and searchable online collection has long been our goal. Thanks to the efforts of Greg Sherman, Barbie Grapp, and Wayne Rausch, it is coming online as this newsletter goes to print.

You can access the collection with a link posted on our Facebook page, St. David Heritage & Cultural Arts Society, or by emailing us at saintdavidheritage@gmail.com. At this point a number of yearbooks from as early as 1935 are searchable by name, and more volumes will be added as they are digitized. Volumes include mostly high school but also some middle school and elementary yearbooks.

Come check out the online collection Friday evening and Saturday morning of our Pioneer Days celebration in the 1938 Elementary Building on the St. David School campus. Pick up a list of the yearbooks and alumni class photos we have and that we are missing. Maybe you can help us find the missing volumes, or allow us to add to the gallery of class photos hanging in the hallway.

Can you find your school yearbook or class photo? We have many in our collection, but are missing some years. We would welcome your loan of those we are missing so that we can digitize them and then return your books or class photos.

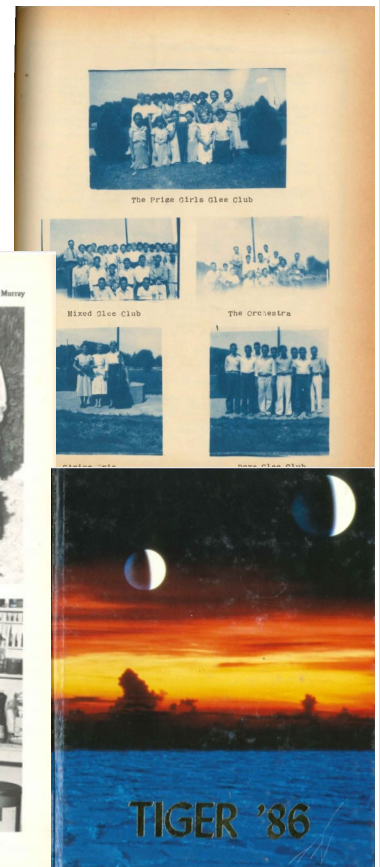
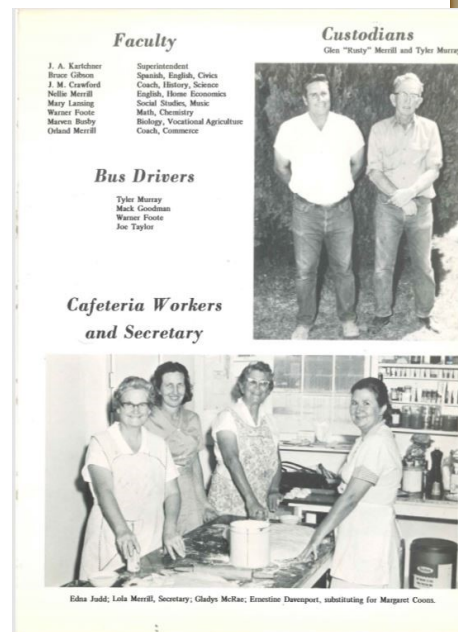
Here are some of the years we are seeking:

High School class photos for 1948, 1960, 1983, as well as many of the photos prior to 1945, if they exist.

Yearbooks for 1975-1985, 2002, 2010-2012, as well as many from the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s, if they existed. Not every class had a yearbook.

Please email us at saintdavidheritage@gmail.com if you think have a class photo or yearbook we need. We will gladly return your quickly and give you a digital copy, too.

Sample yearbook pages from 1936, 1967, and 1986



**ST. DAVID HERITAGE & CULTURAL
ARTS SOCIETY**

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**We're on the web -
SaintDavidHeritage.org**

**"Like" and Follow us on FACEBOOK:
St. David Heritage & Cultural Arts Society**

St. David Heritage & Cultural Arts Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Donations to SDHCAS are tax-deductible.

Projects of SDHCAS include:

St. David Trees	History Publications & Lectures	Broadway & Beyond!
1938 Building Rehabilitation	Archiving Local History	St. David Fort Monument
Bell Monument & Bricks	1880s Historic Military Ball	Heritage Museum Room
St. David Pioneer Days	Alumni Class Photos	

This Newsletter is available electronically by email and on our website. If you would like to receive it as a PDF document by email, please send your request to us at SaintDavidHeritage@gmail.com.

If you know of others who live outside of St. David who would enjoy receiving the newsletter, please forward it to them, or send us their email address.

We will use your email address for Heritage Society business only and will not share it with others.

FREE! - Chili Peppers & Mastodons Book

This popular compilation by Larry Scott of interesting historical accounts of St. David and the San Pedro Valley is available **FREE with each \$50 in Heritage Quilt tickets, fireworks drawing tickets, membership and/or other contribution placed with the order form below.** As always, copies may also be ordered below for \$15; \$10 each for five or more.

Fireworks Donations = Drawing Tickets + Fun

Fireworks are fun AND expensive! Your donations make them possible, and our vendors and others have provided great prizes in exchange for your help. Tickets are available with the form below or at events. Drawing prizes will be awarded at the July 20 evening events, 5:00-9:00 p.m. on the football field, prior to the fireworks. Tickets: \$1 each; 12 for \$10; 25 for \$20. Keep one side and place the stubs in the prize bags of your choice that evening. If you order with this form, you can pick them up on the football field July 20.

Save \$1 Per Plate at the Pioneer Day BBQ! Current or new **Heritage Society members** will receive a \$1 per plate discount at the July 20 BBQ. Join or renew below, or at the BBQ. Receive discounts or special offers at all our events.

Fabulous Silent Auction Items - Airplane ride, Apache Powder Box, Lots More... A special addition to our evening Pioneer Days activities is the silent auction prior to the fireworks. Check it out! To donate an item, email us or call Sherrie, 520-442-4460.

ST. DAVID PIONEER DAYS 2019! Together we can celebrate St. David Pioneer Days with Festivities and Fireworks, and help put lighting and sound equipment in the historic Mary P. Lansing Auditorium. Will you join us?

YES! - I'd like to help in the following ways:



____ I'd like HERITAGE QUILT TICKETS* (Quilt value \$1,500)
____ 1 for \$5 ____ 3 for \$10 ____ 7 for \$20
____ 20 for \$50 ____ Other (Need not be present to win)

____ I'm enclosing a Tax-Deductible Contribution*
(Specify amounts in the spaces provided):
____ 2019 PIONEER DAYS FIREWORKS! (Pick up your
Drawing tickets July 22 @ the football field)
____ 1938 Building Fund ____ Histories / Monuments
____ St. David Trees Fund ____ Scholarship Fund

____ I'm making a tax-deductible ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP
CONTRIBUTION* (\$1 off per plate at Pioneer Day BBQ):
____ \$15 Individual ____ \$25 Couple ____ \$30 Family

____ ***MY CONTRIBUTIONS & QUILT TICKET ORDER
at left total \$50 or more. Please send a FREE
Chili Peppers & Mastodons book for each \$50.**

FEATURED PUBLICATIONS:

____ *Chili Peppers & Mastodons* book by Larry Scott
____ copies (\$15 or \$10 each for 5 or more)
____ *Mormon Pioneers of the San Pedro Valley* (early St. David
History, 2015 5th Edition)
____ copies (\$12 or \$10 each for 2 or more)

____ Please email a complete order form, including engraved bricks,
note cards, alumni class photos, and more to my email address
listed below...

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

QUILT TICKETS \$ _____ CONTRIBUTIONS \$ _____ BOOKS \$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

QUESTIONS? Email saintdavidheritage@gmail.com or Call 520-442-4460 or see website, www.saintdavidheritage.org
Make Checks Payable to SDHCAS, and mail to SDHCAS, PO Box 3, St. David, AZ 85630

ST. DAVID PIONEER DAYS

**JULY
19-20**

**HISTORY - PARADE - GAMES - BBQ
VENDORS - MUSIC - FIREWORKS**
www.SaintDavidHeritage.org

“SHOUT OUT TO SERVICE” – 2019 SCHEDULE

- Events take place at St. David School unless noted otherwise -

FRIDAY, JULY 19

5:00-7:00 PM St. David History Demonstration: “Plowing with Oxen ” by Dr. Andy Mayberry. Meet at SW corner of Hwy 80 & Miller Ln. And meet **St. David Volunteer Fire Dept.** engines on school parking lot.
7:00-8:30 PM “The U.S. Army’s ‘Mormon Battalion’ Served Our Country and Came Back to Settle” - Learn about this Army unit, which made the longest infantry march in U.S. history, and its impact on the history of Cochise County. Presenter: Randy Madsen, Tucson Mormon Battalion Foundation. Held in the Lansing Auditorium, St. David School.

SATURDAY, JULY 20

9:00 AM Traditional Pioneer Day Parade, N. Miller Lane. Theme: “Shout Out to Service.” Road closes to vehicles at 8:45 AM.

9:30 AM—12:00 Noon

Old-fashioned Games, Mormon Battalion Encampment & More on school grounds (Crawford Field). Games, races, pioneer activities and demonstrations, black powder rifles, fire engines, tractors and engines display, wagon rides, and more.

10:00-11:00— “Tribute to the St. David Volunteer Fire Department” (Lansing Auditorium, 1938 Building) Meet Grand Marshals, Loyal and Shawna Gephart. Share appreciation and stories; learn how to help. See historic schoolroom and historical displays in the building as well.

11:00-1:00 PM Traditional BBQ Meal (K-Hall) BBQ Beef, Beans, Cole Slaw, Tortilla, Chips & Salsa, Drinks, Dessert. \$7 Adult/\$5 under 12; \$1 discount per plate with Heritage Society membership (available at the door).

3:00-6:00 PM Old Fashioned Family Foot Rodeo at McWhorter/Hatch Arena; enjoy the shade! Turn west at 2nd Ave. near Hwy 80 Milepost 303; follow the signs.

5:00-9:00 PM EVENING EVENTS - at St. David High School’s football field (Apache Nitrogen Stadium) --

- 5:00-6:45 Youth Tiger Football/Cheer Camp Games**
- Food and Craft Vendors**
- Visit and Picnic, Music**
- Fireworks Donation Prizes & Silent Auction**
- Heritage Quilt Drawing (Value \$1,500)**
- GRAND FINALE FIREWORKS!**

Your Fireworks Donations & Drawings are Greatly Appreciated!

Special thanks to Apache Nitrogen Products, Arizona G&T Cooperatives, St. David Volunteer Fire Department, R&R Pizza, St. David Schools, St. David Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, presenters, vendors, and LOTS of volunteers. —St. David Heritage Society

**IF YOU OR YOUR BUSINESS WOULD LIKE TO DONATE A DRAWING OR SILENT AUCTION ITEM,
CALL SHERRIE, 520-442-4460, OR EMAIL SAINTDAVIDHERITAGE@GMAIL.COM**



HERITAGE QUILT DRAWING

*Queen Size Quilt - Blue, Pink, Cream, Beige
by Wilda Dillman (\$1,500 Value)*

Awarded July 21 - just before the Fireworks

- NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN -

TICKETS:

\$5 / 3 for \$10 / 7 for \$20 / 20 for \$50

- *At Pioneer Days Events
- *St. David School Office
- *Michelle’s Hair Corral, St. David
- *Benson Feed, Benson
- *Benson Museum
- *Call Wilda 520-720-9440
- *Email saintdavidheritage@gmail.com

YES, WE WANT YOUR ENTRY IN THE PARADE! Theme: “Shout Out to Service”

For info or to register,
contact Janet Stover,
jstover43@gmail.com
or 520-954-2734.



VENDORS: Contact Dabnee Martin by email at dabnee.martin13@gmail.com (put “Vendor Fair” in the subject line) or 520-686-3749. Saturday evening booth space \$10 plus drawing item.

For more details:

www.SaintDavidHeritage.org

Facebook: St. David Heritage &

Cultural Arts Society

Please “Like” and “Share”!