



Western Outdoor Times

January 2017

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A Publication of Arizona Boating & Watersports

BOATING | CAMPING | FISHING | RVING | SHOOTING SPORTS | WATERSPORTS | WILDLIFE

2017: The Journey Begins

Boating

Pages 4-6

Tackle & Target

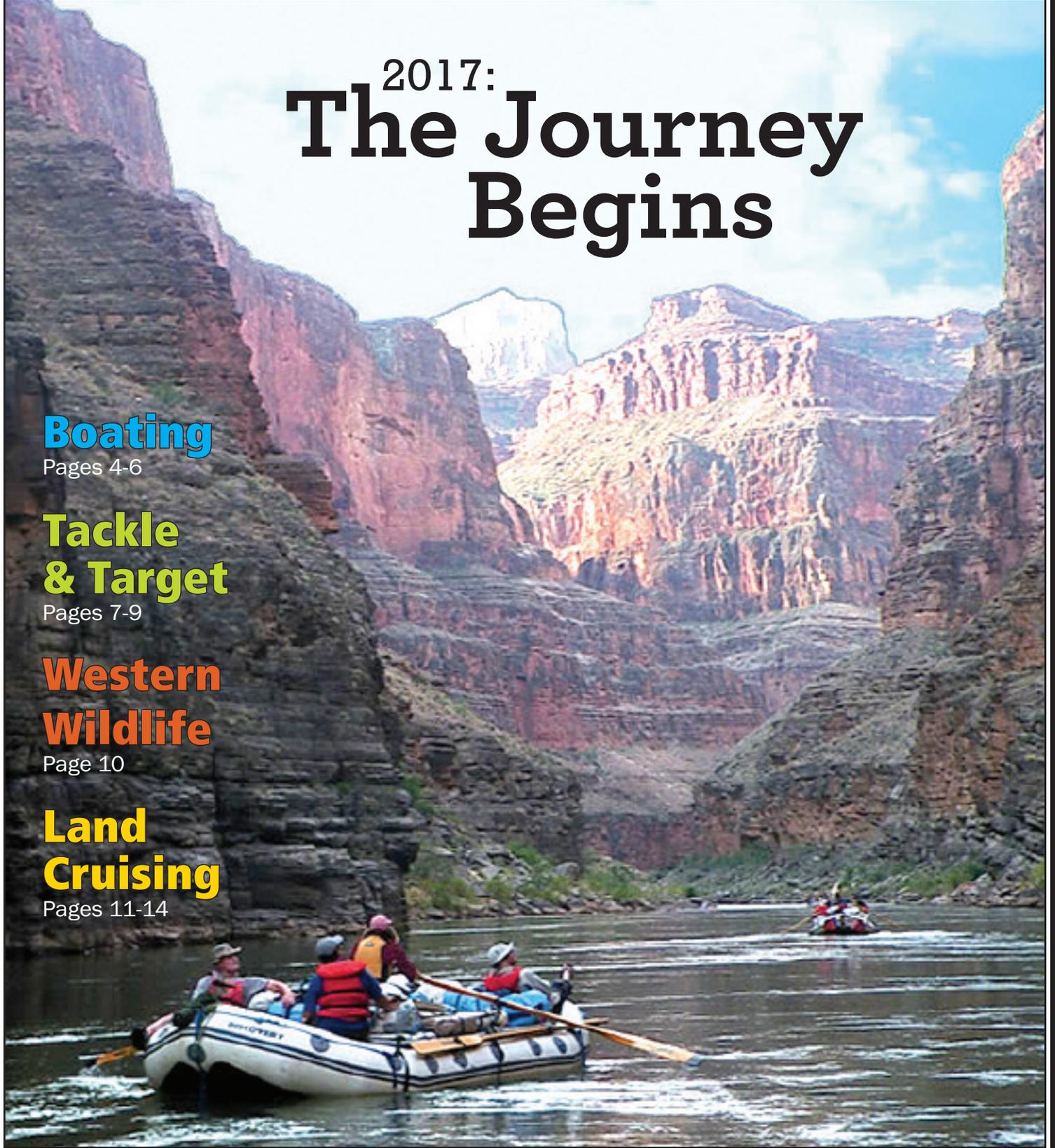
Pages 7-9

Western Wildlife

Page 10

Land Cruising

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Ring Out The Old; Ring In The New Grand Canyon National Park Celebrates Centennial Success; Looks Ahead To 2019

As the National Park Service (NPS) prepares for a second century of service, Grand Canyon National Park celebrates the significant accomplishments of the NPS centennial celebration and looks ahead to its own park centennial in 2019.

2016 marked the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service, offering an opportunity to celebrate accomplishments in Grand Canyon National Park and its surrounding community. Throughout 2016 Grand Canyon promoted the NPS Centennial goal, "to connect with and create the next generation of park visitors, supporters and advocates," through innovative actions, events and integration of parks and community-based programs.



COMPLEXSIMPLELLC AT ENGLISH WIKIPEDIA
Skywalk From Outside Ledge



Cape Royal Sunset Point, North Rim

CLAYTONDODGES

Grand Canyon National Park Celebrates 6 Millionth Visitor In 2016

Grand Canyon National Park celebrated its 6 millionth visitor as its final National Park Service Centennial event.

The distinction went to the Johnson family from Las Vegas, Nevada. Delighted to be part of the celebration, James and Abigail Johnson and their kids Sophia and Elijah were first time visitors to Grand Canyon National Park. "At first I didn't think it was real", exclaimed Sophia, "but I'm really

happy we're the 6 millionth!"

Grand Canyon's 6 millionth visitors were greeted at South Entrance Station and led to Park Headquarters where Superintendent Chris Lehnertz, park staff, and community members welcomed them and presented them with gifts from Grand Canyon Association, Xanterra, Tusayan Chamber of Commerce and Bright Angel Bikes.

Almost all Grand Canyon visitors are greeted by Visitor-Use-Assistant (VUA)

See **CENTENNIAL**, Page 15



ON THE COVER

May Your 2017 Journey Be Stellar

Famed for its dramatic rapids and canyons, the Colorado is one of the most desirable whitewater rivers in the United States, and its Grand Canyon section – run by more than 22,000 people annually – has been called the "granddaddy of rafting trips".

Grand Canyon trips typically begin at Lee's Ferry and take out at Diamond Creek or Lake Mead; they range from one to eighteen days for commercial trips and from two to twenty-five days for private trips.

Private (noncommercial) trips are extremely difficult to arrange because the National Park Service limits river traffic for environmental purposes; people who desire such a trip often have to wait more than 10 years for the opportunity.

As we "raft-up" for a New Year, we wish our readers peace, joy, good health, and success.

Arizona's Leukemia Cup Regatta Is 'First In The Nation'

Arizona Yacht Club has many racing opportunities.

For the past 15 years, the Arizona Yacht Club (AYC) and the Arizona Chapter of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) have opened the national Leukemia Cup Regatta calendar on the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday weekend, pairing it with the AYC's long-running Birthday Regatta.

The 2017, the AYC's 16th Regatta will be held on President's Day weekend — February 17-19. By taking to the waters of Lake Pleasant, Regatta sailors have raised more than \$580,000 to fight blood cancers.

Join us for the 2017 Arizona Leukemia Cup. Winter sailing in Arizona is pure magic! Fleets include monohulls, multihulls and even SUP racing. The 2017 AYC Leukemia Cup Regatta is not just an event,



it's a destination. Funds generated from the event help LLS fulfill its mission to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. Fund-raising participants can win great prizes, including the opportunity to sail with Gary Jobson!

See **REGATTA**, Page 15

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE BIG SHOW!

International Sportsmen's Expo & Arizona Boat Show Comes To Scottsdale's WestWorld March 23-26, 2017

Arizona's largest sportsmen, outdoor and boat show will again be at WestWorld of Scottsdale.

ISE's Arizona show had great success at WestWorld of Scottsdale in 2016. The ven-



ISE

ue provides easy freeway access to the more populous eastern corridor and surrounding cities. The show was able to expand its outdoor exhibits to include more recreational vehicles, a wakeboarding feature and more.

The inaugural year for ISE Scottsdale and Arizona Boat Show were a rousing suc-

See **EXPO**, Page 15

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Land Cruising

Experience Some Canadian Cuisine

Come try the poutine and more at the 65th annual Great Canadian Picnic on Feb. 4 at South Mountain Park/Page 12



Wake Zone

Western Caucus Members Reject Obama's Action

Congressman Paul Gosar joins others in speaking out about President Obama's "Land Grabs"/Page 11





We sincerely thank the Arizona Game & Fish Commission for awarding Jim and Carol Allen of Western Outdoor Times "Writer of the Year". It is another highlight to celebrate as we begin our 12th year of publication.

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DOWNSTREAM: January 2017 Events Calendar

BOATING

2/29/2017 GOAT CRUISE: Sign up now for this family fun goat cruise. Kids are welcome and nannies will be provided. Call Billy for reservations: (619) 523-3091.

LEARN TO SAIL: Current — If you know someone who would like to learn to sail, turn them on to the Arizona Sailing Foundation's Adult Beginning Sailing class.

AZ YACHT CLUB MEETINGS: Second Tuesday of every month 7 p.m. — in the Caddy Shack at Rolling Hills Golf Course, 1415 N. Mill Ave., Tempe; www.arizonayachtclub.org

US SAILING/ RED CROSS ONLINE TRAINING: Ongoing — To make it easier for prospective US SAILING-certified instructors to fulfill course requirements for CPR and First Aid certification, US SAILING teams up with the American Red Cross to provide an online training program. Participants can sign up by visiting www.us-sailing.org/training and clicking on the Red Cross Online Training button (towards the bottom of the page).

CAMPING/RVING/AZ OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

20-22 PHOENIX: Becoming an Outdoors Woman — Saguaro Lake Ranch, offers adventure and life skills, for women age 18 and older to learn to camp, fish, rappel, hike, cook with Dutch ovens, photograph wildlife & a range of outdoor recreation skills, "hawk talks" and nature hikes, \$420 includes meals, lodging and classes, 480-644-0077 or http://www.azwildlife.org

Thorough 2/8/17 MARICOPA COUNTY PARKS: "100 Miles in 100 Days" — www.facebook.com/MCParks100MilesIn100Days

CALENDAR OF OUTDOOR EVENTS: Ongoing — www.azgfd.gov/OutdoorSkills Google calendar.

PROTECT-A-PARK: Ongoing — Boaters, anglers, divers needed to adopt Lake Pleasant's shoreline areas and coves for regular litter removal in 2009; (602) 372-7460, ext. 200

CLASSES/SEMINARS

AZGFD, CG AUXILIARY, PHOENIX POWER SQUADRON BOATING CLASSES: Ongoing (See page 3 of this issue.)

COMMUNITY AND SEASONAL

6 PHOENIX: ¡Ya vienen los Reyes Magos! - Night of the Three Kings - Phoenix Zoo. Feature a traditional celebration including activities, mariachis and a chance to visit with the Three Kings. A lighted

Inauguration Day January 20



pathway of luminarias will guide you to the Neely Center where the Three Kings will be. See the Kings arrive on camels at 6 pm, arts & craft station, specialty Mexican food, write letters to the Kings and take a photo with them. http://phoenixzoo.org/

14-22 SCOTTSDALE: 46th Annual Barrett-Jackson Classic Car Auction - West-World, largest, most prestigious antique/classic car auction in the world, 700+ American & European classic, sports & racing cars, buyers from around the world, 9 am - 10 pm, 480-421-6694 or http://www.barrett-jackson.com

30-2/5 SCOTTSDALE: 81st Annual Waste Management Phoenix Open - Tournament Players Club of Scottsdale, one of the PGA Tour's top events, with the largest crowds on the tour, attracts the finest golfers in the world, \$20/day or ticket packages, 8 am - 6 pm, 602-870-0163 or http://wmphoenixopen.com

EXPOS/SHOWS

21-29 QUARTZSITE: 34th Annual Sports, Vacation & RV Show - RVs, supplies, camping equipment, food, entertainment, free, 9 am - 5 pm, 714-377-7940 or http://www.quartzsiterivshow.com

FISHING

28 LITCHFIELD PARK: Winter Trout Fishing Derby — Tierra Verde Lake Park, Fish with 700 lbs of trout stocked in the lake (8-17 inches long), food, prizes and giveaways, license not required for this event, must provide your own fishing equipment and bait, \$4 per pole 15 and under; \$6 per pole 16 and over, 7 am - 3 pm, http://www.litchfield-park.org

SRT BASS PHOENIX CHAPTER MEETINGS: Ongoing — Shake, Rattle & Troll Bass Club; volunteers needed; new members (boaters and non-boaters), families, children, friends are welcome; (623) 221-7655

SHOOTING SPORTS/ARCHERY

BEN AVERY CLAY TARGET CENTER: Ongoing — Open seven days a week; (623) 434-8119

21 TOMBSTONE: 6th Annual Gunfight at

Old Tombstone - See the fastest gunfighters in the southwest compete head to head in fast draw, http://www.oldpublogunfighters.com

WATERSPORTS

Diving:
Ongoing-SAGUARO DIVING & SPORTS: Ongoing — Learn to Scuba Dive, Open Water Certification Dives, Private Class & Pool, Private Lake: sales@saguaro-sports.com

Swimming:
7 LAKE HAVASU CITY: 44th Annual Polar Bear Day - Nautical Beachfront Resort, Leap into the lake to earn your Polar Bear patch, no wet suits allowed! After warm up by the bonfire and enjoy a pot of hot soup to warm up your insides, \$5 swimmers, 12-4 pm, 928-486-0106 or http://www.golakehavasu.com/events/details/62/

Frozen:
Ongoing LEARN TO CURL LESSONS: learntocurl@coyotescurling.com

Through 1/30 QUEEN CREEK: Schnepf Farms Winter Wonderland and Ice Skating - Schnepf Farms, train rides through the holiday musical lights \$3 (runs at the bottom of the hour or every 30 minutes as needed), ice skating from noon-8:30 daily, hayrides out to feed the deer \$3 (at the top of the hour), sit around bonfires, roast marshmallows, hot-dog roasting, hot chocolate and more, noon - 8:30 pm, http://www.Schnepffarms.com

Through 1/31 LAKE HAVASU CITY: Ice Skating at the London Bridge - London Bridge Resort, enjoy real ice skating in the heart of the desert with the London Bridge in the background, \$10/adult, \$8/kids 12 and under, \$30/family pass (all one hour of ice skating), hours vary, check site for details, 928-855-0888 or http://iceskatehavasu.com

WILDLIFE/ ANIMAL-RELATED

7 CLARKDALE: Raptors on the Rails with Liberty Wildlife - Verde Canyon Railroad, As breathtaking as an eagle in flight, a face-to-face encounter with a raptor is an equally astounding event. Our friends from Scottsdale's Liberty Wildlife share the majesty of a rescued bald eagle and other rescued raptors with visitors at the depot and on the train on select days throughout the year. Everyone has the opportunity for personal

interaction. http://www.verdecanyonrr.com

12-15 WILLCOX: 24th Annual Wings Over Willcox Birding & Nature Festival - Willcox Community Center, a celebration of birds, nature and culture, includes guided tours and field trips for bird watching, photography, geology, ranching, agriculture, history and more, free seminars, a crafts and trade show, live animal educational booths, workshops, banquet, silent auction and keynote speaker, \$6-100, 800-200-2272 or http://www.wingsoverwillcox.com

28 PHOENIX: 2nd Annual Doggie Street Festival - Steele Indian School Park, This not-to-be-missed dog and cat adopt-a-thon and family friendly, fun celebration features yummy eats, music, vet tips and auction prizes. Bring your friendly dog. Become a sponsor, member or volunteer, free, 10 am - 4 pm, 323-445-5087 or http://doggiestreet-festival.org

28 PHOENIX: Dogs' Day in the Garden - Desert Botanical Garden, For the whole family, dogs included. Go for a walk on Garden trails, meet other dog lovers and heel for photo opportunities. Learn about local dog-related nonprofits, shop and enjoy samples with your pup, and experience hands-on, canine-themed activities. \$22 people, \$4 dogs, 8 am - 2 pm, 480-941-1225 or http://www.dbg.org

SOUTHERN ARIZONA WILDLIFE CALLERS: Meetings on the second Thursday of every month until Dec. 8 from 7-8 p.m.

EMPTY PET FOOD BANK IN TEMPE: Ongoing — A unique food bank which serves cats and dogs needs your help. Lost Our Home Pet Foundation has been providing food and pet supplies to the pets of family in need since 2009, all through community donations. Donations can be made at the shelter location at 2323 S. Hardy Dr. Tempe, AZ 85282; Jodi Polanski, Jodi@lostourhome.org

NO-KILL SHELTER NEEDS HELP: http://animalsbenefitclub.com/index2.html

RAISING MONEY FOR ANIMALS: Ongoing — Heather L. Weaver: www.azanimallasistance.com

Editor's Note: Please submit announcements for AZBW/WOT's calendar of events — "Downstream" — to editor@azbw.com. To guarantee placement, as room allows, items must be received by the tenth (10th) of the month prior to publication. Every effort is made to ensure accuracy, but we assume no responsibility for print errors or omissions. We also reserve the right to edit each item. Please include the name of the event, the date and time, the location, the organization, and contact information.

For a complete list of Arizona events, visit www.visitarizona.com/events



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Update your boating safety knowledge

Our waterways are ready, but are YOU? Brush up on your boating skills by taking one of the many Boating Safety Education classes or take one online at www.azgfd.gov/boating.

January 2017

| Host | Date and Time | Location | Cost | Registration |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|------|----------------|
| Arizona Game & Fish Department | January 21 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Arizona Game & Fish Headquarters 5000 W. Carefree Hwy. Phoenix | \$0 | (623) 236-7219 |

February 2017

| Host | Date and Time | Location | Cost | Registration |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|------|----------------|
| Arizona Game & Fish Department | February 11 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. | Arizona Paddle Sports Education Biscuit Tank at Ben Avery Shooting Facility 4044 W Black Canyon Blvd. Phoenix | \$0 | (623) 236-7219 |
| Arizona Game & Fish Department | February 18 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Arizona Game & Fish Headquarters 5000 W. Carefree Hwy. Phoenix | \$0 | (623) 236-7219 |

Waterfowl hunters encouraged to practice boating safety

Many hunters utilize boats, kayaks and other watercraft to battle through wind, cold, dust, rain or snow to arrive at the "special" hunting spot. To ensure a safe trip, hunters are encouraged to remember these seven following tips:

1. **Leave a float plan** with family and friends, detailing where you're going and when you plan to return.
2. **Don't overload the vessel.** Make sure it can safely transport you, your gear and maybe your dog, if it's coming along.
3. **Distribute weight evenly** inside your vessel.
4. **Use care while loading and while moving around.**

Most boats used during hunting are flat-bottomed and tend to tip over quite easily.

5. **Always wear a life jacket.** Consider placing one on your dog as well, as cold water can cause their muscles to cramp while in the water.
6. **Transport firearms safely** with the action opened, unloaded and cased whenever possible.
7. **Cold-water immersion can be deadly** so dress appropriately and if you fall overboard, climb back into or on top of the boat. If you cannot, stay near the vessel, use decoys, oars or anything floating nearby to help stay afloat.

Know the Rules: Learn to identify "Navi-Aids"



Arizona law enforcement agencies write many citations for "failure to obey navigation laws." You can help ensure the safety of all on the water by learning to identify these common navigational aids.



Information
Squares indicate where to find food, supplies, repairs, etc. and give directions and other information.

Controlled

Circles indicate a controlled area such as speed limit, no fishing or anchoring, ski only or no skiing, or "slow, no wake."



Exclusion

Crossed diamonds indicate areas off-limits to all vessels such as swimming areas, dams, and spillways.



Danger

Diamonds warn of dangers such as rocks, shoals, construction, dams, or stumps. Always proceed with caution.

Other Non-Lateral Markers

Safe Water Markers are white with red vertical stripes and mark mid-channels or fairways. They may be passed on either side.



Inland Water Obstruction Markers are white with black vertical stripes and indicate an obstruction to navigation. You should not pass between these buoys and nearest shore.

Mooring Buoy

Mooring Buoys are round and white with a blue horizontal band and are found in marinas and other areas where vessels are allowed to anchor.

Note, the following actions are illegal:
◆ Willfully damaging, removing, interfering with, or tying up to a navigation buoy not intended for mooring
◆ Mooring, anchoring, or fastening to shore for more than 14 consecutive days any vessel on public waters.

Need to borrow a life jacket?

Visitors to lakes Pleasant, Havasu, Saguaro or Mohave needing a life jacket can borrow one at Life Jacket Loaner Stations near each lake's boat ramps.

Stations contain jackets for infants to adults. **Please return** the jackets so they can be used by others.

Registration Decal



Spaces or hyphens should appear here.

Register your watercraft

Make sure the vessel's registration is current before heading out on the water. It's one of the most important boating requirements needed to operate a watercraft on Arizona waterways.

The registration fee is determined by watercraft length and ranges from \$20 to \$66 for Arizona residents and \$100 to \$495 for non-residents. Skip the line and renew your watercraft registration online at www.azgfd.gov/boating.

WWW.AZGFD.GOV 24/7 ONLINE SERVICE

- **Purchase a fishing license.** No need to stand in line.
- **Purchase a hunting license.** No need to drive anywhere.
- **Renew your boat's registration** without a hassle.
- **Apply for the draw.** Only the application fee and license fee, if applicable, is required.
- **Sign up for "I Support Wildlife"** and get instant access to membership perks.
- **Sign up for E-news.** Get the latest and the greatest wildlife news, helpful hints and announcements delivered electronically.
- **Take an online Boater Education Course** from the convenience of your home.
- **Create a FREE customer portal account for easy access to all your Arizona Game and Fish needs — 24/7.**

Go to www.AZGFD.gov to locate an office near you!

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

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Boating



NYS CANAL CORPORATION

BENEFITS BOATERS — The enactment of a federal bill supporting water infrastructure improvements will also benefit boat owners, says BoatUS

Water Infrastructure Improvements For The Nation Will Benefit Boaters

The Act includes funds for Everglades restoration.

BoatUS, the nation's advocate for boat owners, applauds passage of a bipartisan bill signed by President Obama on December 16 that will provide critical funds for water-resource infrastructure projects at emerging harbors, channels, locks and dams.

The Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WINN), which

encompasses the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) legislation of 2016, authorizes the needed investment in the maritime and waterways transportation system and provides flood protection for communities.

Boaters will like the bill as it supports waterway-access projects, navigation and fisheries improvements, and provides maintenance funds for harbors of refuge. It also creates a pilot program to look at beneficial uses of dredge material in hopes of lowering costs, and funds the

See **INFRASTRUCTURE**, Page 6

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NEW WATERCRAFT FOR CHRISTMAS?

AZGFD Offers 10 Tips For New Boaters

'Tis the season to head out on the water and if a boat, kayak or other personal watercraft was on your Christmas list this holiday season, and Santa agreed, the Arizona Game and Fish Department wants to make sure your inaugural voyage is a safe one.

Whether you're planning to take a new watercraft out for some sightseeing or to do some fishing, all new and veteran watercraft users are encouraged to remember the following 10 tips to remain safe on the water:

- **Always wear a life jacket.** Life jackets aren't just a good idea, they are required by state law for anybody 12 years old and younger when the boat is underway. There must also be at least one life jacket available for everyone aboard.
- **Register your watercraft.** Make sure the vessel's registration is current before heading out on the water. It's one of the most important boating requirements needed to operate a watercraft on Arizona waterways. The registration fee is determined by watercraft length and ranges from \$20 to \$66 for Arizona residents and \$100 to \$495 for non-residents. Those needing to renew their watercraft registration can do so online at www.azgfd.gov/ boating.
- **Take a boating and watercraft safety course.** Learn how to practice safe boating techniques and to respond in the event of an emergency by completing a hands-on safety course.
- **Learn and follow the "navigation rules of the road."** In Arizona, most citations are issued for navigation rule violations. Navigation rules and water markers such as buoys are in place to help avoid collisions on the water.
- **Research where you plan to take your watercraft.** It's always a great idea to learn everything you can about the waterway you're heading off to before you get there. Call ahead and check maps to



learn about underwater obstacles and shallow zones.

- **Make sure you have the proper supplies.** Make sure there is plenty of drinking water, snacks and food aboard if the plan is to be on the water for extended periods of time. Also be sure to leave a float plan with family and friends, detailing where you're going and when you plan to return; and to pack sunscreen, a first-aid kit, fire extinguisher and cell phone or marine radio.
- **Do not install or use unapproved lighting.** Rope lighting, "party" lighting and various other types of decorative lighting may not meet U.S. Coast Guard certification requirements and could increase the likelihood of a collision. Regardless if the lighting was installed before the vessel was purchased, decorative lighting could violate U.S. Coast Guard rules.
- **Do not drink alcohol or use drugs while operating a watercraft.** Just as it's illegal to operate a vehicle on the roadway under the influence of alcohol or drugs, it's equally illegal to do so on the water. Alcohol use is the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating accidents nationwide in 2014, according to the U.S. Coast Guard.
- **Cold-water immersion can be deadly so dress appropriately and if you fall overboard, climb back into or**

See **TIPS**, Page 6

Tutoring, Editing, Writing

As a college English teacher, editor, and writer of both fiction and non-fiction for many years, I am available online (or by U.S. mail) for tutoring, editing, proofreading, copyediting, and writing. I have skills in academic research at both high school and college levels and can also assist those working toward their GEDs, those who need help with resumes, and with both advertising and proposals.

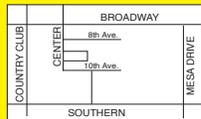
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FOR A SMOOTH SALE — Having the right paperwork can make a used boat sale go smooth and avoid any surprises, says BoatUS.

These Are Two Must-Have Forms For Every Boat Buyer Or Seller

Behind most successful used-boat transactions, there's a Purchase Agreement and Bill of Sale that clearly spell out how the boat was bought or sold. The BoatUS Consumer Protection Department now offers both of these documents at no cost online.

"A Purchase Agreement is necessary if you intend to buy a boat, but require that certain things must be done before you will accept the boat, such as a satisfactory marine survey, specific repairs, and the ability to finance or insure the boat," said BoatUS Consumer Protection Director Charles Fort.

"It also describes both parties' obligations. Once a buyer accepts the boat, the bill of sale is used as proof of purchase. You can download and print both forms 24-hours a day."

Fort also added that while the two forms were designed to meet the needs of most buyers and sellers, they may want to seek legal advice if there are any questions about whether the forms are appropriate for their situation.

The BoatUS Consumer Protection Bureau offers a dispute mediation service, the only national boating complaint database, and provides consumer-oriented information to help boaters make smart buying decisions. For more go to BoatUS.com/consumer.

Scorpion Bay Marina Welcomes The Sailboat Shop

The Sailboat Shop has moved to Scorpion Bay Marina and is enjoying the new modern, well-appointed, and well-run facility. There is quick and easy access from the parking lot, with no waiting for shuttles, and the slip areas are well-lit and regularly maintained.

Staff and management welcome the sailing community and suggest a stop at the restaurant and bar that has both inside and outside seating.

Services At The Sailboat Shop

- Sailboat Rentals
- Parts and Accessories
- Maintenance and Repair
- Insured, Licensed, Bonded
- Over 20 Years Experience
- Boats for Sale

Sailing Classes With An Experienced Instructor

- American Sailing Association (ASA)
- ASA 101 Basic Keelboat
- ASA 103 Basic Coastal Cruising

Tours And Rentals

- Three-hour sailing tours with a sea-

BoatUS Winterizing Guide Is Free

Even in the Southwest, freezing can be a problem.

Water that is mistakenly left in a boat's engine block to freeze over the winter is sure to become an expensive repair bill come springtime. As the ice expands, it can crack the block and ruin the motor, damage fiberglass, split hoses, or destroy a boat's refrigeration system.

To prevent a mishap while putting the boat away this season, Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS), a boating advocacy, services and safety

group offers the free 15-page "Boater's Guide to Winterizing."

The online brochure addresses the reasons for more than 95 percent of the freeze claims handled by the BoatUS Marine Insurance Program. Included are sections on boat storage, engines and outdrives dos and don'ts, winterization contracts, green winterizing, as well as preparing boat plumbing. A winterization checklist is also included.



PROPER PROTECTION — A boat stored ashore needs to be properly supported to make it through winter unscathed.

The guide is available at www.BoatUS.com/winterizingguide.

Eight Ways To Avoid Problems At The Boat Repair Shop

For over 25 years the BoatUS Consumer Protection department has helped Boat Owners Association of The United States members resolve disputes with repair facilities. The vast majority of shops do the job right, but sometimes they — or boat owners — make mistakes. To see what went wrong and to possibly learn from others, BoatUS has surveyed its BoatUS Dispute Resolution files to identify eight trouble spots that boaters needing work done should know:

1. Finding a shop: Word of mouth is still king. Having American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) and Better Business Bureau (BBB) certifications are also two good signs. Boaters can also check out the BoatUS Consumer Protection Database for complaints filed by BoatUS members.

2. Get it in writing: Get a written estimate before work begins, and remember that it is based on an approximation of how much the job will cost. If work may go beyond the estimated price, you can always direct the shop to obtain your authorization before proceeding with unforeseen repairs. Remember, if it's not in writing, there's no way to confirm the work was requested.

3. Is there a guarantee for the work? 30-, 60-, or 90-days are all typical. Ask if parts and labor are included. Don't wait until after the warranty expires to check the repairs.

3. Remove valuables: Bring small electronics, personal items and fishing gear home.

4. Take photos: It's always good to take a few "before" time-stamped photos of your boat in the shop (your smart phone may have this feature built-in or there are Apps available). Accidents do sometimes happen, and you may need be-



REGARDING REPAIRS — Whether a simple repair or complex job like the refit, BoatUS has some tips to help avoid problems.

fore and after damage photos to show the shop damage took place and possibly file an insurance claim.

5. Languish at your peril: Avoid having your job pushed to the back burner by staying frequently informed about ongoing repairs. While there are often legitimate delays due to seasonality, parts sourcing, weather, and personnel, if you think you are getting put off, you probably are. Cut losses and find another shop. (Tip: For larger jobs, ask the shop to periodically email you pictures of work in progress. It may help keep the job on schedule.)

6. Inspect, inspect, and inspect: When picking up the boat after completion of repairs, ensure each bit of repair work matches the actual invoice. If you do have a dispute with the final bill,

you're in better legal shape if you pay it in full, preferably on a credit card, and then

See **BOAT REPAIR**, Page 6



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Sailing Tip From Our Staff

Now that sailing season is underway, it is important to look your boat over for items that need maintenance. The dry summer heat takes a toll on standing and running rigging as well as the hull and sails. Identify what needs to be cleaned,

repaired, or replaced and call The Sailboat Shop to order parts or schedule service.

Visit Us

- The Sailboat Shop at Scorpion Bay Marina, 10970 W. Peninsula Rd., Lake Pleasant, AZ 85342
- Web site: SailAZ.com
- e-mail: sailshop@aol.com
- phone: 928-501-7245 (ask for Tom Erickson)

Boating

Harman Marine Audio On Par With Luxury Auto Stereos

Owners expect the same innovation and quality on their boats as found in their cars, especially when it comes to enjoying music. Whether refit or OEM, the name they turn to is Prospec Electronics. It offers JBL and Infinity, two brands from renowned audio expert Harman.

Even a modestly priced boat is a significant investment, often in line with a BMW, Mercedes-Benz or Land Rover. JBL and Infinity premium marine stereo systems match the listening experience found in these autos. In fact, they and other famous car makers specify Harman audio products in many of their models.

JBL and Infinity marine receivers, amplifiers, speakers, subwoofers and remotes deliver unmatched clarity and



exceptional sound quality. Features expected in a high-end automotive stereo — color TFT screens, Bluetooth, ID tagging, USB and aux inputs, and Sirius XM — are all there on the marine side, depending upon the model. Plus, some have NOAA Weatherband, US and European tuning and other items found only in a boat setup.

Made specifically for a wet, tortur-

'THE SOUND OF MUSIC' — Owners expect the same innovation and quality on their boats as found in their cars, especially when it comes to enjoying music. Whether refit or OEM, the name they turn to is Prospec Electronics. It offers JBL and Infinity, two brands from renowned audio expert Harman.

ous environment, JBL and Infinity offer levels of protection from spray-resistant to fully waterproof. Many models now link into N2K networks to be controlled through a multi-function display such as a chartplotter or GPS.

Contact local dealers or Prospec Electronics, 3325 S Morgans Point Rd., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466. www.prospecelectronics.com.



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BOAT REPAIR

Continued from page 5

file a complaint with the shop and/or your credit card company.

7. **A note about end-of-season repairs:** Sea trials must take place during the warranty period, which has sometimes caused problems for BoatUS members who put their boats away for the winter

before ensuring the repairs are satisfactory. Any open issues found in the springtime will likely come out of the boat owner's wallet.

TIPS

Continued from page 4

on top of the boat. If you cannot, stay near the vessel and use oars or anything floating nearby to help stay afloat.

• **Buy a fishing license.** If fishing is even part of the day's adventure, anyone 10 years of age and older dipping a line into the water must have a valid fishing license. General fishing licenses cost \$37 for residents and \$55 for non-residents per year. To purchase one and for information on various hunt and fish license combinations, visit www.azgfd.gov and click "Buy a License."

Those needing to register their watercraft can save time by renewing online at www.azgfd.gov and clicking "Boat Renewals." For more information on boating in Arizona, stopping the spread of aquatic invasive species (such as quagga mussels) or to sign up for a safety course, visit www.azgfd.gov/boating.

Did You Know?

Arizona hunting and fishing licenses are a great value. You can get combination hunting and fishing licenses for a family of four for less than the price of one night in a motel. Great Outdoors, Great Value! <https://www.azgfd.com/License>

INFRASTRUCTURE

Continued from page 4

US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for Everglades restoration, among other projects.

"Like a highway bill for boaters, passage of the WINN/WRDA is great news for American boaters," said BoatUS Government Affairs Manager David Kennedy. "With the renewed attention to the nation's infrastructure, BoatUS thanks Congress and the President for acting to keep our waterways open and channels clear."

According to a statement released by the House Transportation Committee, the WINN/WRDA also aims to cut red tape by requiring more timely approvals, accelerates the permit process on non-federal modifications to USACE projects, and bolsters local participation in construction and maintenance of water infrastructure. "These infrastructure improvements have been proposed at the local level in cooperation and consultation with the Corps, and have national economic and environmental benefits," said the statement.

In addition to BoatUS, the bill had the support of the National Marine Manufacturers Association, Ducks Unlimited, the US Chamber of Commerce, Marine Retailers Association of America, American Sportfishing Association, Center for Coastal Conservation, and American Waterways Operators.

For the bill's summary and text, go to <http://transportation.house.gov/wrda-2016/>.

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Reservations Accepted For Annual Game & Fish Commission Awards Banquet

Jan. 14 event recognizes advocates who strive to support Arizona's wildlife.

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission will recognize 17 people during the 2016 Commission Awards event, which will commend national/state/local leaders, wildlife advocates, and volunteers for their work to support the state's wildlife.

The event will be held on Saturday, Jan. 14, at the Arizona Grand Resort at 8000 S. Arizona Grand Parkway in Phoenix. Reservations are being accepted for \$65 per person to attend the event, which begins with a social hour and live music at 5 p.m., and will be followed by dinner and the awards presentation at 6 p.m.

The banquet recognizes Arizonans who have contributed significantly to the conservation of the state's wildlife, its outdoor heritage and the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Those to be honored this year include the following:

- Award of Excellence: Sonoran Sky

As Of Jan. 1, New Fishing Regulations Have Taken Effect

Some new fishing regulations took effect on Jan. 1. Be sure to look for the full 2017-18 Arizona Game and Fish Department fishing regulations online around the first of the year. Also, the new fishing regulations booklet will be available at all AZGFD offices and license dealers in early January.

Here are the changes:

- Reduce the daily trout bag limit to five at the Colorado River from Lake Mead to California-Nevada boundary (including Lake Mohave and Willow Beach).
- Reduce the daily bag limits to two bass, minimum size 13 inches; and 4 catfish in any combination at Whitehorse Lake.
- Change the season and daily bag limit from Glen Canyon Dam to the Paria Rifle to two rainbow trout; artificial fly and lure only; barbless hooks only.
- Close the Kino Environmental Restoration Project to fishing. The Kino Environmental Restoration Project is in Tucson (Pima County).
- Change the daily trout bag limit to two, any species combination at Frye Mesa Reservoir.
- Allow the use of fathead minnows caught on site to be used as bait at Riggs Flat Lake.
- Create a year-round bow-and-arrow season for catfish at Apache, Canyon and Saguaro lakes, with a special regulation daily bag limit of five catfish in any combination.
- Catch and release regulations for largemouth bass at Pena Blanca Lake and Dankworth Pond will have sunset and will no longer be in effect. The statewide limit of six bass will apply.

For more fishing information, visit the AZGFD fishing page, or the Fish AZ blog.

Did You Know?

The Arizona Game and Fish Department's online services are available 24/7. You can create a free AZGFD Customer Portal account, purchase a fishing or hunt/fish combo license, renew your boat registration, or get the latest fishing and wildlife news by visiting www.azgfd.gov anytime. Save time, buy online!

Elementary

- Youth Environmentalist of the Year: Matteo Bailloux
- **Outdoor Writer of the Year: Jim and Carol Allen, *Western Outdoor Times***
- Media of the Year: Arizona Antelope Foundation
- Conservation Organization of the Year: Mule Deer Foundation
- Conservationist of the Year: Jim Lawrence
- Natural Resource Professional of the Year: Gloria Tom
- Volunteer of the Year: Robbie Love
- Educator of the Year: Karen Klein
- Mentor of the Year: Steve Sams
- Advocate of the Year - State: Arizona Sen. Gail Griffin
- **Advocate of the Year - Federal: Don McDowell**
- Business Partner of the Year: Linda



Arizona Grand Resort

Morgan, Yuma Visitors Bureau

- Buck Appleby Hunter Education Instructor of the Year: Bobby Goitia
- Wildlife Habitat Steward of the Year: Bill Cordasco
- North American Model Commissioners Award: Celeste Cook

The first Commission Awards event was held in January 1991 and since then, 361 people have been recognized for their dedicated work toward securing Arizona's wildlife for generations to come.

na's wildlife for generations to come.

To make a reservation, use the RSVP form located on the Department website at www.azgfd.com/agency/commission/awards or contact Lynn Roe at (623) 236-7332 or e-mail lroe@azgfd.gov.

Editor's Note: We at Western Outdoor Times are grateful that three of our "team" are included: Don McDowell and Jim and Carol Allen. Thank you, Arizona Game & Fish Commission.

Input Can Shape Target-Shooting Policy For Sonoran Desert National Monument

BLM to conduct public meetings Jan. 19-21; comment deadline is March 15.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department encourages the public, especially those interested in recreational target-shooting, to provide their input on management alternatives for the Sonoran Desert National Monument near Gila Bend.

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Phoenix District Office recently announced the release of a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Resource Management Plan (RMP) amendment that kicked off a 90-day public comment period. The BLM is collecting public input before moving forward in the decision-making process.

As part of the process, three public meetings have been scheduled:

Jan. 19: 5-8 p.m., BLM National Training Center, 9828 N. 31st Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85051.

Jan. 20: 5-8 p.m., Arizona Game and Fish Department, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086.

Jan. 21: Noon-4 p.m., Dorothy Powell Senior Adult Center, 405 E. 6th St., Casa Grande, AZ 85122.

Written comments can be mailed to Wayne Monger, BLM's project manager, at: 21605 N. 7th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85027. Comments also can be faxed to (623) 580-5623, or e-mailed to BLM_AZ_SDNMtargetsighting@BLM.gov. All comments must be received prior to the close of the 90-day public comment period March 15.

Under a March 2015 federal court order, the BLM was required to re-analyze the impacts of recreational target-shooting on the monument. A range of alternatives was developed based on public comments and suggestions received during the scoping process earlier this year. The draft EIS and RMP amendment analyze the impacts of each alternative. The RMP website is <http://bit.ly/SDNMtargetsighting>.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department recognizes the importance of protecting public access and enhancing outdoor recreational opportunities, including recreational target-shooting. In partnership with the BLM, U.S. Forest Service and the nonprofit Tread Lightly!, Game and Fish is helping to keep Arizona's public lands healthy and open through the "Respected Access is Open Access in Arizona" campaign. For more information about the campaign, visit www.respectedaccessarizona.org.



These Are The Top Five AZ Fishing Holes For This Winter

And, remember that you can purchase your fishing license online and help conserve wildlife in the process.

In Arizona, winter doesn't have to mean sending boats and rods and reels into hibernation. While outdoor recreation opportunities across many U.S. states shut down during the season of freeze, Arizona rolls on with trout stockings and water temperatures just warm enough to convince fish to bite during the holidays.

Although fishing tends to slow a tad this time of the year, there are some spots that are winter-friendly.

Here, then, are the Arizona Game and Fish Department's top-five fishing holes for this winter:

5. Alamo Lake

Alamo is a western Arizona dandy that can heat up quickly during the winter. At any given time from Nov.-Feb., Alamo can have some of the best crappie fishing in the state.

4. Parker Canyon Lake

Not only does Parker Canyon Lake in southern Arizona have great access with an abundance of shoreline options, but also its water temperatures remain cold enough to keep trout active throughout the day — not just during the late evening and early mornings. Parker Canyon Lake is stocked with trout through the winter.

3. Lees Ferry

Lees Ferry on the Colorado River is cold in the shadow of a canyon, but fishing opportunities remain steady. Winter is traditionally the spawning period for this world-class wild rainbow trout fishery in northern Arizona that provides the awe-

See **FISHING HOLES**, Page 8



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EXCERPTS FROM AZGFD FISH REPORT (DEC.)

Bartlett Lake Is Great For Winter Crappie, Bass

Tip Of The Week

Bartlett Lake in the Tonto National Forest can be a great place for winter crappie and bass. Some of the best crappie fishing can be done in the cold of the morning — then anglers can switch to bass. Consider throwing crankbaits and spinnerbaits with a slow presentation.

Trailers on spinnerbaits, and slow-rolling across the rock stringers, can work well at times. Once you get a feeling for where the bass are holding, switch to the finesse style of drop-shotting.

Did you know the Bartlett Lake Marina is open for business? See their Web site for more information.

The Reel Deal

For six months, nights were becoming longer, peaking Wednesday, Dec. 21, at 3:44 a.m. — the first day of winter.

As we cross that peak and daytime gradually lengthens toward spring, it's time to focus on what species and waters are best for winter fishing. First, our Community Fishing Program waters are being stocked with trout. Second, we have some new fishing regulations coming into effect Jan. 1 — see article with the details in this issue.

Also, be sure to check the ADOT Web site for road conditions before traveling this weekend. Ice fishing is not recommended due to unstable conditions of ice.

Update: Persons Of Interest Were Hunting Legally

SUPERIOR, Ariz. — The Arizona Game and Fish Department found that persons of interest in a photo distributed on some AZGFD social media accounts

See **HUNTING**, Page 9

FISHING HOLES

Continued from page 7

inspiring gateway to the Grand Canyon.

Catching trout in the rushing Colorado River along the spectacular red sandstone cliffs of the Marble Canyon Gorge is an experience beyond compare.

2. Lake Havasu

This giant, shallow, solunar bowl in the desert heats up quickly during a warm winter sun and has a large variety for sport-fish.

The world record 5-pound, 12.8-ounce monster redear sunfish was taken last year from Lake Havasu by Hector Brito.

Lake Havasu has some of the best bass fishing in the nation and water temperatures stay relatively warm during the winter.

The "West Coast of Arizona" hardly experiences winter.

1. Lower Salt River

Anglers get the unique experience of stream fishing for trout in the desert. The Lower Salt River (pictured), just minutes from some of the Valley of the Sun's population centers, is stocked with trout throughout the winter and offers good shoreline fishing options as well. A Tonto Pass is required.

Try nightcrawlers, small spinners, Kastmasters and flies. You might be able to catch some bass or sunfish in the deeper holes.

Purchase Online

You'll need a fishing license — purchase them online, 24/7. They're good for 365 days and help conserve wildlife for future generations.



Please be cautious — we consider all ice unsafe.

Nets And Waders: Working For You

(This new section will periodically show what our fisheries biologists have been doing in the field to improve fishing in Arizona.)

We recently conducted our annual electro-fishing survey on the backwaters of the Imperial Division of the Colorado River to gather data on relative abundance, size, growth of fish and to detect any large-scale changes in the fish population.

The largemouth bass population appears to be doing well — the largest sampled was 23.9 inches and 9.5 pounds. More than 20 percent of the largemouth bass captured during the survey were 15 inches or larger. A high number of young-



FINALLY! — Jim E. is shown with the first keeper largemouth bass he's caught at Red Mountain Lake after 15 years of fishing this lake east of Mesa.

of-the-year largemouth were sampled as well — possibly an indication for a future robust population in this area.

A total of 2,235 fish were sampled at 17 survey stations — including 206 largemouth bass. Other species collected included bluegill and redear sunfish, black crappie, warmouth sunfish, threadfin shad, gizzard shad, blue tilapia, common carp, striped bass, flathead catfish, and channel catfish.

Stocking Report

Tuesday, Dec. 20 — Cluff Reservoir, Roper Lake, Dankworth Ponds

Monday, Dec. 19 — Deadhorse Lake, Verde River (middle), Fain Lake, Saguaro Lake, Colorado River (3 spots from Ro-



tary Park to Davis Camp)

Thursday, Dec. 15 — Lower Salt River
Wednesday, Dec. 14 — "Core" Community fishing waters, Patterson Ponds (St. Johns), Patagonia Lake.

Catch Of The Week

Jim E. had the first keeper largemouth bass he'd caught at Red Mountain lake after 15 years of fishing this lake east of Mesa.

Send your Angler Reports to BFish-ing@AZGFD.gov — one will be featured as "Catch of the Week".

Thank You, Anglers!

Arizona fishing opportunities wouldn't be possible without the Sport Fish Restoration Program. It was created through the Dingell-Johnson Act of 1950 (Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act) and the Wallop-Breaux amendments of 1984. Through a federal excise tax paid by manufacturers on fishing gear and motorboat fuels, it provides funds for fishery conservation, boating access, and aquatic education.

Welcome To A Busy January

FROM DOUG BURT, AZGFD

Winter HAHWG One-Day Meeting

Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017 at the Archery Center at Ben Avery (same location as last year) is the date for our Winter HAHWG meeting; we look forward to a great gathering again. If you have any special topic requests send them my way.

At-A-Glance HAHWG Events

January gets really busy. If you're looking to help out, or promote a camp, here's a bunch of them — lots of good small-game opportunities. Let me know if you have any questions on the registration tool. We're still figuring things out, but some have found it very helpful.

<https://register-ed.com/programs/arizona/170-outdoor-skills-network/>

- Archery Javelina, Deer, Small Game Hunt Camp 1/13/2017, Terry Herndon - Lake Pleasant Regional Park
- BACB Upland Bird Hunting for Women & Youth 1/15/2017, Marci Welton - YMCA High Desert Hunt Club
- Javelina Hunting Seminar 1/17/2017 18:00, Desert Christian Archers - Calvary Community Church
- Becoming an Outdoor Woman 1/20/2017 17:00, Kimberlee Kreuzer - Saguaro Lake Ranch
- Wickenburg Youth Target Shooting Event 1/21/2017, Craig Heath - Wickenburg Sportsmen's Club
- 20C/18B/16A Youth Javelina, Small Game & Predator hunting Camp, YOU 1/26/2017, Scott Pike 20C
- 37B Beginners Small Game & Youth Javelina Camp 1/26/2017, Kara Jensen - Willow Springs Hunt Camp



Douglas Burt

For More Information

Douglas Burt
Hunting and Shooting Sports Program Manager
Arizona Game and Fish Department
dburt@azgfd.gov
(623) 236-7487 Desk
(602) 531-7578 Cell/Text

GALLEY PROOF

Here's A 'Berry Good' Trout Recipe To Try After Your Next Catch

FROM AZGFD

Trout have been stocked in "core" Community waters, and more are being caught and stocked in higher elevation lakes. If you are successful, we suggest heading to the kitchen to try this delectable recipe.

Pan-Seared Trout With Blackberry Sauce

BY JOHNATHAN O'DELL
Serves 5
Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 15 minutes

Ingredients:

- 2 pounds boneless trout fillets with skin on
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- Salt
- Black pepper
- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter
- 1 tablespoon crushed garlic
- 2 cups blackberries
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon grated ginger
- 1/4 cup water

Directions:

In a small saucepan, melt butter over medium heat. Add garlic and sauté for about a minute. Add blackberries and stir as they heat up and begin to break apart

and render liquid in the pan. Then add sugar, lemon juice, ginger and water and stir while continuing to break up berries for about 5 minutes.

Preheat a frying pan on medium-high heat. Drizzle oil over fillets, then salt and pepper them to taste. Place fillets, skin side down, in the frying pan. Cook until skin becomes crispy with golden-brown edges (approximately 3–5 minutes). Turn fillets over and cook until done (depending on thickness, approximately 3–5 minutes). Transfer fillets to plates and top with blackberry sauce.

(This recipe was originally published in the May-June 2014 issue of *Arizona Wildlife Views* magazine.)

Sea Shepherd, Mexican Navy Team Up To Catch Poachers; Fishermen Arrested

Six illegal fishing boats were apprehended by the Mexican Navy after being tracked by the M/V Farley Mowat in the Sea of Cortez.



LOS ANGELES – Dec. 28 – Six fishing boats engaged in illegal activities were spotted by Sea Shepherd Conservation Society in Mexico's Sea of Cortez, ending in their arrest by the Mexican Navy.

On December 12 Sea Shepherd's M/V Farley Mowat located poachers on radar before confirming their identities with binoculars. The six fishing boats were working together, using forbidden nets to catch the endangered totoaba bass inside a marine reserve in Mexico's Gulf of California.

The totoaba is a rare fish native to the Gulf that can measure up to 6 feet in length and weigh as much as 220 pounds. Fishing for totoaba has been banned by the Mexican government since 1975, but it continues to be hunted by poachers solely for its swim bladder, which is sold on the black market in China for more than \$20,000 per kilo.

When spotted by the Farley Mowat crew, the poachers began retrieving their nets as fast as they could, while others fled the scene immediately. The Farley Mowat tracked these boats, even while some of them tried to slow it down by maneuvering around the Sea Shepherd vessel.

Throughout the process, the Farley Mowat remained steadfast, following the poachers for about an hour until the Navy arrived. The poachers attempted to evade capture, giving up only when the Navy came at them with rifles drawn. No shots

were fired.

"Without Sea Shepherd, the poachers would continue to destroy their own environment," said Farley Mowat Captain Sebastien Fau.

The Farley Mowat and the M/V Sam Simon are currently in the Gulf of California as part of Operation Milagro III to stop the imminent extinction of the endangered vaquita porpoise. Both ships are protecting the vaquita refuge and patrolling for poachers among other duties.

Known as the world's smallest and rarest marine mammal, the vaquita is facing a real threat of extinction. The most recent statistics show the population has dwindled to an estimated less than 60 individuals.

The biggest threat to the vaquita survival are the poachers using illegal gill nets to catch the totoaba. Vaquita often become entangled in the nets and are unable to reach the surface of the water to breathe, causing them to drown.

The arrested poachers were using shrimp nets – forbidden in the vaquita reserve since 2015 – and totoaba nets, which are banned in Mexico.

While investigating the nets left by the fleeing fishermen, Farley Mowat found such live animals as sharks, rays, crabs and other fish trapped in the mesh. All were released.

"Sea Shepherd's partnership with the Mexican Navy is achieving results," said Sea Shepherd founder and CEO Captain Paul Watson. "Every poaching vessel intercepted and arrested is one step closer to

preventing the extinction of the vaquita."

Said Campaign Leader and Director of Ship Operations, Captain Oona Layolle: "Our collaboration with the Mexican authorities in patrolling the area and retrieving nets is highly important to the safety of the vaquita refuge and marine reserve. The more boats Sea Shepherd has in the area, the better we can guard against poaching. The vaquita needs all of our efforts now."

For more information about Operation Milagro III or to donate visit <http://www.seashepherd.org/milagro3>.

About Sea Shepherd Conservation Society

Founded by Captain Paul Watson, a world renowned, respected leader in environmental issues and co-founder of Greenpeace, Sea Shepherd Conservation Society is a non-profit marine conservation organization whose mission is to end the destruction of habitat and slaughter of wildlife in the world's oceans in order to conserve and protect ecosystems and species.

Established in 1977, Sea Shepherd uses innovative direct-action tactics to investigate, document, and take action when necessary to expose and confront illegal activities on the high seas. By safeguarding the biodiversity of our delicately balanced oceanic ecosystems, Sea Shepherd works to ensure their survival for future generations. Visit www.seashepherd.org for more information.



Yellowtail

Early Entry Discounts Offered For 2017 Derby

There are just five months to go until the 9th annual Yellowtail Derby that start on April 29. The goal is to have over 200 of the best SoCal (and beyond) anglers in the competition. More entries add up to larger payouts.

We are offering a Block Buster Early Bird Entry of \$45 (until Jan. 31) promo with a \$10 entry for Juniors. Junior awards, both Mondays and Fridays, are for Small-Fry (up to 9 years old) and Juniors (11 to 16 years old).

"Miss Yellowtail Derby 2017" will be announced in January.

Please check out the Derby updated Web site, which you can use to sign up: www.internationalyellowtailderby.com/

We are open to your input and your suggestions.

John Campbell
Derby Director
IGFA Representative
Purcell Yacht Sales Broker

Potential State Record Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep Taken

BY MARGIE ANDERSON

Randy Spray has been putting in for a bighorn tag for 43 years and had never drawn one. He told a friend, "I really need to draw a tag, I'm getting older and pretty soon I won't be able to do a bighorn hunt." That friend suggested that Randy try putting in for Rocky Mountain bighorn instead of Desert Bighorn, and that did the trick. He was already in the max bonus point pool, and this year he finally drew his tag for the archery hunt in 6A.

Shooting the ram was not a problem. Spray is an avid tournament archer with two golds in the Senior Olympics, and a ton of other archery titles as well. He started scouting almost three months before the hunt, and had zeroed in on an incredibly rugged area near Camp Verde in

the Clear Creek Canyon.

The night before the hunt, his buddy glassed the ram, and in the morning they hiked about a mile down to him. But the sheep had moved, and when they found the herd, an ewe got between Spray and the ram and he couldn't shoot. The ram walked off and my friend thought it was all over, but then the ram came back and he made a perfect shot. "The ram slid about forty yards, to within ten feet of going over a 100+ foot cliff."

The Arizona Game and Fish have green scored the ram at 183 2/8 net. After the horns dry for 60 days it will be re-scored. The current state record of 176 4/8 is shared by two hunters, both of whom also shot their rams in 6A. A friend of his, a measurer for Pope and Young, scored Spray's ram at 181 net.

thanks to social media and immediate cooperation of the hunter, we were able to confirm that this deer was in fact taken in a completely ethical and legal manner."

Initially, a concerned citizen had sent the photo to Operation Game Thief. The majority of our state's hunters do the right thing and uphold the game laws in Arizona — this case is another example.

If you see suspicious behavior, please contact AZGFD's Operation Game Thief Hotline at 1-800-352-0700, 24-hours-a-day, seven days a week, or visit www.azgfd.gov/ogt.shtml.

HUNTING

Continued from page 8

were hunting legally when they recently took a buck near Superior.

When they learned they were "persons of interest" through AZGFD social media posts, they contacted the Department, produced their tag and additional photos of the buck, and the investigation was concluded.

"This was a success story in that a member of the public reported what appeared to be suspicious behavior," said AZGFD Officer Kriselle Colvin, "and





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Western Wildlife



Wolf Pup Introduced Into Foster Pack Gives Birth To Wild-Born Young

Biologists with the Mexican Wolf Interagency Field Team (IFT) recently learned a fostered wolf pup introduced to a pack in 2014 has produced a wild offspring of her own.

In a critical breakthrough in Mexican wolf management, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently reported that a genetic test of male 1561 revealed that it is the offspring of male 1293 and female 1346. The female was one of two pups fostered into the den of the Dark Canyon Pack in New Mexico in 2014.

"We now have proof that a fostered pup not only survived to adulthood, but that it is reproducing and contributing genetically important young into the wild," said Jim DeVos, assistant director of wild-

life management for the Arizona Game and Fish Department. "This is fantastic news for the program and demonstrates that fostering Mexican wolves so they grow up wild is effective and provides a critical step forward for wolf recovery."

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission and department support this fostering technique that introduces very young pups from captivity and places them into a wild-born litter of the same age. The pups are then raised in the wild rather than captivity.

Critics of the commission's decision to restrict releases in Arizona solely to fostering pups argued that until these pups reproduce there would be no genetic rescue.

"One of the key challenges to recovery of the Mexican wolf is long-term genetic management given that all Mexican wolves alive today originated from a founder population of only seven animals," DeVos said. "This approach has been used in genetic management of other species but until this month was unproven for Mexican wolves," said DeVos.

The Mexican Wolf Reintroduction Project is a collaborative effort of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Game and Fish Department, White Mountain Apache Tribe, USDA Forest Service, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service – Wildlife Services, and several participating counties in Arizona.



OFFSPRING — A Mexican wolf walks through the snow. A recent genetic test of a male wolf revealed that it is the offspring of a previous wolf pup placed into a foster pack in 2014.



Mount Graham Red Squirrel

Endangered Red Squirrel Population Decreases By 11

An annual survey of the Mount Graham red squirrel recently revealed a slight decline in the number of the endangered squirrels in the Pinaleno Mountains in southeastern Arizona.

The survey conducted jointly by the Arizona Game and Fish Department, Coronado National Forest, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the University of Arizona estimated 252 squirrels. The survey is a decrease of 11 squirrels from the 2015 estimate of 263.

"While we'd prefer to see squirrel populations continually grow, it's not uncommon for them to fluctuate considerably from year to year," said Tim Snow, AZGFD terrestrial wildlife specialist. "At this point, we aren't immediately concerned with the lower squirrel numbers. We remain optimistic that our efforts are working to ensure the population has the best opportunity to flourish in the future."

The red squirrel survey is conducted each fall by visiting a random sample of known middens, which are areas where red squirrels store their pinecones. Mount Graham red squirrels live only in the upper elevation conifer forests of the Pinaleno Mountains and feed primarily on conifer seeds. Females produce two to seven young per year.

The species was declared endangered in 1987. The Mount Graham red squirrel population peaked at about 550 animals in the late 1990s, but typically ranges between 200 and 300 individuals.

Habitat losses caused by fire, insect infestations and poor cone crops caused by drought are considered primary factors influencing population size. Biologists continue to explore new methods to conserve the species, including squirrel research, habitat improvements and a pilot captive-breeding program.

Conservation of the species is guided by the Mount Graham Red Squirrel Recovery Team, a partnership that includes

See **SQUIRREL**, Page 15

Photographed Jaguar Confirmed As 'New Visitor'

Scientists at the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) completed an independent analysis of trail cam photos of a jaguar in the Huachuca Mountains and confirmed that the animal has not been seen previously in Arizona.

"Five scientists from the department independently examined the photos from the new sighting with those from previous jaguars in Arizona to compare spot patterns and concluded that this animal has not been sighted in previously in the state," said Jim DeVos, assistant director for Wildlife Management at AZGFD.

"While recognizing the importance of finding a new jaguar in Arizona, it is also important to point out that this animal, like all other jaguars observed in Arizona in at least 50 years, is a solitary male and



that the closest breeding population of this species is about 130 miles south of the International Border," added DeVos.

The other most recent sighting of a jaguar in Arizona was in the Santa Rita Mountains in southern Arizona; however, that animal has not been documented in the state since September 2015. Prior to

September 2015, this jaguar was photographed hundreds of times over a three-year period.

"Jaguars are a unique component of this state's wildlife diversity and it is exciting to document a new visitor. However, in the absence of female jaguars and with the irregularity with which we document any jaguar presence in Arizona, this sighting in early December is important, but not an indicator of an establishing population in the state," said DeVos.

Did You Know?

The Arizona Game and Fish Department receives NO Arizona general fund tax dollars? We hold the state's wildlife in trust for the public without a dime from Arizona taxpayers.

Stay Connected With AZGFD E-News

Wild+Life is our newest e-News product.

The monthly electronic newsletter focuses on wildlife-watching activities and interesting information about Arizona's wildlife. Be the first to see great photos, fun facts, practical tips, a Video of the Month, and more. It's only available online.

You can also subscribe to the following:

• **Wildlife News** (news about wildlife conservation, outdoor recreation and AZGFD activities)

• **Fishing Report** (weekly update on fishing around the state)

• **Hunting News** (news about big and small game hunting, big game draw, and wildlife management)

• **Shooting Sports News** (periodic updates on shooting ranges, shooting sports and recreational shooting opportunities)

• **Community Fishing Bulletin** (bi-monthly updates on Community Fishing Program waters)

• **Off-Highway Vehicle News** (news



pertaining to OHV recreation, laws, responsible riding tips)

• **Mexican Wolf Update** (monthly update on Mexican wolf conservation efforts)

Take advantage of this opportunity to stay up to date on wildlife conservation, outdoor recreation and the activities of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Relict Leopard Frogs Not In Need Of Federal Protection

USFWS determines populations are stable or increasing thanks to proactive conservation efforts.

A frog species in Arizona and southern Nevada does not need federal protection under the Endangered Species Act, thanks to the multi-partner conservation efforts of the Arizona Game and Fish Department, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other federal and state agencies that make up the Relict Leopard Frog Conservation Team. The Fish and Wildlife Service has determined that relict leopard frog populations are stable or increasing.

The Service was petitioned in 2002 by the Center for Biological Diversity and the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance to list the relict leopard frog and designate critical habitat for it. The Service, Arizona Game and Fish and other partners were already involved in coordinated conservation efforts for the frog before the petition was filed. Those efforts include on-



Relict Leopard Frog

going habitat management, establishment of new sites, and restoration activities, which have resulted in an overall reduction of most threats and an improvement in the species' status.

"This shows that collaborative, on-the-ground efforts lead to conservation successes," said Jim DeVos, assistant di-

rector for Game and Fish's Wildlife Management Division. "By taking proactive measures that preclude the need for listing a species under the Endangered Species Act, we have much more flexibility in actively managing the species so it can ultimately thrive."

Members of the Relict Leopard Frog Conservation Team have included the Arizona Game and Fish Department, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Bureau of Reclamation, Environmental Protection Agency, Clark County (Nevada), the Southern Nevada Water Authority (including the Las Vegas Springs Preserve),

See **FROGS**, Page 15



Western Caucus Members Reject Obama's Massive 1.65 Million Acre Land Grabs

Governor Doug Ducey's responding letter asks for respect for Arizona.



Ducey



Gosar

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Last week, President Obama took unilateral action and issued a Presidential Proclamation under the outdated 1906 Antiquities Act, locking-up 1.35 million acres of land in southeastern Utah through designation of the new Bears Ears National Monument and locking-up 300,000 acres of land in Clark County, Nevada through designation of the new Gold Butte National Monument.

Congressional Western Caucus Chairman Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S. (AZ-04), Chairman Emeritus Rob Bishop (UT-01), Vice-Chairman for Policy Mark Amodei (NV-02), and Caucus Members Congressman Jason Chaffetz (UT-03), Congressman Chris Stewart (UT-02) and Congresswoman Mia Love (UT-04) issued the following statements in response:

Responses From Gosar, Bishop, Amodei, Chaffetz, Stewart, Love

Gosar:

"Once again, President Obama has put the needs of special-interest groups like the Sierra Club, the Center for Biological Diversity and the Center for Western Priorities ahead of the needs of hard-working Americans," said Chairman Gosar. "No one man should be able to unilaterally lock-up millions of acres with the stroke of his pen, especially in the face of overwhelming local opposition. An overzealous, unaccountable bureaucracy operating in overdrive during its waning days is no way to govern.

"As Chairman of the Congressional Western Caucus, I will work with the Trump Administration to undo these land grabs and reform the outdated Antiquities Act in order to prevent this type of abuse from ever occurring again."

Bishop:

"Chairman Emeritus Rob Bishop released this video statement and stated, 'The announcement perpetuates two egregious lies. The first being that the size of the monument parallels the Public Lands Initiative. That is not true. The administration is grasping at arguments to justify a lame duck administration's efforts to do things contrary to the will of the people who live in San Juan County. The second lie is in the creation of a faux commission to give management authority to Native Americans.

"This is a diversion. The Utah delegation wants to give management authority to Native Americans; the administration can't. Only Congress can legally do so. This administration over promised, failed to deliver, and is now trying to hide its ineptitude."

Amodei:

"Hey Nevada — this sure as heck beats a transparent lands bill, doesn't it?" said Vice-Chairman Mark Amodei.

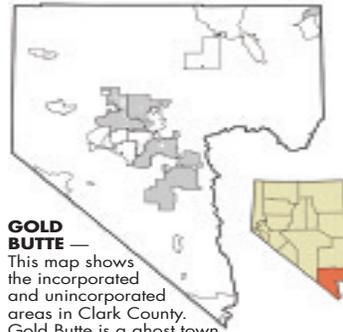
Chaffetz:

"This midnight monument is a slap in the face to the people of Utah, attempting to silence the voices of those who will bear the heavy burden it imposes. It does

WAKE ZONE



Op/Ed



GOLD BUTTE

— This map shows the incorporated and unincorporated areas in Clark County. Gold Butte is a ghost town in the Eastern hook of Clark County.

not have the support of the Governor, a single member of the state's Congressional delegation, nor any local elected officials or state legislators who represent the area. We will work to repeal this top-down decision and replace it with one that garners local support and creates a balanced, win-win solution," said Congressman Jason Chaffetz.

Stewart:

"The creation of the Bears Ears National Monument marks the second time in the recent past that a president has used the Antiquities Act to lock up millions of acres of land in Utah without daring to set foot in the state. I am disgusted by the process and will fight this monument with every tool at my disposal, including through the appropriations process," said Congressman Chris Stewart.

Love:

"By unilaterally designating the Bears Ears area of San Juan County a National Monument, President Obama has undermined the economy and lifestyle of the people who live there, the religious interests of the Native Americans who reside in San Juan County, and ignored local authority. Again behaving more like a dictator instead of a representative of people, he ignored Utah, which is united in opposition to this action. I join our delegation, state officials and the people of Utah in the pledge to use every tool in our arsenal to undo what he has done, and restore the blessings of freedom he wants so badly to remove from us in his final days," said Congresswoman Mia Love.

Background

With designation of the 1.35 million acre Bears Ears National Monument in Utah and the 300,000 acre Gold Butte National Monument in Nevada, President Obama has designated or expanded 29 national monuments, more than any other president in history. These unilateral proclamations have locked-up more than 550 million acres of land and water.

No Significant Local Support

There is no significant local support for the Bears Ears designation as the locally elected county leaders, state legislators, governor, and federal delegation are all united in opposition to this monument. In addition, Commissioner Rebecca Benally, the only Navajo who holds elected office in Utah, recently appeared before the Natural Resources Committee to testify in opposition to the monument.



BEARS EARS — This is a view of Bears Ears from Utah Highway 261.

The Utah delegation sent a letter opposing the Bears Ears monument earlier this year.

A Viable Alternative

A viable legislative alternative available in HR. 5780, the Public Lands Initiative, passed the House Committee on Natural Resources in September of this year.

Congressman Chris Stewart passed an amendment through the House of Representatives to block the Bears Ears National Monument, the Gold Butte National Monument and other proposed monuments where there is significant local opposition earlier this year.

Senate Western Caucus Member Mike Lee recently authored an op-ed detailing why President Obama shouldn't unilaterally declare a Bears Ears National Monument.

Congressional Western Caucus Chairman Paul Gosar and several Caucus Members introduced H.R. 3946, the Protecting Local Communities from Executive Overreach Act, in order to prevent this type of abuse and require concurrence from local stakeholders in order to ensure a transparent process that involves the American people. This bill also would have blocked the Gold Butte National Monument in Clark County, Nevada.

The 1906 Antiquities Act stipulates that presidents can only declare monuments where "the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects" is protected. Locking-up more than 550 million acres hardly seems to fit this description.

Negative Impacts

National monument designations under the Antiquities Act typically have significant consequences that negatively affect grazing rights, water rights, wildfire prevention and other land management activities. These declarations also result in some of the most restrictive land-use regulations possible and also greatly impact hunting, fishing, OHV and other recreational activities.

Unilateral designations that circumvent Congress typically result in devastating consequences for rural America. These land grabs kill jobs and limit future economic prosperity. Such actions also exacerbate challenges for local communities to fund services like education and infrastructure as lands that are added to the federal rolls can no longer be taxed.

Arizona Governor Doug Ducey Responds

PHOENIX — In response to President Obama's designating two national monuments this week in Utah and Nevada, Governor Doug Ducey issued the following statement requesting that the president respect Arizona by not designating the proposed Grand Canyon Watershed

National Monument:

"Western public land agreements have established a legacy of multi-use that have provided a recreational, environmental, conservation and economic balance that has served our state and nation well.

"In the early 1990s Republican Senator John McCain and Democratic Congressman Morris Udall worked appropriately through congressional action to create a massive footprint of designated wilderness in our state. Arizona also already hosts the most national monuments of any state in the nation. Those monuments more than suffice for enough acreage set aside for elevated public lands management. That work is now complete.

Arizona Needs No Further Designations

"Our state needs no further designations. Designations done by decree have already negatively impacted our state's ability to manage wildlife, held in trust for the people of Arizona and our nation. Proof of this fact is seen in the decline of desert sheep in the Sonoran Desert Monument, where access closures impeded our ability to maintain water catchments to grow these herds.

"Forest management also suffers in special designation areas, and my fear with the proposed designation is a catastrophic fire that would damage this area for more than a century.

"I have long joined Senators McCain and Flake, the majority of our congressional delegation, more than 20 sportsmen/women organizations, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, and thousands of Arizona citizens in steadfast opposition to this unneeded and poorly thought-out presidential decree that will permanently damage the recreational, environmental, conservation and economic balance that is so important to our state.

Requests Respect

"I request that the president respect the wishes of our state's leadership and the Congress of the United States, which is where the real authority for public lands designations resides. The intent of the Antiquities Act gives the president limited authority to set aside the smallest amount of land possible to protect the artifact; this proposed designation of 1.9 million acres of land would be a clear violation of that intent.

"If designated by the president in his waning hours, Arizona will take every step necessary — legally and legislatively — to stop it. My hope is that the president respects our wishes."

Note: The Arizona Game and Fish Commission opposes establishment of this unneeded national monument in Arizona ... [and] the loss of multiple-use public lands due to special land-use designations.

IT'S A SUPER EVENT, EH?

Join Us At The 65th Annual Great Canadian Picnic

Every year Phoenix-area residents have a chance to celebrate the friendship they share with our neighbours (cq) to the north who become our winter visitors/residents.

It's that time again! The Great Canadian Picnic is set for Saturday, Feb. 4 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Activity Complex of South Mountain Park (10919 South Central Ave., Phoenix 85042).

And the event just gets better and better every year. Here is a partial list of the fun, family friendly activities on the docket for 2017:

Freebies:

- Admission
- Parking



Picnic Activities

- Live music by the Jack Jackson band
- Classic car display
- Food trucks: Down Under Foods, Burgers Amore, Rockstar Hot Dogs, The American Poutine Company, Dipstick Waffles and Bakery
- Great raffle and door prizes
- Face painting
- Balloons
- Temporary tattoos
- Snow slide and a big pile of snow
- Snow golf (putting on a snow drift)

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- Corn Hole Boards
- Moose toss (a knock down game)
- Scavenger Hunt
- Curling game with the Coyotes Curling Club
- Rock Climbing Wall

One Million And Growing: Arizona's Canadian Tourists

"Record breaking" is simply the best way to describe Arizona's unique relationship with Canada as the state celebrates Canada Week. For the first time ever, 2015 brought more than one million recorded Canadian tourists to explore and enjoy communities across all of Arizona. "Arizona enjoys a long standing friendship with our Canadian neighbors who bring an incredible economic impact of more than \$1 billion each year in tourism dollars," said Kim Sabow, president and CEO of the Arizona Lodging and Tourism Association.



A Home Away From Home

"It's incredible to consider that an estimated 75 percent of all international travelers going through Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport are Canadians and 80 percent of all international private jet activity at Scottsdale Airport is Canadian. That results in significant economic impact for our state."

Arizona's Canadian visitors stay an average of 20 nights in the state per trip with an average spend of \$1,300 per visit.

"Canadians and Arizonans share similar character and values which provide a sense of community and welcoming," said Ken McKenzie, general manager of the Scottsdale Resort at McCormick Ranch and Chairman of the Arizona Lodging and Tourism Association.

"Our state truly becomes a home away from home, and the result is repeat visits which go beyond important economic impact. We truly are thrilled to welcome these friends back again and again."

Largest Visitor Market

Canada's provinces of Alberta, Ontario and British Columbia represent the vast

See **PICNIC**, Page 13



ROYAL FAIRE FACTS

This Annual Ariz. Favorite Event Is Definitely Worth A 'Huzzah'!

- Revel in the atmosphere of 16th century Europe!
- Step back in time.
- Explore our 30-acre festival village filled with 13 stages of nonstop entertainment; falconry, sea fairies, pirates, performances of music, dance, acrobatics, and comedy.
- Cheer on your favorite armored knight at the jousting tournament.
- Explore the marketplace with over 200 storybook shops, studios and galleries filled with unique arts and crafts, plus kitchens, pubs, and people-powered rides.
- Foolish pleasures mix with artisan treasures as you shop, eat and revel with a cast of nearly 2,000 colorfully costumed characters. Where else can you eat, drink, and be merry?
- Kids love the interactive games and people-powered rides: Da Vinci's Flying Machine, The Slider Joust, Piccolo



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See **REN FAIRE**, Page 13

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100 MILES IN [UNDER] 100 DAYS

Are You Up To The Challenge?

Back by popular demand, Maricopa County's Parks and Recreation Department last month rolled out the 100 Miles in 100 Days Challenge.

"This is the sixth year Parks has offered the 100 Miles in 100 Days Challenge. Visitors love it because it's open to all abilities and user groups — hikers, trail runners, mountain bikers and horseback riders. It's also a great motivator for those looking to transition their indoor exercise routines back outdoors," stated Maricopa County Board of Supervisor Steve Gallardo, District 5.

While the Challenge initially started out as a Centennial celebration, it has become an annual program due to popularity. The goal of the program is to log 100 miles in 100 days. Last year, 33 of the 247 individuals who completed the Challenge logged at least 200 miles. And, if that wasn't impressive enough, two of the individuals managed to surpass 600 miles — each!

Collectively, those who completed the Challenge logged 34,936 miles on our County trails. That's 13,697 more miles than the team hiked the previous year, and to put things into perspective, just shy of traveling one-and-a-half times around the circumference of the Earth.

"The Challenge kicks-off on Nov. 1 each year. However, eager participants were already stopping by early at the nature centers to see if they could start. While this is amusing to us because the trails are open year-round, we understand that it's a personal challenge for park visitors and has become a badge of honor to those who complete it," said R.J. Cardin, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department director.

Knowing that it can be somewhat difficult to stay motivated during the holiday season, the department offers a community page on Facebook. Here, participants can share milestones, seek out trail recommendations, post photos, and join in on fun activities. The page is managed by the department's interpretive rangers who have also developed fitness hikes to help Challenge participants reach their program and personal goals.

"We offer a passport program during the Challenge at Estrella Mountain Regional Park. Every week, we explore a new part of the park, starting off with the easier trails and working our way up to the more difficult ones. It's a great way to meet new hiker friends, watch your fitness level grow, and take in Estrella's breathtaking landscape. And, the icing on the cake is we get to have a celebration when we're done with the Challenge," added Ranger Tippy Jackson, Estrella Mountain Regional Park.

Participating in the Challenge is simple; rules and trail guides may be obtained by visiting a County park or downloading a brochure at www.maricopacountyparks.net. Once participants have completed their trek, trail logs and entry forms may be returned to a County park to be eligible for a grand prize drawing of an annual park pass (\$85 value) and \$25 Nature Center retail voucher (total value not to exceed \$110).

So lace up your hiking boots or running shoes, dust off the mountain bikes, and saddle up those horses because the

See **CHALLENGE**, Page 13

Winter Brings Changes To Recreation Sites Near Roosevelt

Several winter recreation sites near Roosevelt are closed for the winter. Davis Wash and Upper Burnt Corral, located at Apache Lake, will be closed until March 1. Bermuda Flat, at Roosevelt Lake is now closed but will reopen on Feb.16.

This closure occurs annually, to protect the wintering goose population.

To compensate for the Bermuda Flat closure, Cholla Bay shoreline area will remain open until Feb. 15. Cholla Bay requires either a Tonto Daily Pass or an

Annual Discovery Pass.

Bachelor Cove shoreline area is open year-round with no fee required. There are no facilities in this area, so all visitors are required to pack out everything they pack in.

Here's A Safer Power Connection For Today's Modern RV

To say that the design of the traditional twist-type power cord connector is old is an understatement. When it was invented back in the 1930s, RVers were known as Tin Can Tourists. Still in use today and barely changed, these devices are hazardous, out of date and a common cause of electrical fires. SmartPlug Systems has a better, safer solution for today's modern motorcoach and trailer owner.

The innovative SmartPlug is a revolutionary waterproof inlet and connector with 20 times the metal contact than traditional twist-type plugs. This maximizes the electrical transfer, and reduces the arcing, resistance and resultant overheating that leads to fire.

Easier to use than traditional twist-type connections, the SmartPlug sleeve design pushes straight in and locks in places with two levers, all with one hand. Its asymmetrical design makes it simple to connect the power, even in the dead of night.

The SmartPlug has been thoroughly tested by independent laboratories. It's Intertek ETL listed and the only shore power plug to be UL certified. IMANNA proved it waterproof by subjecting it to 30 grueling days of salt fog.

RV owners across the US and Canada have placed their trust in the SmartPlug. It's simple and quick to install using common household tools.



The inlet is available in four versions: white, grey and black polymer, and stainless steel. It's available in 30A/125V or 50A 125/250V.

Contact local dealers of SmartPlug Systems, 2500 Westlake Ave N., Ste. G, Seattle, WA 98109-2262. 206-285-2990; Fax: 206-285-2981. Sales@smartplug.com; www.smartplug.com; www.facebook.com/SmartPlug; twitter.com/smartplugs

CHALLENGE

Continued from page 12

100 Miles in 100 Days Challenge that began on Nov.1 runs through Monday, Feb. 8, 2017.

To recognize those who complete the Challenge, celebrations have been scheduled at seven of the County's regional parks for Saturday, March 11, 2017. In addition, everyone who completes the Challenge will receive a limited edition tee-shirt at the celebration. For a list of County parks and additional information, visit www.maricopacountyparks.net.

REN FAIRE

Continued from page 12

Tickets

Save time when purchasing tickets online at: <http://arizona.renfestinfo.com/ticket-information/> Save with discount tickets at Fry's Food Stores \$22 for adults, \$12 for kids (ages 5 - 12), children under 5 are always FREE. Tickets purchased at the Festival Box Office are \$2 more. Discount tickets for seniors (60 and older) are \$21, only available at the Festival ticket booth.

Parking

Parking is free courtesy of Fry's Food Stores.

Directions, Info

The Festival is located just east of Phoenix on US Hwy 60, past the Gold Canyon Golf Resort. From Tucson, the Festival is west of Florence Junction on US Hwy 60. Call 520-463-2700 or visit <http://arizona.renfestinfo.com/home/directions-map/> for directions. Get Social with us! Share our information via Huzzah Sponsors

PICNIC

Continued from page 12

majority of visitors to Arizona. At the national level, Canadians remain the largest visitor market for the U.S., contributing to over 30 percent of total visits.

Further, Arizona's proximity to California and Mexico provides a tremendous opportunity to increase business tourism as more Canadian firms consider our state

for strategic growth. Arizona's low tax structure and business-friendly regulatory environment make the state an ideal location for Canadian businesses interested in accessing two of the world's top economies.

Governor Doug Ducey is committed to growing a strong and vibrant economy from trade to tourism; our relation with Canada is creating important jobs supporting Arizona and its families,"

Sabow added.

For additional information, please contact Kim Sabow, president and CEO at the Arizona Lodging and Tourism Association at 602-604-0729 or ksabow@azlta.com.

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Fatal OHV Accidents Serve As Reminders To Practice Safety

The Arizona Game and Fish Department reminds all off-highway vehicle (OHV) drivers and passengers to wear the proper safety gear and ride responsibly in the wake of multiple separate accidents.

Since Thanksgiving, three people have died in accidents on OHVs. The first occurred in Mohave County after an ATV rolled, killing an 11-year-old female passenger and injuring the 12-year-old driver, according to the Mohave County Sheriff's Office.

The second accident claimed the life of a veteran Phoenix Fire captain who rolled the side-by-side he was driving while on an elk hunt south of the Grand Canyon, according to the Coconino County Sheriff's Office. Over the weekend, an 18-year-old Arizona State University student died after his ATV collided with a tree.

"It only takes a split-second for tragedy to strike," said Josh Hurst, AZGFD Off-Highway Vehicle Program coordinator. "The last few weeks have shown us that OHV accidents can happen to anybody at any time and that is why all riders and their passengers should wear the proper safety equipment at all times. Helmets save lives."

Riders and operators are reminded that helmets are required by law for all riders under the age of 18 regardless of the off-highway vehicle type. However, they are strongly recommended for all riders. In addition riders should remember to heed the following:

- Wear a seat belt at all times, if equipped.
- Only carry the number of passengers recommended by the manufacturer



for your vehicle. Often many accidents are the result of too many people riding a machine that was designed for fewer passengers.

- Wear riding goggles, a long-sleeved shirt, pants, riding gloves and over-the-ankle boots.
- Never ride alone.
- Be prepared and equipped with a map, a first aid kit, whistle and have basic tools on hand.
- Stay on designated trails.
- Take an OHV safety education course designed to teach off-road motorists how to ride safely and responsibly.

For more information about the Arizona Game and Fish Department's OHV program and safety course options, visit www.azgfd.gov/ohv.

Six Items All Riders Need

Another year has passed and if a new

off-highway vehicle (OHV) was in the cards this holiday season, the Arizona Game and Fish Department advises you to remember the wear the following equipment.

1. A helmet. Whether riding in a side-by-side utility-type vehicle (UTV), all-terrain vehicle (ATV) or dirt bike, all riders younger than 18 years old are legally required to wear a Department of Transportation-approved helmet. Helmets are strongly recommended for all riders older than 18.

2. Eye protection, such as riding goggles, is legally required for all riders if the OHV is not equipped with a windshield.

3. Riding gloves should be worn at all times to protect your hands while riding and enhance your grip while driving.

4. Wear proper clothing, including a long-sleeve shirt, pants and over-the-

ankle boots.

5. Register your OHV and purchase an OHV Decal. All vehicles designed primarily for travel on unimproved terrain and weighing less than 1,800 pounds are required to have a \$25 OHV decal to operate on public and state lands. License plates and decals are available at any Arizona Motor Vehicle Division location or at www.servicearizona.com.

6. Take a safety course. Safety courses teach new and veteran riders the techniques needed to safely operate and ride an OHV, including the importance of shifting their weight, maintaining control of the machine, evasive braking and maneuvers. For information on where to take a course or to take one online, visit www.azgfd.com/Education/OHV.

Always remember to supervise children under 16 years old and check to ensure your child is riding an age-appropriate vehicle. Machines may be too large and powerful for a child to safely operate. Parents are ultimately responsible for their children's safety.

Riders should only carry the number of passengers for which the machine is designed. One of the biggest causes of OHV-related injuries is riding with more than the recommended number of passengers. Proper riding techniques require operators to shift their weight and change position to keep control of the machine. Carrying a passenger can make riding difficult and change how the vehicle responds.

For additional OHV safety information, visit www.azgfd.gov/ohv.

International College Students To Revive Lonely Dell Orchard

On Jan. 10, more than 200 college students representing 13 countries will revitalize one of the most important historic sites on the Colorado River as part of an education and service-based collaboration between the U.S. Department of State's Community College Initiative Program and the National Park Service.

International Exchange Program

The U.S. Department of State's CCI Program is an international exchange program, administered by Northern Virginia Community College on behalf of the Community College Consortium, that provides participants with a one-year, non-degree academic program in workforce development fields at a U.S. community college. The CCI Program recruits participants from underserved and unrepresented communities, particularly women. Since 2007, the CCI Program has hosted more than 2,800 participants from 21 countries.

Students To Revive Historic Orchard

To celebrate the Community College Initiative Program's ten-year anniversary, and commemorate 100 years of the U.S. National Park Service, this year's 211 students and 22 staff will work together in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area to revive a historic orchard as a service learning event. The theme of the event is "Sowing Seeds of Good Intentions for the Future."

The historic orchard is located at Lonely Dell Ranch in the Lees Ferry Historic District, which is an integral part of the history of the earliest Euro-Americans settling along the Colorado River. Lees Ferry was established in the 1872 as the only viable crossing of the Colorado River for hundreds of miles.



LONELY DELL — Visitors peek into one of the structures at Lonely Dell.

Lonely Dell Used Until 1928

Lees Ferry was used by early members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and other pioneers until 1928. A homestead at the mouth of the Paria Canyon, called Lonely Dell, still stands as a testament to the lives of ferry operators and their families. The Lonely Dell orchard is watered by irrigation systems that were established in the 1880s, and is maintained by the National Park Service as part of the cultural landscape that contributes to the experience of history that people receive when visiting the Lees Ferry Historic District.

Today, the orchard at Lonely Dell continues to bear fruit and provide shade for visitors to Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. The orchard stands in stark contrast to the harsh desert landscape and reminds visitors what is possible when groups of people work together to seek creative solutions to life's challenging problems. The participants in the Community College Initiative Program will plant new trees in the orchard to replace trees that have died, prune and maintain healthy trees, and work on irrigation systems from three different historic time periods to keep the orchard green and lush for future visitors, many of whom are direct descendants of the original pioneers who established Lonely Dell.

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PayPal Button Update: Project Donation Drive



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Hank and Winslow are enjoying the day in Albuquerque.

of the lost, abandoned and forgotten pets in the State of New Mexico.

See **FUR AND FEATHER**, Page 19

LOST OUR HOME

There Are Many Ways To Help This No-Kill Shelter

As the New Year begins, perhaps you can find time (and or money) to help out one of the Phoenix-area no-kill shelters: Lost Our Home. Here are some possibilities for you to become involved in 2017.

Weekend Adoption Events!

Every Other Saturday (11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) PetSmart on Priest and Elliot 1140 W. Elliot Rd. Tempe, AZ 85284

Every Other Saturday (12:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) Choice Pet Market at Town



and Country Shopping Center (Biltmore) 4719 N 20th St A30, Phoenix, AZ 85016

See **SHELTER**, Page 19

FROGS

Continued from page 10

the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and the University of Nevada, Reno.

The relict leopard frog is currently found in springs in southeastern Nevada

and northwestern Arizona. The frog historically occupied a variety of habitats, including springs, streams, and other wetlands. Nonnative predators such as crayfish, American bullfrogs, and fish have reduced the relict leopard frog's range.

SQUIRREL

Continued from page 10

the Coronado National Forest, Arizona Game and Fish Department, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, University of Arizona, The Phoenix Zoo, Native American tribes and others.



CENTENNIAL

Continued from page 1

staff at South Rim, Desert View and North Rim entrance stations, who on any given day may greet between one and two thousand visitors. Iva Torivio was the VUA that had the pleasure of greeting Grand Canyon's 6 millionth visitor.

The 6 millionth visitor signifies an exciting landmark for Grand Canyon National Park which has seen a steady increase in visitation since 2011. This year alone visitation has increased by 7.5% with help from national campaigns like "Find Your Park", a social media public campaign to raise awareness of the NPS Centennial. Since its establishment in 1919, Grand Canyon National Park has received more than 200 million visitors.

Celebrating the 6 millionth visitor is a significant milestone that all park staff and community are proud of. As the NPS Centennial year comes to an end, the Grand Canyon team is looking forward to its own centennial celebration in 2019 when it will continue to inspire future generations to be stewards of public lands.

For more information about visiting Grand Canyon National Park please visit www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit.

Engaging Young People In The NPS Mission

An important component of the NPS Centennial is A Call to Action, which outlines a framework for the NPS second century of service and is focused on the need to be more relevant to all Americans, expand our work and park perspectives to connect with new audiences, and build an organization that reflects the diversity of our country. Grand Canyon celebrated a



Toroweap Overlook, North Rim

number of these initiatives including #2 Step by Step, #8 Next Generation Stewards and #33 Homegrown by passing out 3,134 Every Kid in a Park passes, engaging young people from the Grand Canyon community in park service internships, and providing information about park service careers during job fairs and career day events.

Grand Canyon also participated in initiative #36 Value Diversity by leading a cultural competence workshop with Dr. Katherine Campbell of the Bureau of Indian Education, Diversifying the Outdoors with Jose Gonzales founder of Latino Outdoors, Xico in the Wilderness and visits from Tucson's Urban Fellow.

Find Your Park Helps Grand Canyon

In 2015 visitation to Grand Canyon National Park increased by almost 1 million visitors, and this centennial year visitation continues to increase by 8.6 percent, amounting to more than 6 million visitors. This is an exciting landmark for Grand Canyon National Park which has seen a steady increase in visitation since 2011 and, since its establishment as a national park has received more than 200 million visitors.

REGATTA

Continued from page 1

To register for the race, visit <http://www.aycregattas.com/leukemiacup>

If you would like more information about supporting The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, contact Naomi Martinez at naomi.martinez@lls.org or 602-567-7612.

Ruth Beals Cup

The race for women at the helm will be Saturday, Jan. 21, at Lake Pleasant.

Resources

World Sailing (formerly ISAF) has issued the 2017-2021 *Racing Rules of Sailing*. Generally the rule changes are small this time, altering some wording but otherwise keeping the game substantially the same.

AYC & ASF Boats: To drive an AYC-owned boat at Lake Pleasant you must be 18 or older and hold certification for safe powerboat operation from US Sailing. Boats at Tempe Town Lake are owned by the Arizona Sailing Foundation (ASF) and drivers of those boats must be approved by the City of Tempe.

The approved TTL boat drivers include US Sailing-certified powerboat operators, US Sailing-certified Small Boat Instructors, and anyone who has been checked out and approved by the City of Tempe

New To Racing? Want To Try It?

Consider being crew, taking our in-

troductory class, or plunge in using your own boat or an adopted boat. The procedures are a little different at each lake. Do you have a cruising boat and consider yourself a cruiser? Consider racing your cruising boat.

Arizona Yacht Club Fleets

Arizona Yacht Club has several fleets, each active with many boats and good sailors. The fleets include the following:

- Buccaneer
- Capri (Catalina) 14.2
- Catalina 22
- Laser (Including Radial Laser)
- Merit 25 (Currently part of the PHRF Spinnaker fleet)
- Multi Hulls
- PHRF Non-Spinnaker
- PHRF Spinnaker
- PHRF Sport Boat
- Santana 20
- Portsmouth
- Thistle

We have two scheduled race series at Lake Pleasant in the spring and fall of each year, plus the annual Birthday Regatta in February. Small boats race Sunday afternoons at Tempe Town Lake, with races running nearly year-round. Race day start times vary by time of year so that racing ends near dusk.

EXPO

Continued from page 1

cess and we expect even more success in 2017.

Our second year at WestWorld of Scottsdale is our 17th in Arizona. If you came last year, you saw how the show had grown. Really, really grown! More fun features for the entire family. New hands-on activities. More boats and RVs of all sizes and styles.

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a great experience.

- Date:** March 23-26, 2017
- Location:** WestWorld of Scottsdale 1660 N Pima Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85260
- Hours:** Thursday, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Tickets:** Adult Admission - \$14.00, Youth under 16 - Free!
- Parking:** WestWorld parking: \$5 per car
- Please:** No Pets, No Weapons, Firearms or Ammunition



Bright Angel Lodge

In recent years increase in visitation can be accounted to the development of national campaigns like "Find Your Park". During the year, Grand Canyon expanded public engagement by participating in Find Your Park/ Encuentra Tu Parque, a campaign to raise awareness of national parks and sites. Through more than 1,730 posts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram with a public reach of over 190 million, Grand Canyon raised awareness of the NPS Centennial and various national campaigns including Find Your Park and Every Kid in a Park. Additionally, Grand Canyon shared thousands of printed materials with park partners and visitors.

Centennial Events Highlight Grand Canyon's Diversity

Grand Canyon conducted a robust year of activities, events and celebrations to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service. Centennial events focused on celebrating Grand Canyon's diverse and unique natural, cultural and historical resources as well as the communities that have shaped the park. Grand Canyon led and participated in more than 47 events with more than 25,000 attendees over the course of 2016.



El Tovar Hotel (In Early 1900s)

Naturalization Ceremony welcomed 15 new US citizens from 12 different countries and introduced them to the national park system.

Preparing For A Second Century Of Service And Grand Canyon's Centennial In 2019

Following the momentum garnered this year from the NPS Centennial, Grand Canyon will continue to expand its reach and promote national initiatives and campaigns like Find Your Park/ Encuentra Tu Parque to reach new audiences so they may develop a deeper understanding and connection to these special places. As Grand Canyon prepares for its own centennial in 2019, it hopes to honor the past and inspire future generations to help ensure others may experience national parks and sites and promote stewardship of parks.

More information about the success and long term legacy of the NPS Centennial is available online here: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/centennial/success.htm>. For more information about visiting Grand Canyon National Park please visit www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit.



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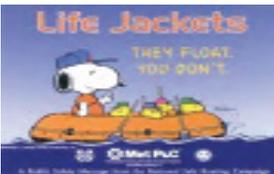
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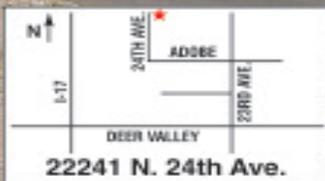
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See **MODERN SPARTAN**, Page 19



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List Your Business/Service In Our Business Directory For The Low Price Of \$10/Month

FUR AND FEATHER

Continued from page 15

Members Like You Support No-Kill Sanctuary

Everyone at Fur and Feather Animal Assistance, Inc., of New Mexico, along with our members, share in the goal to save animals from euthanasia. With your

support and interest in our projects, we make a difference in the lives of many animals.

Please come out to visit and see what we are all about. Maybe you can spend some time sharing some love with our furry friends. We also have work days coming up and you are invited to come and help. Bring your camper, motorhome

or tent and stay a few days. Stay tuned for more information on work days coming up in May 2017.

Please Make A Donation Today Through PayPal

Also, make sure you sign up for Amazon Smiles — because we get a small percentage, from the purchases you make

when you buy online at Amazon, donated back to us. We get a small check every month from Amazon Smiles, but we want to see that amount grow. This is a risk-free way to donate funds through your Amazon Account.

Best of all, you will be part of a team of dedicated people taking that extra step to find homes for abandoned animals.

SHELTER

Continued from page 15

Every Sunday (11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) PetSmart on Guadalupe and McClintock 6426 S McClintock Dr #106, Tempe, AZ 85283

Calling All Fosters: We Need You!

Are you looking for a way to make a difference? Then please open your heart and your home to a dog or cat in need of a foster. Shelter life is really hard to deal with for some animals so we would prefer to get them into a foster home until their pet parents can come to get them (for TCP) or until they get

adopted.

That's where our amazing fosters come in. If you are not currently a foster, you will need to go to a training class (it's quick and easy). Please check out the possibilities and see the animals that really need to get out of the shelter now!

What We Need This Week

Laminating sheets
Printer paper
Please Visit And/Or Contact Us
Lost Our Home
2323 South Hardy Drive
Tempe, Arizona 85282
(602) 445-7387 (PETS)



MODERN SPARTAN

Continued from page 18

Corporate Guiding Social Principles

We are driven by the love of God (the God of the Bible), love of Country (the United States of America) and love of our family and friends. We are "Founding Father" Constitutionalists, free market, pro-military and pro Second Amendment advocates. Although we are a business, and not a politically oriented company, you at least know where we stand.

Product And Brand Philosophy

"Different Chemistry – Different Results" is what separates us from the pack. Our philosophy is to communicate that message. We seek to understand the needs of shooters, then develop and deploy our proprietary chemical technologies into

the market in a creative and fun way. Our focus is on education of "real-world" benefits and building a community of loyal enthusiasts called "Spartan Family" connected by our Web site, social media and personal relationships.

MSS Definition Of Green Formulas

The term "green" is often overused, misused and certainly misunderstood. With the legal disclosure that anything, including water, can become toxic at certain levels, we want to be clear on our definition of "green". When we call one of our formulas "green" or Earth-friendly, we are saying that it is either biodegradable or inert according to EPA standards. Although we are not recommending that you use Accuracy Oil or other products as salad dressing, our formulas are generally safe to work with.

The Reason We Will Succeed

Our products clean better, cut friction better and protect metal better than anything else we know about. Shooters reinforce this message almost every day to us in the form of phenomenal testimonials and endorsements; these quotes from real military heroes sum this up very well!

"I have never used or even heard of products like these. Spartan Accuracy Oil and the other products are so advanced that they will change the industry!"

Elite sniper instructor, military consultant, and arms manufacturer CEO Mitch Fedoruk, The Spartans

In an operation where firearms are required only two things count — consistent accuracy and functionality! My group has tested and used these formulas for over 18 months in the most difficult environments and hostile situations from the tropics

to the desert, from the mountains to the jungle. We applied the total MSS system (cleaners and lubricants) to weapons ranging from .338's to our SS226, from MP5SD's to our HK MK23's and M-4's. We have consistently attained higher velocities, smaller shot groups, cleaner operation and overall greater accuracy from all weapons.

We have had only one functional stoppage in tens of thousands of rounds and that was due to a misguided rock. The Carbon Destroyer cleans better than anything we have ever used. The difference in performance is demonstrative across the board. Take the test yourself, clean your weapon with your normal kit, then clean it again with MSS and see the difference for yourself. I'll leave the scientific stuff to the scientist. This stuff works in the real world!

Thom Hawke – military

Extend Your Boating Pleasure

Visit our websites today
www.SwimPlatforms.com &
www.EasyUpSwimHandles.com

Get On Board With

Easy Up Swim Handles

Ask about installations at our shop.
Swim Platforms Inc.
3220 S. 38th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85040
602-431-8225

ARIZONA'S **BEST KEPT SECRET**



Located just 55 minutes from Tempe Town Lake on beautiful Bartlett Lake in the heart of the Tonto National Forest, Bartlett Lake Marina's family atmosphere and beautiful surroundings makes it a wonderful location for your friends and family to enjoy an unforgettable Arizona day on the water.



2,815 ACRES OF FUN!

Bartlett Lake Marina has a boatable surface area of 2,815 acres - more than Canyon Lake and Saguaro Lake, combined. Fed by the pristine waters of the Verde River, Indians of this valley spoke descriptively in their legends of the river's "sweet waters".

Outdoor enthusiasts frequent Bartlett Lake for a variety of recreational opportunities, including shoreline camping in Arizona's natural desert terrain. While in this part of the Tonto National Forest, visitors may see mule deer, bald eagles, javelina, coyotes, and many indigenous desert plants, including the majestic saguaro, mesquite trees, and blooming ocotillo.

BOAT RENTALS

Bartlett Lake Marina we are ideally located 17 miles northeast of Carefree and only one hour from Phoenix. Our marina offers a range of well equipped comfortable pontoon rental boats. All safety gear and full instruction are included. We welcome novices! You can trust our rental boats to keep you and your family safe while exploring the surrounding bays. We have a number of different pontoon boats for your party needs. We also offer a variety of packages from full day rentals, and weekend rental packages.



PONTOON BOAT



SKI BOAT



PERSONAL
WATERCRAFT



PARTY YACHT



PADDLE BOARD

www.BartlettLake.com