



Western Outdoor Times

September 2017

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A Publication of Arizona Boating & Watersports

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

OAK CREEK

A Picture-Perfect Piece Of Paradise

Boating

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Tackle & Target

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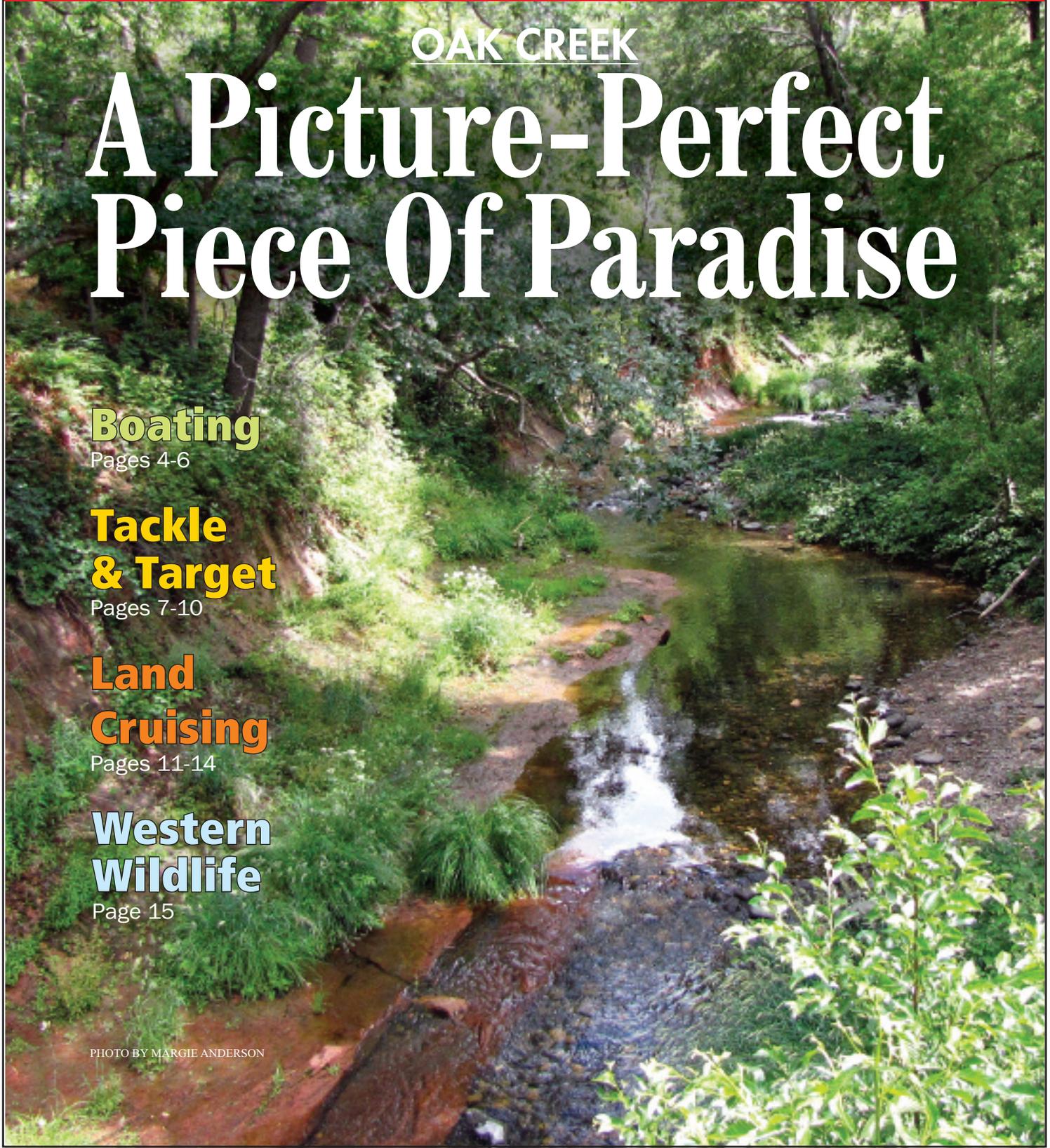
Land Cruising

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PHOTO BY MARGIE ANDERSON





A Virtual Visit To The Verdant Verde Valley

VERDE VALLEY, ARIZONA

This Arizona Treasure Offers Beauty, History

COMPILED BY CAROL L. ALLEN

For lasting memories, visit the Verde Valley – recently named one of the Top 10 U.S. travel destinations by *Lonely Planet*. Located in the “heart” of Arizona, the Verde Valley is ideally situated above the heat of the desert and below the cold of Arizona’s high country.

Surrounded by the red rocks of Sedona

to the northeast and Mingus Mountain to the southwest, its low elevation of 3,300’ and moderate climate are enjoyed year-round. Ancient civilizations, with their unique history and cultures are also here to explore. State parks, historic sites and enticing attractions offer activities for all ages.

The Verde River provides opportunities for float trips, along with wonderful habitat for one of the Southwest’s largest concentrations of resident and migratory birdlife. There is an assortment of hotels, bed and breakfasts, RV parks, campgrounds and restaurants to choose from. Plan to stay a few days; you will need them to see all there is throughout the Verde Valley.

A Virtual Paradise

In the heat of an Arizona summer, or in the vibrant colors of its fall, or in the gentle snows of its winter, there is a valley that welcomes visitors year-round: the Verde Valley. In its embrace are incredible beauty and fascinating Southwest history. Here too, recreational activities abound — from fishing to hiking to exploring to camping and more. The Verde Valley is a virtual paradise for those who love the outdoors. Following are some of the highlights that we have personally enjoyed as we immersed ourselves in the wonders of this area



ON THE COVER

Oak Creek Wanders Through AZ Wonders

From the trickle of a few springs, Oak Creek gathers water from the southern part of the Mogollon Rim to start its thirteen-mile flow through the canyon that the creek helped form. From Oak Creek Canyon, the creek winds through Sedona and begins its eight-mile descent into the Verde Valley to meet up with the Verde River.

Its waters affect, and are affected by, visitors to the area, as well as residents from Flagstaff through the Verde Valley. During its journey Oak Creek flows through one of the most spectacular scenic areas in the world, with the iconic Cathedral Rock as a stunning backdrop for parts of its way.

Oak Creek is a national wonder visited by millions of tourists from throughout the world. In Arizona, Oak Creek and its canyon are only surpassed in the number of visitors by the Grand Canyon.

Editor’s Note: Each time we visit this gorgeous Arizona area, we are moved by its incredible beauty and are refreshed physically, mentally, and yes, spiritually.



Camp Verde Commanding Officer Quarters

Camp Verde

Camp Verde (Yavapai: ‘Matthi:wa; Western Apache: Gambúdi) is a town in Yavapai County, Arizona, United States. According to the 2010 census, the population of the city is 10,873.

The town hosts an annual corn festival in July, sponsored and organized by Hauser and Hauser Farms. Other annual festivals include Fort Verde Days (October); the Pecan, Wine and Antiques Festival (February); and the Crawdad Festival (June).

A highlight to a visit here is the Fort Verde Museum. Also a feature of the town is the largest Kokopelli ever!



Giant Kokopelli



TOMAS CASTELAZO

Montezuma Castle National Monument

Here there are spectacular cliff-dwelling ruins of the Sinagua people, dating back to the 12th century and overlooking Beaver Creek. Nearby is the fascinating Montezuma’s Well.



Black Leopard “Enoch”

Out Of Africa Wildlife Park

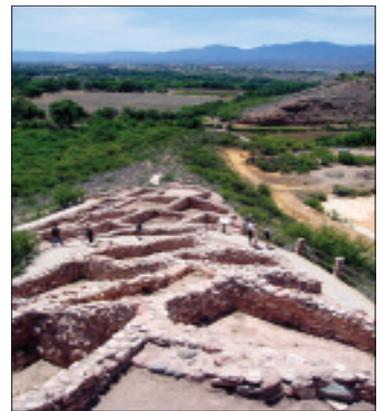
Located in the heart of the Verde Valley, the mission of Out of Africa Wildlife Park is to create the ultimate animal adventure for all ages, one steeped in fun, immersed in learning, and inspired by a living and colorful world of astonishing wildlife. “We strive to foster an appreciation of our planet’s wild areas and wondrous inhabitants by supporting and promoting conservation awareness and action, practicing exemplary animal care, providing education and learning experiences, and establishing broad community support, through a peaceful and interactive relationship with our animal friends, who touch our hearts.”

Clarkdale

Clarkdale is a town in Yavapai County. The Verde River flows through the town as does Bitter Creek, an intermittent tributary of the river. According to the 2010 census, the population of the town was 4,097. Clarkdale, formerly a mining town, is now largely a retirement community with an eye for the arts.

Tuzigoot

A highlight near here is Tuzigoot National Monument, an ancient hilltop pueblo with



JHUGG

Tuzigoot

a nearby visitor center featuring artifacts of the Sinaguan Indians.

Verde Canyon Railroad

And, there’s the wonderful Verde Canyon Railroad!

See **VERDE VALLEY**, Page 11



Verde Canyon Railroad

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Land Cruising

September 10 Is Grandparents’ Day

John and Margie Anderson continue to show their granddaughters Trinity and Emily the wonders of the Arizona outdoors/**Page 12**



Tackle & Target

NHFD Recognizes The Contributions To Our Outdoors

September 23 is National Hunting and Fishing Day; it was established by Congress in 1971/**Page 9**





We officially thank our parents annually on Mother's Day and Father's Day. However, there are other mentors and nurturers who have also been important in our lives: our grandparents. So, not only on September 10, the official Grandparents' Day, but also throughout the year we thank them all for the valuable guidance they have given to their grandchildren – often, the first ones to show us the wonders of the great outdoors.

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DOWNSTREAM: September 2017 Events Calendar

BOATING

30-10/8 LAKE HAVASU CITY: 36th Annual IJSBA World Finals - Crazy Horse Campgrounds. Invitation-only event with more than 750 competitors from more than 30 countries who churn the waters at the world's largest and most prestigious personal watercraft race, vendor row, food, beer stands, stadium seating, Parade of Nations, Pro-Freestyle Expo, free entry to spectators. 928-764-2210 ext 615 or <https://golakehavasuu.com/event/ijsba-world-finals/>

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

PRESCOTT: Becoming an Outdoors Woman - Camp Friendly Pines. 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. \$270, includes meals, lodging and classes. 480-644-0077 or <http://www.azwildlife.org>

GRAND CANYON: Fee-free day to celebrate National Public Lands Day

CLASSES/SEMINARS

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

COMMUNITY AND SEASONAL (Featuring The Verde Valley This issue)

For a complete list of Labor Day events, visit <http://www.visitarizona.com/events>.

8 SEDONA: 2017 Red Rocks Music Festival: Dueling Divas - Sedona Creative Life Center. Dueling piano divas, Andria Fennig and Ashley Snavley in Americana Treasured Masterpieces with works by Barber, Bernstein, Copland, Gershwin and MacDowell. \$25. 7:30 pm. 602-402-4551 or <http://www.redrocksmusicfestival.com>

8-10 JEROME: Jerome Indie Film & Music Festival - independent films will screen at various locations which include a haunted hilltop mine and on a train that travels through the majestic Verde canyon, local musicians will perform day and night at various venues and artists will exhibit and sell their works at our indie marketplace, short and feature films in documentary, horror, comedy, animation, student film music video, <http://jeromefilmfestival.com/>

9 CLARKDALE: Clarkdale's Concerts in the Park: Matchbox Twenty Too - Clarkdale Town Park. The Town has implemented a concert hotline that you can call to hear a recorded message providing the most up to date information including who is scheduled to perform or if the concert has been delayed or cancelled due to weather conditions. Free. 7 pm. Concert Hotline is 928-639-2492 or http://www.clarkdale.az.gov/concerts_in_the_park.htm



9 CLARKDALE: Summer Starlight Train - Verde Canyon Railroad. On select Saturdays during the summer months, Verde Canyon Railroad travels during the cooler temperatures of late afternoon through sunset, twilight and starlight, serving up a wide ranging mix of light, color and shadow as the Canyon transforms into a moonlit dreamscape. 5:30 pm. 928-639-0010 or 800-293-7245 or <http://www.verdecanyonrr.com>

9 SEDONA: 45th Annual Fiesta Del Tlaquepaque - A celebration of Mexican Independence Day, food, music, dance and entertainment for young and old, lively mariachis, the heart pounding beats of Flamenco dancers, and, mouthwatering tastes of Mexico. Free. 11 am - 5 pm. 928-282-4838 or <http://www.tlaquepaque.com/>

9 SEDONA: Red Rocks Music Festival: WorldMusic - Balkan, Klezmer & Jazz - Sedona Creative Life Center. Clarinet quintet by Ante Grgin, an AZ premiere. Gitarinet: Nikola Djurica - clarinet, Mirko Dimitrijevic - guitar; David Ehrlich, Anna Kazepides - violins, Nokuthula Ngwenyama - viola, Jan Simiz - cello. \$25. 7:30 pm. 602-402-4551 or <http://www.redrocksmusicfestival.com>

10 SEDONA: 2017 Red Rocks Music Festival: Classical Jewels - Sedona Creative Life Center. Mozart Clarinet Quintet in A major, K.581 and Schubert Piano Quintet in A major, D. 667 - "Trout" David Ehrlich, Anna Kazepides - violins, Nokuthula Ngwenyama - viola, Jan Simiz - cello, Michael Kazepides - double bass, Teresa Ehrlich - piano, Nikola Djurica - clarinet. \$25. 2 pm. 602-402-4551 or <http://www.redrocksmusicfestival.com>

15-17 SEDONA: Oak Creek Arts & Crafts Shows - Village of Oak Creek. Located on scenic Hwy 179, the Gateway to Sedona. Take home your own personal piece of the Southwest. Free. 9 am - 6 pm. 760-985-7773 or <http://www.oakcreekartsandcraftsshows.com>

16 SEDONA: Red Rocks Star Party - Red Rocks State Park. Join the Astronomers of Verde Valley as they present the celestial happenings of the sky. The program is limited to 75 participants. A \$5 per person reservation fee is required for this program, in addition to the park's regular entry fees on the day of the program. Call for reservations. Light refreshments (drinks, snacks) will be provided. 7 pm. 928-282-6907 or <https://azstateparks.com/red-rock/>

16 SEDONA: 2017 Red Rocks Music Festival:

Tempest to the Silver Age - Sedona Creative Life Center. Tempest to the Silver Age - World-acclaimed pianist, Mikhail Yanovitsky. Works by Beethoven, Schubert, Brahms and Scriabin. \$25. 7:30 pm. 602-402-4551 or <http://www.redrocksmusicfestival.com>

22-24 SEDONA: Oak Creek Arts & Crafts Shows - Village of Oak Creek. Located on scenic Hwy 179, the Gateway to Sedona, take home your own personal piece of the Southwest, free, 9 am - 6 pm. 760-985-7773 or <http://www.oakcreekartsandcraftsshows.com>

23-24 SEDONA: 9th Annual Sedona Wine-Fest 2017 - Historic Posse Grounds Park. This two-day wine festival celebrates the wine growing industry of Arizona and will feature great wines from the Verde Valley, Prescott & the Southern Arizona Regions, enjoy Sedona cuisine, live music, vendors, an exclusive Premium wine area, enjoy the breathtaking panoramic views of the majestic red rocks. 11 am - 5 pm. 928-284-8657 or <http://www.sedonawinefest.com/>

30 COTTONWOOD: 29th Annual Verde River Day - Dead Horse Ranch State Park, develop awareness of the importance of the Verde River, 40+ environmental exhibits, hands-on activities, live entertainment, sand castle building, animals, canoe rides, nature hikes, fish the lagoon, nature walks. \$6 per vehicle/4 adults. 9 am - 3 pm. 928-634-7593 or <http://verderiverday.com/>

FISHING

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

WATERSPORTS

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

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

Swimming PEORIA: The Sports Authority Tribute to the First Responders Adult & Youth Spring Triathlon & Duathlon - Sunrise Pool. Includes a mini tri: 225yd swim, 6 mi bike, 1.5 mi run; Maxi tri: 625yd swim, 12 mi bike, 3 mi run; Maxi tri plus: 625yd swim, 12 mi bike, 3 mi run; Maxi du adults: 1.5 run, 9 mi bike, 1.5 mi run; Youth tri: 100yd swim, 3 mi bike, .5mi run; two or three person Maxi Tri.

<http://www.trifamilyracing.com/>

16 SHOW LOW: 22nd Annual Tri in the Pines - Triathlon features 625 yard swim at the Family Aquatic Center, 12.3 mile bike ride on Show Low city streets and a 3.5 mile run on paved multi-use trail in the Show Low City Park. Youth triathlon features 175 yard swim at the Show Low Family Aquatic Center, 4 mile bike ride on Show Low city streets and finishes with a 1 mile run in Show Low City Park. 928-532-4140 or <http://showlowaz.gov/175/Adult-Tri-in-the-Pines>

17 TEMPE: 12th Annual Life Time Tri Tempe - Tempe Bach Park. Compete in either the sprint, international, paratriathlete or relay waves (both sprint and international relay options available), Olympic (swim 1500m / bike 25 Mi / run 10K) Triathlon; Sprint (swim 750m / bike 12.4 Mi / run 5K) Triathlon. 6:30 am. 480-299-1203 or <http://www.tempetri.com/>

WILDLIFE/ ANIMAL-RELATED

PORTAL: Monsoon Birding and Natural History Tour - Southwestern Research Station. Chiricahua Mountains, and surrounding areas, this tour, in addition to birds, will attempt to capitalize on the abundant flora and fauna as a result of the summer monsoon rains, many plants and insects can only be seen during this time of year. 520-558-2396 or <http://research.amnh.org/swrs/visitor/package-tours>

19 PINETOP/LAKESIDE: Legend of the Great American Jaguar in Arizona - White Mountain Wildlife & Nature Center. Occasionally seen in southern Arizona today, the jaguar's range once included the White Mountains. The Northern Jaguar Project's presentation will detail this cat's history and status. Free. 10 am. 928-358-3069 or <http://www.wmature.org>

30-11/19 PHOENIX: Fall Butterfly Exhibit - Desert Botanical Garden. Mighty monarch butterflies return on Sept. 30, and they are bringing friends! The exhibit invites visitors to take a closer look at the insects that care for and protect our desert environment. From pollinators to predators, insects have amazing powers and play a variety of roles in the desert. Become a plant protector to support and help protect beneficial insects and pollinators. 9:30 am - 5 pm. <http://dbg.org>

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. You may also submit your event individually at <http://www.westernoutdoortimes.com/classifieds>.



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.

September 2017				
Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game & Fish Department	September 16 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Apex Arms Facility – Green Bldg. 2176 McCulloch Blvd. N. Suite 8 Lake Havasu City	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-08	September 16 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Bass Pro Shops 1133 N. Dobson Road Mesa	\$30	(510) 386-2356
Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-11	September 16 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Century Marine 3302 E. Main Street Mesa	\$25	(602) 550-8655
Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-07	September 23 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Bell American Plaza 7121 W. Bell Road Glendale	\$30	(928) 310-4603

October 2017				
Host	Date and Time	Location	Cost	Registration
Arizona Game & Fish Department	October 21 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Arizona Game & Fish Headquarters 5000 W. Carefree Hwy. Phoenix	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Arizona Game & Fish Department	October 21 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Apex Arms Facility – Green Bldg. 2176 McCulloch Blvd. N. Suite 8 Lake Havasu City	\$0	(623) 236-7219
Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-07	October 21 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Bell American Plaza 7121 W. Bell Road Glendale	\$30	(928) 310-4603
Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-08	October 21 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Bass Pro Shops 1133 N. Dobson Road Mesa	\$30	(510) 386-2356
Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 10-11	October 21 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Century Marine 3302 E. Main Street Mesa	\$25	(602) 550-8655

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.

Renew Online. It's Easy!

The Game and Fish online watercraft registration system allows you to renew your registration and have immediate use of your watercraft. Visit: www.azgfd.gov/boating. You can also renew your registration by mail or in person at any Game and Fish office.



This information brought to you by: Arizona Game & Fish Department, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086, 623-236-7219, www.azgfd.gov

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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.





Boating And Water Sports Regulations, Fee Changes Now In Effect

The changes aim to increase customer service and public safety.

Boating and watercraft regulation changes aimed at increasing customer service and public safety on Arizona's waterways went into effect Saturday, Aug. 5.

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission approved the amendments to the state's Article 5 rules, which outline boating and water sports regulations and fees, at its April 7 meeting. The Governor's Regulatory Review Council approved the proposed changes on June 6.

The changes were recommended as part of a legally required five-year review of the Arizona Game and Fish Department's administrative rules.

Drowning Of Couple At Lake Havasu Is A Sad Reminder Of The Importance Of Life Jackets

The drowning of two adults at Lake Havasu in the latter part of July, is a sad reminder that everyone — regardless of age — should wear a life jacket when out on the water. Although Arizona requires that children 12 and younger must wear a properly fitting life jacket any time a boat is underway, everyone should wear a life jacket at all times while on the water.

A Sad Story

The Mohave County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) reported that 41-year-old Esmeralda Gonzalez of Monrovia, Calif., jumped from a boat in an area near Crazy Horse Cove to go for a swim. She was not wearing a life jacket and began to panic in the water. Her husband, Raul Gonzalez, 44, jumped into the water to rescue her but he also was not wearing a life jacket. They were seen struggling in the water, according to the MCSO, prior to both going under and not resurfacing.

Esmeralda was pulled from the water at about 3:25 p.m. and brought to the Crazy Horse Docks where off-duty Los Angeles County deputy sheriffs administered CPR. She was pronounced dead by Lake Havasu City Fire Department personnel.

Among The Changes

- Increases the valid timeframe for a temporary certificate from 30 to 45 days, and allows a watercraft agent to issue a temporary certificate with the sale of a used watercraft.
- Persons will no longer be allowed to rent or lease personally registered watercraft, unless the watercraft is registered as a livery business. A placard must be affixed to the watercraft being rented or leased that displays the business name and telephone number.
- Requires a wake surfer to wear a personal flotation device and that an operator ensures an observer is watching if a



person is being towed behind the watercraft and/or surfing a wake created by the watercraft.

- Prohibits teak surfing, which is pulling a person from a vessel's swim platform.
- Requires towing companies to notify the owner/lienholder that they have taken possession of a vessel within 15 days of obtaining the information from

the department.

- Makes the owner financially responsible for the towing and storage of a watercraft illegally moored.

Fee Changes Also Going into Effect

- Watercraft transfer fee to \$13,
 - Duplicate decal and certificate number fee to \$8,
 - Dealer certificate of number fee to \$20,
 - Establish an abandoned/unreleased watercraft application fee of \$100, and
 - Transfer of ownership of a towed watercraft application fee to \$100
- This is the first time that watercraft fees have increased in more than 30 years. For more information on boating in Arizona or to sign up for a safety course, visit www.azgfd.gov/boating.

Recent Storms Serve As Reminders For All Boaters And OHV Operators

They highlight the need to be aware of your surroundings and use caution as weather conditions can change quickly.

Monsoon season is in full swing and the Arizona Game and Fish Department warns boating and off-highway vehicle (OHV) users that weather conditions can change quickly and could be dangerous for those who aren't prepared.

Storm Severity Varies

The severity of monsoon storms varies greatly from a minor dust storm to a violent thunderstorm capable of producing hail, deadly lightning and/or flash flooding.

Recent storms brought high winds, thunderstorms and rough water to the Lake Pleasant area. The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office reported that deputies made multiple water rescues in mid July.

Two paddle boarders were rescued, also in mid July, after being knocked into the water by a severe thunderstorm; one of them was not wearing a personal flotation device. One of the women was taken by ambulance to a local hospital and was released after treatment.

At about the same time, three juveniles operating a Wave Runner personal watercraft encountered storms. One of the juveniles was rescued by a family member, while the other two were secured by Lake Patrol deputies. And, during this same period,

10 people were pulled from the water although no one had sustained significant injuries.

In addition, the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office reported that there were multiple instances of property damage — four boats sunk, another beached after becoming partially submerged, and damage was incurred to numerous other boats.

Time To Get Off

"Arizona is known as a great place for outdoor recreation and activities. But whether you're out on a boat or riding an OHV, weather is a critical factor that everyone must pay attention to," said Josh Hoffman, Boating Safety Education coordinator for the Arizona Game and Fish Department. "If severe weather is likely or storms are appearing nearby, it's a good time to safely get off of the water or riding trails and move indoors."



AZGFD

At about 3:45 p.m., Raul was located in 12 feet of water by the Lake Havasu City Police Department and the San Bernardino County, Calif., Sheriff's Department marine units. He was transported to the Crazy Horse Docks and pronounced dead.

The MCSO reported that the accident remains under investigation and alcohol may have been a factor.

The Statistics

U.S. Coast Guard statistics show that drowning was the reported cause of death in 80 percent of recreational boating fa-

See **LIFE JACKETS**, Page 5



MARICOPA COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Tips For Safety

The Arizona Game and Fish Department's Boating and OHV Safety Education programs offer users the following tips to protect themselves and passengers especially during the monsoon season:

When on a boat or personal watercraft:

- While life jackets are legally required for children 12 and younger, everyone should wear a life jacket at all times while on the water. Storms can create large waves that could knock a passenger from the boat.
- Monitor the weather around you, and use a weather radio for updates from the National Weather Service. If storms are predicted or are building, pull your boat out of the water or consider postponing your outing.
- Secure all gear above and below decks.
- Keep everyone aboard away from electrical and ungrounded components, and remain as low in the boat as possible.
- Slow down but keep enough power to maintain headway and steering.
- Turn on your navigation lights.
- If possible, head for the nearest shore that is safe to approach. It may be best to ride it out in open water rather than try to approach the shore in heavy wind and waves.
- Boats should head the bow into the waves at a 45-degree angle.
- Personal watercrafts should head directly into the waves.

When on an OHV:

- Always wear proper safety gear, including a helmet, eye protection, long sleeves, pants, over-the-ankle boots and gloves.

See **STORMS**, Page 5

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US Secretary Of Interior Zinke Speaks On Boating Access, Infrastructure On Federal Lands

Just as outdoor enthusiasts enjoy federal lands, recreational boaters need access to federal waters. Access, however, can be threatened due to aging marina infrastructure, lack of funds for ramp and dock maintenance, or government will.

The Department of Interior oversees about one-fifth of the nation's land, including the national parks. Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS) was eager to sit down with U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke yesterday at an event in Washington to discuss his agency's support for maintaining boating infrastructure and growing access to federal waters.

Economic Importance

The Secretary's interview with BoatUS was part of a coalition of outdoor recreation industry associations that met with him to highlight the economic importance of outdoor products and the enjoyment they bring American families. These include boats, recreational vehicles, off-road vehicles, and camping, fishing and hunting gear that generate \$887 billion per year in economic activity and provide an estimated 7.6 million direct jobs.

As the nation's largest advocacy, services and safety group, BoatUS supports the recreational boating industry and believes improvements to federal boating-access sites and addressing the Department of Interior's deferred maintenance backlog will improve recreational boating opportunities for the nation's 11.8 million

boat owners.

Expanded Access

In speaking to BoatUS, Secretary Zinke made clear his advocacy for expanded access to federal public lands and waters and improving infrastructure at many of the aging facilities. "Pressure to use our public lands will continue to grow, and many of our facilities consist of Eisenhower-era infrastructure," Zinke said. "We have a \$11.5 billion maintenance and repair backlog at our public parks. We need to look at reinvesting in our public lands."

Speaking on the boating-access issue, Secretary Zinke said he's "looking to not only maintain it, but enhance it. ... Public access via water provides an opportunity for improving infrastructure, from maintaining moorings to repairing docks. It's a field where there can be an enormous amount of improvement."

He promised, "Fixing the backlog of maintenance items will be a priority in upcoming budgets. ... We are going to catch up on infrastructure, restore trust and show Americans we can be good stewards of our public lands. Revenue from user fees, including contracts with private concessionaires should offset the cost of maintaining facilities. If we work together, everybody wins."

Ways To Improve Experience

The Department of Interior will also look at ways to improve the experience



FOCUS ON BOATING — Secretary Zinke was part of a coalition of outdoor recreation industry associations that met with him to highlight the economic importance of outdoor products and the enjoyment they bring American families. R to L) BoatUS Manager of Government Affairs David Kennedy, BoatUS Government Affairs Program Coordinator Morgan Neuhoft, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke, BoatUS Vice President of Government Affairs Chris Edmonston.

at parks, noting Wi-Fi access and air-conditioned buildings are amenities that today's park visitors ask for. "We're going to adapt to what Americans want. Our citizens deserve the best uses of our public lands," he said. "In the past, the answer has been 'no.' Our answer should be, 'How do we get to yes?'"

The Secretary also used the day's events to announce the formation of an advisory committee consisting of outdoor-industry members assigned to nurture public-private partnerships that he believes can provide the resources to make federal parks "a five-star experience" to enjoy. He stressed, "This is not privatizing our national parks. No one is more passionate about our public lands, and I am adamant against selling our public lands."

In a related boating topic, Secretary

Zinke, whose wife owns a 38-foot powerboat, also noted that boating presents "a unique challenge" when it comes to invasive species, which he said is "a real problem" but stressed the need for the right strategies to combat the threat.

Addressing The Needs

Said BoatUS Manager of Government Affairs David Kennedy, "Boaters need well-maintained, safe and modern boating amenities in good condition. We look forward to the Secretary's help to address these needs with public-private partnerships."

This is not the first time our parks have needed private investment — some of the first such partnerships in national parks were the early and now historic lodges built by the railroads. Well-managed access can be good for boaters, the federal government and for local economies. If you build it, they do come."

Monster Storm Poker Run Rolling Into Havasu

Another high-performance boat "storm" is rolling onto Lake Havasu when Monster Storm hits the shores of the Nautical Beachfront Resort from Oct. 12-14. Storm Poker Runs is organizing its 8th annual Monster Storm, formerly known as Monster Bash. The Halloween-themed Poker Run is teaming up with the popular online boating forum, River Dave's Place (RDP), to simultaneously celebrate the 10th anniversary RDP Regatta.

Monster Storm Reinventing

Storm Poker Runs is reinventing Monster Storm to enhance spectator access to event activities, such as meeting industry icons like Bob Teague, owner of Teague Custom Marine, and Win Farnsworth, owner of the "Low Altitude" turbine 50-



foot Mystic boat.

Additionally, the public is invited to wear costumes to the awards and after-parties, both of which will be held at the Nautical (participants only at drivers' meetings and Saturday dinner party). Spectators are also invited to shop the vendor and sponsor booths that will be on display at the Nautical throughout the weekend, as well as watch the Monster Storm and RDP Regatta participants raft-up for an aerial photo!

To stay up-to-date on information and announcements, check StormPokerRun.

com or Storm Poker Run social media pages: facebook.com/StormPokerRuns or instagram.com/StormPokerRuns.

Qualified Boaters Can Participate

All boaters who meet the insurance and registration requirements can participate in Monster Storm Poker Run. There is no boat speed or size requirement for the event. Cash prizes will be awarded to the three highest hands and the three best costume contest winners. To register for Monster Storm, go to www.StormPokerRun.com and click the Monster Storm tab to download the registration forms.

See **POKER RUN**, Page 19

LIFE JACKETS

Continued from page 4

talities in 2016 and that 83 percent of those who drowned were not wearing life jackets.

"Wearing a life jacket is a critical and simple step that people can take in order to stay safe when out on the water," said Josh Hoffman, boating safety education coordinator for the Arizona Game and Fish Department. "Don't just keep life jackets onboard for everyone — take the next step and wear them."

Safety First

The Arizona Game and Fish Department recommends that watercraft operators and their passengers take a free boating safety course in Phoenix or Lake Havasu City to learn the information and tips needed to stay safe while on the water.

For more information on boating safety or to register for a hands-on or online safety course, visit www.azgfd.com/Education/Boating.

STORMS

Continued from page 4

- Carefully seek shelter indoors as storms are developing or are nearby.
- Never cross running water. While it may look shallow, it may be deep enough that it could push the vehicle downstream or you may get stuck in loose sediment.
- Drive slowly to not lose control on muddied trails.

- To avoid being struck by lightning, avoid open fields, high land, trees, poles or other tall objects and standing bodies of water.
- Be aware of and avoid flash flood zones.

For more information on boating in Arizona, visit www.azgfd.gov/boating. For more information on riding an OHV in Arizona, visit www.azgfd.gov/OHV.

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Day On The Lake Set For Sept. 7-9

"The Day on the Lake program is the only adapted water sports program for those with physical and neurological disabilities offered in Arizona. Summer 2016 marked our 20th year of helping people who suffer from a neurological disability ride the waves at one of the most accessible waterside facilities in Arizona." —Bartlett Lake Marina

Barrow And Bartlett Partner

This incredibly valuable event, which is held twice a year, celebrated its 20th anniversary in June. The September is the second one in 2017. The cost is \$50.00 per day for all activities and includes a t-shirt. Day on the Lake is a joint project of Barrow Neurological Institutes and Bartlett Lake Marina.

Getting There

Day on the Lake takes place at Bartlett Lake Marina, 20808 E Bartlett Dam Rd., Rio Verde, Arizona 85263. Transportation is available on a first-come, first-served basis on Friday, Sept. 8 from the



following partners:

The Ability360 Center
 E-mail: Danielm@ability360.org
 Office: (602) 296-0540
 Cell: (602) 410-3945,
 Arizona Spinal Cord Injury Association
 E-mail: Guillermo@azspinal.org
 Office: (602) 507-4209, extension 7

Regattas Begin Lake Havasu Resurgence

For the first time in about a decade, a resurgence in summer regattas is returning to the shores of Lake Havasu.

"It's picking up," said Todd Taylor, owner of Jokers Wild Productions, who assists with the regattas. "We peaked with 22 regattas a year before the economy started to plunge in 2007 and 2008. Although we're not back to that level yet, we're starting to see interest again, and this summer we've had the most regattas on the schedule in nearly a decade."

Regattas Cater To Participants

Typically, regattas cater more to participants rather than spectators, according to Taylor. Eliminator Boats and Ultra Custom Boats each hosted their own regattas in June. In addition to boat manufacturers' regattas, a new regatta organizer coordinated an inaugural Tunnel and



TODD TAYLOR IMAGES

REGATTA RESURGENCE — Eliminator Boats hosted their regatta on Lake Havasu in June. Lake Havasu City is seeing a resurgence in regattas this summer and fall since the economy has recovered.

Friends Regatta, in June, that welcomed all tunnel-hull boats, in addition to any boat that was fewer than 26-feet.

Regattas Welcomed Back

As the fall temperatures begin to set in, Havasu will welcome back regattas for DCB Performance Boats, Campbell Boat, and Tilly Marine regattas, in addition to a planned new Avalon High Performance Pontoon Regatta.

"We are really focused on trying to

See **REGATTAS**, Page 19

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LEARN VIA PHONE — BoatUS' How-to videos are easy to watch.

BoatUS Summer Boating How-To 'Film Festival' Is Now Available

Available now are 15 new film shorts by BoatUS Editors on how to fix, learn, and do practical boating projects.

What are the common boating tasks that drive boat owners to ask for help? Editors at *BoatUS Magazine*, the trusted voice of American boating, compiled a list of the top topics and announced the kickoff of a "BoatUS Summer How-to Film Festival" today with the release of 15 short, easily-watchable videos.

"We're calling the video release a summer 'film festival' because all are themed with a how-to focus, are organized in one simple place to view, and are easy to watch outdoors," added *BoatUS Magazine* associate editor Charles Fort.

Said *BoatUS Magazine* Associate Editor, Mark Corke, "The topics chosen come from decades of BoatUS member requests. These are the practical things that most trailer-boat owners want to know."

Titles range from launching your boat solo and changing a prop to backing a boat trailer down the ramp, changing a bilge-pump switch, and troubleshooting trailer lights. Most are just two or three minutes long. Breakout the popcorn and check out the videos at YouTube.com/BoatUS.



Tackle & Target



You'll Catch Memories At These Top-Five Family Camping And Fishing Spots For Summer

FROM AZGFD

Family fishing and camping during summers in Arizona can produce some of the best memories life can spawn. What makes for good camping and fishing during triple-digit months of desert sweat?

Escaping to the high country for a ton of stocked or self-sustaining fish, quality camping amenities, and scenery that's as cool as the air temps. Many fire restrictions have been lifted, allowing campfires and gooey s'mores for kids.

Be safe with summer monsoon storms -- get off the water when you hear lightning, watch out for flash flooding, and don't forget to bring a few extra layers and a rain jacket to stay comfortable in the mountain cold.

OK, here is our top-5 list of family camping and fishing spots. Do you agree?



CURT AND CRAPPIE — Curt Rambo can even teach a kid to catch crappie.

ARIZONA LAKES, ARIZONA PROS: CURT RAMBO

Curt Rambo Is The Crappie Expert

BY MARGIE ANDERSON

Mention crappie fishing at Roosevelt Lake, and Curt Rambo's name is sure to come up. For decades, he has been acknowledged as one of the best crappie fishermen in the state, especially at his home lake: Roosevelt. Curt taught me to crappie fish a long time ago, and his techniques have served me well on Pleasant, Bartlett, San Carlos, and even Dogtown — they just flat catch crappie. I have fished with Curt at all different times of year, so here is some of his best crappie fishing advice.

Some Advice

First of all, crappie have small mouths, so get some 1/16-ounce dart head jigs — these are little jigs with flattened heads that swim through the water. Then grab a couple bags of Berkely Power Grubs — the little bitty chertreuse ones, and some bags of Crème Lit'l Fishie baits — the inch and half ones, in white or white and blue.

That's pretty much all you need. You'll fish these on a one-piece 6'6" ultra light spinning rod. Curt likes all the bend to be in the last 12 inches of the rod, and wants power in the rest of it. You can cast or fish vertically with this rig. When I first fished with Curt, he used nothing but 4-pound-test Trimax line, but lately he's been using braided.

Wait For The Graph

If you're using Power Grubs, rig them so the tail points down and the hook points up. Curt never starts fishing until he sees the fish on his graph. You may have heard that crappie school up and look like a Christmas tree on the graph, but that isn't so all the time. Many times they are simply streaks on the screen — lots of streaks. They are almost always over brush, which is why crappie fishermen like to sink old trees and such by tying them to heavy blocks.

You'll find that kind of stuff on points at Roosevelt, especially if you find a point that runs out a ways, flattens out, then goes deep again.

See **RAMBO**, Page 19



5. Kaibab Lake

Kaibab Lake is usually the jump off to the Grand Canyon, and has been stocked with some of the quarter-million more trout.

This family-friendly camping area is a few miles from Williams and an hour's drive from the Grand Canyon to the north. Anglers are still catching a few trout on a variety of colors of PowerBait with the best fishing being early in the morning.

Try taking kids to catch crappie around the fishing dock on yellow or orange mini-jigs.

Directions: Located less than 2 miles from downtown Show Low, off Old Linden Road. Access Old Linden Road either from U.S. Route 60 in town or at its western end from State Route 260. See a Google map.



4. Show Low Lake (And Show Low Creek)

Show Low Lake is scenic and just an hour from the town of Show Low — it is possibly the state's premiere walleye fishery.

This spot has a year-round concession with 75 campsites (seven have electric hook-ups). New facility improvements, including a new fish cleaning station, restrooms, stairs from the upper parking lot



down to the boat launch, and ADA boat trailer parking are now open.

As Fool Hollow Lake, Show Low lake and creek are great for putting the family on trout, sunfish and crawdads. In addition to the premiere walleye, the lake also has smallmouth and largemouth bass, channel catfish, and bluegill, and is stocked regularly through the summer with 12-inch rainbow trout.

Kids can catch sunfish from the fishing piers or among the rocks along the dam with a small hook and piece of worm.

Directions: From Show Low, take Show Low Road southeast one mile from Highway 260. See a Google map.



3. Fool Hollow Lake

AZGFD biologists regularly stock Fool Hollow Lake with trout; it is an excellent fishery for getting the family into the outdoors and onto sunfish and mudbugs (crawdads).

The lake has excellent family-fishing amenities such as clean and spacious campgrounds, picnic areas and fishing piers. Kids can catch sunfish off piers and over rocky shoreline areas using No. 12 hooks and small pieces of worms. Crawdads can be trapped here as well.

Fool Hollow has self-sustaining populations of largemouth and smallmouth bass, sunfish, walleye, carp, catfish, black crappie and black bullhead that are easy for kids to catch (try a simple worm on the bottom). Fishing also is good for 12-inch stocked rainbow trout — try fishing at least 10 feet deep.

Directions: Fool Hollow Lake Recreation Area is located in east-central Arizona, two miles north of US 60 off Highway 260 in Show Low. See a Google map.

2. Woods Canyon Lake

Woods Canyon Lake has been stocked with aggressive tiger trout; it is a family fishing mecca. Woods has been stocked



with tiger trout, and along with nearby Willow Springs Lake, is scheduled to be loaded with rainbow trout weekly.

For families who aren't in to camping in a tent or camper during the summer monsoon storms, the closest lodging is at Forest Lakes Lodge, just 11 1/2 miles away on Highway 260.

A little tip: refuel your automobile at the Rim Resort Filling Station, just a mile east of the Forest Lakes Lodge on Hwy 260. Call 928-535-9682 to ensure it's open. At this small town station, the pumps are "old school."

Back to fishing: For a novice angler — or for a kid's first fish — try putting a small piece of a worm on a small hook (No. 12 or smaller) and dangle it in shallow water between rocks for sunfish. Don't forget about catching crawdads, too.

The best bet for anglers with boats or kayaks (the Woods Canyon Lake Store has boat and canoe/kayak rentals and necessary camping amenities) is to hit the water just before sunrise and troll, or slowly work, small in-line spinners 15 feet deep. Any deeper, and you're typically fishing below the thermocline where during the summer there is no oxygen.

Anglers could have no problems getting a six-trout daily bag limit or hooking into a rod-rattling tiger trout.

Directions: From Phoenix, take Highway 87 (Beeline Highway) northeast to Payson and then Highway 260 East to Forest Road 300 (Rim Road). Then turn north onto paved Forest Road 105 and proceed about a mile to the lake. The lake is about 30 miles east of Payson. See a Google map.

1. Big Lake

Big Lake is located in the White Mountains, 23 miles southwest of Springerville. It is an Arizona summertime family staple.

Cutthroats have been biting on and off, and there are plenty of rainbow trout along with lots of crawdads for kids if the trout are not biting. The best part may be the excellent and plentiful campground amenities.

See **CAMPING**, Page 19

Shop Here For Tactical Clothing That Works For Concealed And Every-Day Carry



SCOTTeVEST — Men's Pants Showing Location Of Interior Pockets

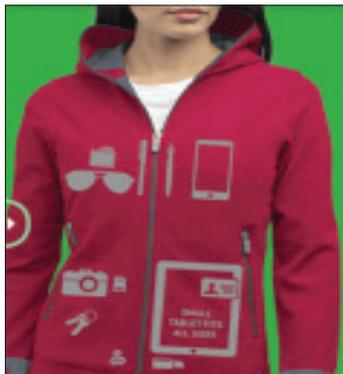


SCOTTeVEST — Men's Jacket Showing Location Of Interior Pockets

BY JOHN ANDERSON

In an earlier article I discussed the pros and cons of wearing clothing that is obviously tactical in nature — the olive green or camo BDU pants, combat boots, etc. Those send a signal to even a casual observer that you may be armed or at least need to be watched.

But there are plenty of tactical clothes that don't stand out but still give you plenty of places to stash your gear where it is easily accessible, whether that is a gun or just your usual EDC (Every Day Carry) gear.



SCOTTeVEST — Women's Jacket Showing Location Of Interior Pockets



Different Choices In Men's Pants



Women's 5.11 Stryke Pants

EDC Gear Is Individual

EDC gear is as individual as the person who carries it. As a writer, I carry a waterproof notebook, a Ruger pen (tactical without looking tactical), a folding pocket knife sharp enough to touch up pencil points, keys, phone, etc. An engineer might need a great calculator; a teacher would want to have still other things handy. For women, toting around EDC gear is easy — they simply carry a purse. And although man bags are gaining popularity, a lot of guys still don't want to carry one around, just because it's one more thing to have to keep track of.

For Freedom Of Movement

Messenger bags and briefcases can be substituted, if you don't mind carrying one around all the time, and they have the advantage of being roomy enough to carry some basic small survival gear as well.

But for freedom of movement you can't beat pants, vests, and jackets with plenty of pockets. What you wear will depend a great deal on the climate you live in. Here in the desert of central Arizona, I'd stick out like a sore thumb if I wore a vest and/or jacket all the time. But I can wear simple cotton cargo pants without raising any eyebrows. Such pants have a lot of storage room, but they can also start to look a bit strange if you've really got those side pockets stuffed with gear.

Stretch Jeans Are A Great Idea

Whenever I'm shopping, I keep an eye out for pants that would make concealed and EDC easy. Recently I found some great stretch jeans at Costco with good, deep pockets — deep enough for a pocket pistol. Keys, knife, etc. go in the left pocket, gun in the right. Back pocket for wallet.

Since these jeans stretch, they're perfect for an inside-the-waist-band holster if you don't pocket carry, and then that

See **CLOTHING**, Page 17

WATER LEVELS ARE HIGHEST IN YEARS AT ARIZONA'S BOATING PARADISE!

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Take Someone Hunting, Fishing, Or Target Shooting

Enter for chance to win NASCAR or Ultimate Outdoor Experience.

Join Richard Childress, honorary chair for National Hunting and Fishing Day, in creating the next generation of conservationists.

National Hunting and Fishing Day (NHF Day), an annual celebration of hunters and anglers, features a new twist this year. Richard Childress, NASCAR legend and honorary chair for NHF Day, is asking hunters and anglers to participate in the new NHF Day Challenge by taking someone hunting, fishing or target shooting.

You Could Win

By pledging to introduce someone to the outdoors between now and NHF Day on Saturday, Sept. 23, participants will be eligible to win a Richard Childress Racing VIP race-weekend package or the Ultimate Outdoor Experience in America's Conservation Capital from Big Cedar Lodge and Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium.



"If you are a sportsman, sportswoman or an angler, you can make a difference and support National Hunting and Fishing Day by becoming a mentor," said Childress. "Mentoring is critical to ensure our outdoor tradition lives on through future generations. Make the commitment to take someone outdoors and show them why you value hunting, fishing and target shooting."

Treasure Moments

For millions of Americans, time spent hunting and fishing are treasured moments. Hunting and fishing brings friends and family together and provides one of the most immersive outdoor experiences possible.

"Today fewer people are connecting with nature through hunting and fishing," said Childress. "As outdoorsmen and women, we are one of the keys to reversing this trend. Help a friend, family member, neighbor or co-worker learn how to

hunt, fish or shoot. Introducing someone to the joys of the outdoors not only enriches their life, it creates a future conservationist."

Helping Conservation

Each new hunter and angler created helps fund conservation. Every time someone buys a firearm, ammunition, archery equipment or fishing tackle, they contribute to habitat conservation and science-based wildlife management through the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration (WSFR) program.

The WSFR is the cornerstone of fish and wildlife conservation in North America because it brings funding from the sporting arms, archery and fishing industries and sportsmen and women back to state wildlife management agencies. These monies, in addition to hunting and fishing license fees, are critical for conserving fish and wildlife across our nation.

Two Amazing Prize Packages

Those who pledge to take someone hunting, target shooting or fishing will be entered for a chance to win two amazing prize packages.

The first grand prize is two HOT passes to a future NASCAR race, which includes pit and garage passes, garage and

team hauler tours, and an opportunity to meet team owner Richard Childress.

The second grand prize package is a trip to America's Conservation Capital: Missouri's Ozark Mountains. A passion of Bass Pro Shops founder and Ozarks native Johnny Morris, the destination spans multiple properties and thousands of unspoiled acres, making it the ultimate destination for anyone who loves the outdoors.

Included In The Prizes

The package includes a two-night stay in a log cabin at Big Cedar Lodge, America's premier wilderness resort, and nature-based excursions including guided bass fishing on 43,000-acre Table Rock Lake; Adventure Passes for the Lost Canyon Cave and Nature Trail and Ancient Ozarks Natural History Museum at Top of the Rock; shotgun sports at Bass Pro Shops' Outdoor Shooting Academy; and passes to Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium, the largest, most immersive wildlife attraction in the world, opening Sept. 21, 2017.

How To Get Involved

To get involved in the NHF Day Challenge, visit NHFDay.org or call 417-225-1162.

Learn Shooting Sports And Other Outdoor Skills

'Becoming An Outdoors Woman' workshop offers the opportunity to fulfill your hunter-education, field-day requirements.

The Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) workshop on Sept. 8-10 is still accepting registrations. Take aim in rifle marksmanship, and learn the proper way to mount and fire a shotgun. How about handguns? There's a class on the range, one to learn proper maintenance, and you can get help figuring out what firearm is best for you. You also can earn your field day requirements for the Arizona hunter education certificate.

The workshop introduces women 18 and older to outdoors skills in an enjoyable, non-threatening environment with expert instructors. Classes are held during the day, and the evenings are filled with fun and entertainment like night hikes, fly tying and motivational speakers. Other classes offered include horsemanship, geocaching, wilderness medicine, birding and hiking. There are more than 30 classes

for participants to choose from.

To earn the Arizona hunter education certificate, participants need to complete the online course in advance, and the field day requirements and written exam will be completed at the BOW workshop.

Participants stay in rustic cabins, but there are showers and bathrooms in each cabin. One great thing about this camp is that a woman can try a new sport without buying all of the equipment. The only thing the participant needs to bring is her personal stuff, a good attitude and a willingness to learn.

The venue is Friendly Pines Camp located just south of Prescott in the Bradshaw Mountains. The program is sponsored by the Arizona Wildlife Federation with support from the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Class materials, food and lodging are included in the \$250 registration fee. For more information, a schedule of classes and a registration form visit azwildlife.org. The Arizona Wildlife Federation can be reached at (480) 644-0077 or awf@azwildlife.org.



LAKE POWELL FISH REPORT

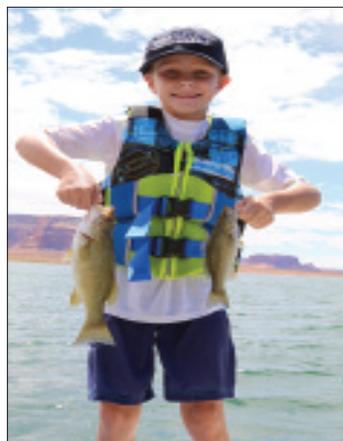
There's Still Lots Of Catching Here

BY WAYNE GUSTAVESON
[HTTP://WWW.WAYNESWORDS.COM](http://www.wayneswords.com)

Lake Powell is still warm on the surface (79-84F) with active stripers boiling sporadically lakewide and smallmouth fishing improving dramatically.

Here are the details. Striped bass are boiling over the length of the lake. Boils are larger and last longer from the mouth of the San Juan to Hite. It is common to find many schools that come to the surface and feed on shad for extended periods occurring both morning, mid day and evening.

When stripers are actively feeding on top, it is possible for anglers to stay within casting range of the schools as they pop up and down often. Sometimes they come up out of range but other times they



GREAT TROLLING TIME — Jacob Sparks, St. George, Utah, had a great time trolling for smallmouth in southern Lake Powell. Smallmouth are hitting lures well again after taking some time off during the first part of August.



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Grab A License And Go Catching

Tip Of The Week

Jim Goughnour of Rim Country Custom Rods is reminding anglers that with the new moon phase approaching, anglers who enjoy fishing before daylight or after sunset should verify the weather conditions before launching and check for updates while fishing during these particularly dark nights.

There are several mobile phone apps available with live weather conditions and emergency weather information. Monsoon storms can happen suddenly and without much warning.

The Reel Deal

Top picks at press time are Saguaro Lake for largemouth bass, or one of our stocked streams in the White Mountains region for trout, including Silver Creek, East Fork of the Black River, Little Colorado River in Greer or Show Low Creek just downstream of Show Low Lake.

Fishing in these streams should be good because of better water quality — as long as the flows are not high due to monsoon rains.

Don't forget to try the Dead Horse State Park lagoons near Cottonwood. A big largemouth bass was caught there

during August.

Surface water temperatures in desert impoundments are about as hot as they get -- up to the high-80s at Bartlett Lake. But they are trending downward into the low-80s at Roosevelt Lake.

Many bass have been rising to the surface for shad, but neither stays there for long, quickly dipping into a cooler, more comfortable zone (bass prefer 75-80 degrees).

Take The NHF Day Challenge, Win Prizes

National Hunting and Fishing Day (NHF Day), an annual celebration of hunters and anglers, features a new twist this year. Richard Childress, NASCAR legend and honorary chair for NHF Day, is asking hunters and anglers to participate in the new NHF Day Challenge by taking someone hunting, fishing or target shooting.

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Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium.

To get involved in the NHF Day Challenge, visit NHFDay.org or call 417-225-1162.

Catch Of The Week

Send your fishing reports and photos to BFishing@AZGFD.gov — one will be selected as Catch of the Week.

Bear Canyon Lake

Shane V.'s daughter (pictured) caught her first catch. "It was awesome!" Shane said. "The kids even pulled enough crawfish out of there to have a little crawfish boil that evening as well. Good times. Shore fishing, we caught quite a few rainbows fishing worms on a Santee rig to keep the bait away from the crawfish. It was a proud day."

Stocking Reports

By late August, AZGFD will have stocked the following (sign up for I Support Wildlife for real-time and confirmed stocking reports):

Rainbow Trout

Show Low Creek, Silver Creek, East Fork Black River, Oak Creek, Little Col-



orado River-Greer, Canyon Creek, East Verde River, Haigler Creek, Tonto Creek, Willow Springs Lake, Woods Canyon Lake, Ashurst Lake, Rose Canyon Lake.

Catfish

Catfish return to Community waters in late September.

Previous, Recent Stockings

Rainbow Trout
East Verde River, East Fork Black River, Silver Creek, Woods Canyon Lake, Willow Springs Lake, Tonto Creek, Haigler Creek, Show Low Creek, Bear Canyon Lake, Fool Hollow Lake, Show Low Lake, Silver Creek, Dogtown Reservoir, Canyon Creek.

Save Time; Buy Online

Grab a license online (that helps conserve all species of wildlife, not to mention provides funding that goes back into fishing opportunities) and go.

NEW PRODUCTS

Premium-Quality Dock Box Holds Three 7' Rods

When a single fishing rod can cost upwards of \$400, it makes sense to protect it from damage and theft. To safeguard this valuable equipment, Better Way Products

manufactures the model 825 Rod Box, a premium quality dock and deck box that holds three 7' poles, and has nearly 30 cu. ft. of storage space.

The 825 Rod Box is built using marine-grade fiberglass with an average thickness of 3/16". Protruded walls add rigidity and structural integrity. UV-resistant, it features a smooth, hull-like gelcoat finish inside and out. The full length piano hinge, cable stays and lockable hasp are all rust-resistant, and attached with oversized rivets.

Its lid is built strong enough to sit on. It's made with a rugged sandwich core construction for maximum durability, and comes with pneumatic gas lifts. Inside are rod holders that securely hold and provide ready access to three sets of fishing tackle.

The 825 Rod Box comes in white, gray and tan; custom colors are available. It measures 96" L x 22" W x 24.25" H and costs \$934.

Better Way Products is one of the oldest and largest fiberglass manufacturers



in the US. It produces over 30 different unique dock boxes and steps to fit any need and complement any marine décor.

Contact local dealers or Better Way Products, Inc., 70891 CR 23, New Paris, IN 46553. 574-831-3340. www.dockbox.com.

IOSSO Keeps Live Wells Sparkling And Clean

For tournament anglers, keeping their catch alive means avoiding point deductions and potential loss of a trophy. Pro Fisherman Kyle Weisenburger uses Iosso Products' Live Well Cleaner before an event. It safely removes stains and algae, and keep his wells fresh and odor-free.

Unlike harsh chemicals that can leave residue and alter the pH, Iosso's Live Well Cleaner is environmentally-friendly and biodegradable. Simple to use, the powder is added to the live well water, circulated with the pump, drained and rinsed. It's ideal for preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species. It also works wonders on bait buckets, fish boxes, ice chests, coolers, or anywhere blood, mold or mildew has left a stain. A two-part Facebook video with Weisenburger demonstrating the product is at bit.ly/2rBaOuF.



CLEAN CATCH — For tournament anglers, keeping their catch alive means avoiding point deductions and potential loss of a trophy. Pro Fisherman Kyle Weisenburger uses Iosso Products' Live Well Cleaner before an event. It safely removes stains and algae, and keep his wells fresh and odor-free.

Iosso Products' Live Well Cleaner costs \$5.86 for a 4 oz. tube.

For 34 years, Iosso Products has developed and manufactured high-quality cleaning, polishing, lubrication and maintenance products. The company's offerings are widely used in the marine, RV, aviation and shooting sports.

Contact local dealers or Iosso Products, 1485 Lively Blvd., Elk Grove Village, IL 60007. Toll-free 888-747-4332. iossoproducts@iosso.com; www.iosso.com.

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RV Land Cruising



VERDE VALLEY

Continued from page 1

The first excursion train of the Verde Canyon Railroad rolled out of the Clarkdale depot on November 23, 1990. It carried neither freight nor ore, only people. They were not seeking a better way of life, but the beauty of a wild river-carved canyon where eagles nest among high cliffs and wind makes music in the cottonwoods.

Along the way they hoped to catch a glimmer of the ones who came before, whose perseverance, vision and hard work made it all possible. That's what a railroad is: not just lengths of iron linking one place to another, but a symbolic connection of the past to the present.

Today people travel from all over the world to ride the rails into the Verde Canyon — an average of 90,000 people per year. They come to experience the sights and to revel in the casual elegance of train travel as they discover the heritage of the landscape. It's a journey worth taking. It is the scenery that lures them but it is the Railroad that still brings them — because it's always a good day when you're on a train.

Cornville

Cornville is a census-designated place (CDP) in Yavapai County, Arizona, United States. The population as of the United States 2010 Census was 3280 down from 3,335 at the 2000 census. The Cornville CDP includes the communities of Cornville and Page Springs.

Cornville and Page Springs are rapidly growing suburban areas that serve as bedroom communities for nearby Sedona and Cottonwood. Both communities are located along Oak Creek, a tributary of the Verde River. Lower Oak Creek has been designated an Important Bird Area by the National Audubon Society.

'Sedona Cabin'

Cornville's best known resident is U.S. Senator and 2008 Republican Presidential candidate John McCain. McCain's home in the community, referred to in the media as his "Sedona Cabin," is where he and his running-mate, Alaska governor Sarah Palin, prepared for their debates.



Grasshopper Grill

The Grasshopper Grill

When we take a break from "camping cuisine", we head for The Grasshopper Grill, which is nestled in the heart of Cornville right next to the historic Casey's Corner. It is only seven minutes away from all the Page Spring vineyards.

And, we concur with the owners who say, "We are passionate about quality and the happiness of our customers. We take great pride in serving our wonderful community and all its visitors."

They have an all-day menu that is fresh and varied and delicious!

Cottonwood

Right at the center of things, this vibrant and rapidly growing town is a favorite of all those who visit or reside in the Verde Valley. Personally, we find that all the facilities, outlets, services, restaurants, hotels, etc., provide well for the area. Without the clutter of a big city, we feel that Cottonwood has everything anyone could ever need.

Our family has also found two of the most friendly and well-run veterans' posts in Arizona: Cottonwood's Veterans of Foreign Wars (the VFW) and the American Legion.

Jerome

Jerome is a town in the Black Hills of Yavapai County Founded in the late 19th century on Cleopatra Hill overlooking the Verde Valley, it is more than 5,000 feet (1,500 m) above sea level. It is about 100 miles (160 km) north of Phoenix along State Route 89A between Sedona and Prescott. Supported in its heyday by rich copper mines, it was home to more than 10,000 people in the 1920s. As of the 2010 census, its population was 444.

Today, this little berg is filled with history, tales of ghosts and hauntings, and a plethora of fascinating little shops and souvenirs plus some excellent eateries. Even if just for the incredible vistas of viewing, Jerome is a place not to pass by in your travels. It encapsulates an intriguing and fascinating piece of Arizona history.

Page Springs

Page Springs is located on beautiful Oak Creek approximately 10 miles south of Sedona and 10 miles north of Cottonwood off Highway 89A on the Page Springs Road. The best access is from Interstate 17. Take the McGuireville exit (exit 293), turn west for approximately 10 miles to Cornville; turn north on Page Springs Road.



JONATHUNDER

Largemouth bass are one of the species raised at the Page Springs hatchery.

Page Springs Fish Hatchery

Page Springs Fish Hatchery resides on commission-owned land and has been managed by the Arizona Game & Fish Department's Hatchery Program since 1938. Page Springs Hatchery was named after the Page family, the previous owners of the property who had been raising trout as far back as the early 1930s.

The hatchery is comprised of two separate parcels Page Springs Hatchery and Bubbling Ponds Hatchery totaling approximately 190 acres. There are two springs on the hatchery that include the "Cave Spring" (also known as the Page Spring Tunnel) and the "Pond Spring Area."

In 1990-91 the facility was renovated, making it a showcase facility with state of the art raceways and canopies, a visitor center, and a self-guided tour path. The Audubon Society identified habitat at the hatcheries and riparian area along lower Oak Creek as an Important Bird Area (IBA), and it draws thousands of wildlife watching enthusiasts.

Page Springs Hatchery is the largest state-run hatchery. It produces on average 216,000 lbs. of trout which equals approximately 57 percent of the stock trout in Arizona, and makes a \$185.3 million positive impact to the overall state economy.

Verde Valley Wine Trail

Located in beautiful Northern Arizona, the Verde Valley Wine Trail invites wine enthusiasts to experience a destination rich in history, beauty, and the production of exquisite Arizona wines. There are seven Arizona wineries and eight tasting rooms on the Verde Valley Wine Trail that offer a variety of skillfully crafted wines to satisfy any wine taster's palate.

Every winery has its own unique personality and distinct wines for visitors to dis-

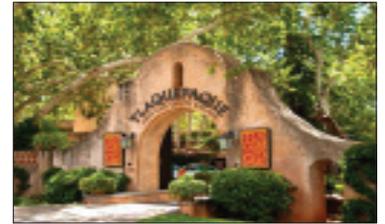


JEROME — Site of the United Verde open pit in 2013. The rock walls of the pit are 1.75 billion years old. Mining at this location ceased in 1953.



One Of Page Springs' Vineyards

cover at each stop along the Wine Trail. Visit the great wineries and tasting rooms nestled in the red rock countryside and lush canyons surrounding Cottonwood, Jerome, Sedona, Clarkdale, and Cornville.



Sedona's Tlaquepaque District



Lo Lo Mai Springs Cabin



Lo Lo Mai Springs Campground

Lo Lo Mai Springs

Lo Lo Mai Springs Resort is located on Oak Creek, just minutes from Sedona. Visitors have been staying at Lo Lo Mai Springs in RVs, tents and cabins for over 50 years. "Our gorgeous sites are surrounded by water and shaded by ancient cottonwoods and soaring sycamores. Our cabins, RV and tent sites are nestled in the middle of nature, amongst the trees, near the flowing sounds of beautiful Oak Creek.

"Lo Lo Mai is more than camping; we are an oasis escape from time and the desert. On the grounds you can find families camping, children on bicycles, dogs lying in the creek — and all just minutes from Sedona! Many of our guests never leave the park during their stay while others use Lo Lo Mai as a beautiful and relaxing base camp to explore the wonders of the surrounding area."

Sedona

Sedona /sɪ'doʊnə/ is a city that straddles the county line between Coconino and Yavapaicounties in the northern Verde Valley region. As of the 2010 census, its population was 10,031.

Beautiful Red Rocks

Sedona's main attraction is its array of red sandstone formations. The formations



Sedona's Cathedral Rock At Red Rock Crossing

appear to glow in brilliant orange and red when illuminated by the rising or setting sun. The red rocks form a popular backdrop for many activities, ranging from spiritual pursuits to the hundreds of hiking and mountain biking trails.

Some History

Sedona was named after Sedona Arabela Miller Schnebly (1877–1950), the wife of Theodore Carlton Schnebly, the city's first postmaster, who was celebrated for her hospitality and industriousness. Her mother, Amanda Miller, claimed to have made the name up because "it sounded pretty".

The first documented human presence in Sedona area dates to between 11,500 and 9000 B.C. It was not until 1995 that a Clovis projectile point discovered in Honanki revealed the presence of the Paleo-Indians, who were big-game hunters. Around 9000 B.C., the pre-historic archaic people appeared in the Verde Valley.

Editor's Note: There is so much more history of the Native American people's presence in this area. It is fascinating to research.

The first Anglo settler, John J. Thompson, moved to Oak Creek Canyon in 1876, an area well known for its peach and apple orchards. The early settlers were farmers and ranchers. In 1902, when the Sedona post office was established, there were 55 residents. In the mid-1950s, the first telephone directory listed 155 names. Some parts of the Sedona area were not electrified until the 1960s.

More Recently

Sedona began to develop as a tourist destination, vacation-home and retirement center in the 1950s. Most of the development seen today was constructed in the 1980s and 1990s. As of 2007, there are no large tracts of undeveloped land remaining.

EVERY DAY IS Grandparents' Day

BY MARGIE ANDERSON

Sunday, Sept. 10 is Grandparents' Day, and this year, we salute Margie and John Anderson who have shared the wonders of outdoors with their granddaughters for over two decades.

When we found out that our son and daughter-in-law were expecting their first baby, I quit my job so I could stay home and take care of her. Since the day she was born, Trinity has been the joy of my life. Then, three years later, Emily joined us, and brought us even more joy.

We started taking Trinity on hikes and fishing trips before Emily was old enough to go with us. I'll never forget the trip to Pinetop where Trinity and Grandpa and I hiked around every lake in the area, visited the Ranger Station (where she received a bag full of fun stuff about Smokey the Bear and conservation), and played at the playground at one of the lakes. Trinity found a bird's leg bone at Scotts Reservoir, and she still has it — 16 years later!

Kachina Trail

We have taken the girls all over Arizona, and we've had some great adventures together. We particularly love to hike the trails on the San Francisco Peaks in the summer. Kachina trail is our favorite, and we started hiking it when they were very young, so we didn't get far. It's an out-and-back trail, and when they were little, they spent a lot of the time on the trail playing on the boulders and logs.

Since the whole point of being on the



On Our Favorite Trail: Kachina

hike together was to have fun, we never minded sitting around watching them play in the forest. Every year we'd get a little further down the trail, and even though we've been on that trail countless times, they still want to do Kachina every time we're in Flagstaff.

It's a great trail for kids and grandparents because the first few miles are nice and even, following the contour of the mountain without a lot of climbing or rough spots. It's always cool and gorgeous there, no matter how hot it is in the valley.

Aspen Loop Trail

Another great hike for grandparents and kids is the Aspen Loop Trail. It's short, relatively flat, and very beautiful. We also like the trail to Alfa Fia Tank. It's not marked, but if you drive toward the Snowbowl, when you see a place with a sign that says Aspen Corner, park across the street from it. There is a very well-



Trail Behind Little America: A Great Play Place For Kids



Boulders Near Trail Start To Alfa Fia Tank

used trail that leads to a water tank called Alfa Fia and beyond. It's a pretty easy trail and there are some big boulders off to the right of the trail right near the beginning, and it's a custom for us to take a group selfie there.

Also, there are some big boulders in the middle of the trail that are just far enough apart for the kids to stand on with a foot on each rock, and we always take a photo there, too.



Emma, The Dog, Plays 'Fetch Sticks' At Alfa Fia Tank

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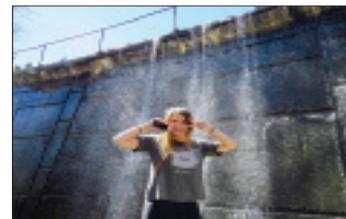
found the cliffs, but to our surprise, we also found a swing someone had hung from a big tree, and they girls had a blast taking turns on that swing.

Day Trip Drives

Often we just take a day trip and drive to some cool little town for breakfast or lunch. Jerome is a favorite. One Monday we drove to Bagdad, but the one restaurant in town was closed that day, so we went to Granite Basin Lake near Prescott. On



Trinity Below The Dam At Granite Basin Lake



Emily Below The Dam At Granite Basin Lake

the way, we walked out to the duck rock off the road and got some great pics of the girls on top of the duck. It's big boulders painted white with an orange beak.

Then at Granite Basin we walked down below the dam, and because of the recent rains, the water was coming over the top just enough to make a shimmer of water down the black wall and create a mist. They had a blast getting photos.

Now that they are older, they love to SnapChat, Instagram, and Facebook our adventures. They've been to countless lakes, rivers, and streams in Arizona, and they have loved every one of them.

Tombstone: Fantastic For Kids

Tombstone is a fantastic place to take kids. We took our granddaughters there a couple of years ago, and I thought that they would like Bisbee better because of the shops and restaurants, but they loved Tombstone.

We did all the touristy stuff — saw the

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RV/Land Cruising

GRANDPARENTS

Continued from page 12

shootout, sat and drank pop in the bar, had coffee at a western café — and they absolutely loved it. They enjoyed Bisbee too, but they really had a great time in Tombstone.

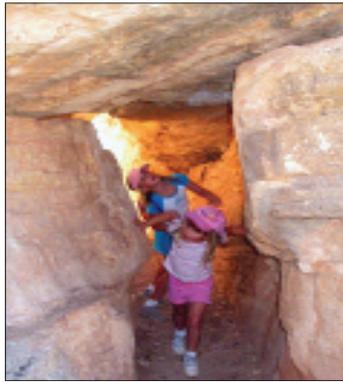
Great Adventures

We've had some real adventures. The first time we went to the Lava Tube Cave I was too chicken to go in, but the girls and Grandpa went all the way to the end. The next time I went in, but I must admit I didn't enjoy it. Colossal Cave and the Karchner Caverns are the caves I like to be in.

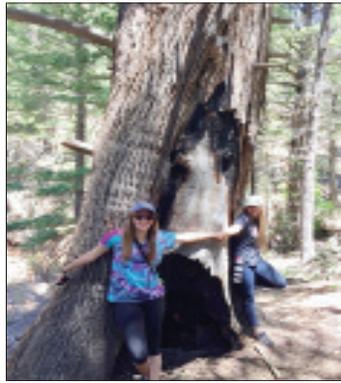
We've also taken the tour of the Bisbee Queen Mine, which was a lot of fun. You get to wear mining hats and vests and ride a little train that you sit on like a horse. The girls loved it.

'It Was A Blast!'

This past summer we took them to Wilcox and hiked the Chiricahuas, then to Safford for the night. In the morning we took old Highway 666 (now 191) to Eager, stopping on the way to hike down and see the world's largest Arizona Cypress Tree.



Trinity And Emily On The Petroglyph Trail At Lyman Lake State Park



Trinity And Emily At World's Largest Arizona Cypress Tree

We stayed in a great place in Springerville, hiked Becker Lake Wildlife and Wenima Wildlife areas, played pool, then hiked some trails near Greer. After spending the night in Payson, we hiked the Water Wheel trail then had breakfast in Payson and went on home. It was an 832 mile trip and it was a blast!

If Grandkids Are Young —

If your grandkids are very young, you can't go wrong taking them to Little America in Flagstaff. There is a one-mile trail behind the hotel with plenty of places to stop and play on the rocks and even see some prairie dogs if you're lucky.

The Flagstaff Arboretum is another great place to take kids, with nice paths in the arboretum, programs where they can see animals, and some nice easy trails in the forest around the place. There's even a pond, and plenty of flowers.

Hikes Get Better And Better

It's hard for me to believe it, but our grandbabies will be 21 and 18 this year! They still love our trips and we still love to hike together, and the hikes just get better and better. Red Mountain near Flagstaff is a new favorite.

They even take their friends hiking now, and they are seasoned travelers. We have a map of the state hanging in our office, with a pin in every place we've visited, and it's getting pretty crowded. It's still a big deal to them to put new pins in



Margie, Emily, Trinity At The Chiricahuas

when we get home, and every year I go on Shutterfly and make them each a photo book showing highlights of their year.

On Christmas morning, they stop and pore over those books and relive the memories. It's so much fun!

Memories To Last A Lifetime

Our granddaughters have fishing, survival, and woodcraft skills, stamina for the long haul, and memories that will last a lifetime. As for me and John, spending most of our time with our granddaughters keeps us fit and healthy — all that hiking and fishing is good for you.

I can't imagine my life without my granddaughters — I always tell John that I'm convinced that God created me to be a grandma, because it's what I love the most, and what I do best.

Hopefully we'll have many more years of hiking adventures with our grand-

See **GRANDPARENTS**, Page 17

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Come To A Perfect Destination Now (Or Any Time)

After unprecedented storms rocked Lake Pleasant, Pleasant Harbor Marina is open for business and ready to host thousands of visitors over the upcoming holiday weekend (or any weekend for that matter). Enjoying a chance to cool off, yet staying close to home, makes Lake Pleasant the perfect destination for Labor Day (or any time).

Pleasant Harbor Marina and RV Resort (www.pleasantharbor.com) is open to the public 365 days a year, and features Dillon's Bayou, boating, sailing and Jet Ski rentals, kayaks, paddle boards, and hydro flying, as well as a full service RV resort with 253 full hookup spaces and unlimited dry camping opportunities — featuring a clubhouse, convenience store, heated pool and Jacuzzi. Not to mention, Pleasant Harbor always has all kinds of family friendly activities available.

And, Phoenicians, Pleasant Harbor is the closest entry to Lake Pleasant. And, for many, that means less than an hour drive.

The Perfect Labor Day Weekend Schedule

Editor's Note: This does not have to be limited to the Labor Day weekend. Any time (and any weekend) is a great time to come to this wonderful destination. Here, though, is a sample of the kind of getaway you and your family and friends might want to put on your schedule.

Friday

6:00 p.m. Leave Home – Depart for Lake Pleasant
 7:00 p.m. Arrive at Lake Pleasant and set-up camp (Pleasant Harbor RV Resort)
 7:45 p.m. Dinner (Dillon's Bayou Restaurant)

TripleWall Productions

TripleWall Productions specialize in outdoor video production as well as all your video-production needs.

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Contact Mike Wallace at (480) 442-1731 or triplewallproductions@gmail.com



Pleasant Harbor
Living the Life!
(at Lake Pleasant)

9:00 p.m. Night Swim (Pleasant Harbor RV Park Swimming Pool)

Saturday

8:00 a.m. Breakfast (campsite)
 10:00 a.m. Paddle Boarding (Go Paddle AZ)
 12:00 p.m. Lunch (BBQ at the Lake)
 2:00 p.m. Jet Ski (Pleasant Harbor Boat Rentals)
 4:00 p.m. Cornhole (Pleasant Harbor R/V Resort)
 6:30 p.m. Dinner (Campsite)
 8:00 p.m. Live Entertainment (Dillon's Bayou)

Sunday

8:00 a.m. Breakfast (campsite)
 9:00 a.m. Kayaking (Go Paddle AZ)
 10:00 a.m. Water Skiing (Pleasant Harbor Marina)
 1:00 p.m. Lunch and Labor Day Fun (Pleasant Harbor Marina)
 4:00 p.m. Cool Off - Swimming Pool (Pleasant Harbor R/V Resort)
 5:30 p.m. Dinner Boat Cruise w/

Live Music (Lake Pleasant Cruises)

Monday (if you have a long weekend)

8:00 a.m. Breakfast (campsite)
 9:00 a.m. Hydro flying (jet pack, board or bike — available at Pleasant Harbor Boat Rentals)
 12:30 p.m. Lunch (Dillon's Bayou)
 3:00 p.m. Depart Pleasant Harbor
 4:00 p.m. Arrive Home
 (***)Events are suggested activities and subject to change based on operator availability)

"Although any time of year at Pleasant Harbor Marina is a perfect getaway, Labor Day is especially fun," said Glen Vortherms, general manager of Maricopa Water District (MWD), owner and operator of Pleasant Harbor. "After the long, hot summer, being on the lake is a great place to relax."

From the Phoenix area, Pleasant Harbor is the closest destination and entrance to Lake Pleasant, conveniently located off Carefree Highway and 87th Avenue (8708 W. Harbor Boulevard, Peoria, AZ 85383). Visitors exiting I-17, travel west on Carefree Highway, or take North 99th Avenue/North Lake Pleasant Parkway from Bell Road to Carefree Highway and then west to 87th Avenue and then onto Harbor Boulevard. Pleasant Harbor admission fee is \$6.00 per vehicle.

"We have all kinds of great ways to cool off at the Marina," said Chad Case, Pleasant Harbor marina manager. "And for many living in the Phoenix area, we are a very short drive."

For more information about camping reservations, boat slip rentals and/or Labor Day activities, visit Pleasant Harbor RV Resort and Marina at www.pleasantharbor.com or call the Pleasant Harbor

RV Park at 800-475-3272 or the Pleasant Harbor Marina at 928-501-5270.

Pleasant Harbor (Lake Pleasant) Recreational Opportunities

- Pleasant Harbor: www.pleasantharbor.com
- Lake Pleasant Cruises: www.lakepleasantcruises.com
- Go Paddle AZ : www.gopaddleaz.com
- Pleasant Harbor Boat Rentals: <http://boats4rent.com/lake-pleasant/>
- Pleasant Harbor Boat and RV Sales: <http://www.pleasantharborsales.com>
- Go Sail AZ: www.gosailaz.com
- Lake Pleasant Sailing Club: <http://lakepleasantsailing.com>

More About Lake Pleasant

Pleasant Harbor is located on the southeastern shores of Lake Pleasant, conveniently adjacent to the metropolitan Phoenix area and open to the public 365 days a year. The full service marina, features Dillon's Bayou, a lakeside restaurant, boat and slip rentals, as well as fly boarding, Jet Ski, kayak, paddle board, and sail boat rentals, as well as R/V and boat sales.

Additionally, *The Phoenix*, a 150 passenger boat cruise provides tours of majestic Lake Pleasant. Pleasant Harbor is also home to an RV Resort with 253 sites with a variety of amenities including club house, pool and Jacuzzi, bocce ball, basketball, shuffleboard, horseshoes, laundry facilities, showers, convenience store and picnic grounds.

For more information about Pleasant Harbor RV Resort and Marina, visit www.pleasantharbor.com or call the Pleasant

See **DESTINATION**, Page 18

County Parks Bring Back Free Camping Offer

Beginning October 1, Maricopa County's Parks and Recreation Department will bring back the Buy One, Get One campaign! The campaign allows park visitors who pay the camping fee for one night, or more, at a desert mountain county park to receive one night of equal or lesser value for free at any of the county's desert parks during that same stay.

"We take a lot of pride in our park system because it showcases so beautifully what's unique about living in the desert southwest," said Chairman Denny Barney, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, District 1. "I know a lot of families are excited for the summer camping season, and I think the Buy One, Get One promotion is a great way to encourage people to unplug and get out in nature for a few days."

To Receive The Free Night

To receive the free night, park visitors must contact the park they are planning to stay at either by phone or in person. The promotion will be applied to stays booked between October 1 and November 10, 2017. Reservations booked online or before the August 1st launch of the campaign are not eligible.

"While this promotion is not valid for reservations made online, I'd like to remind park visitors that they can still book their spring visit up to six months prior to arrival via the reservation system.

"The system allows visitors to take virtual tours of the campsites, view campsite specifications and reserve their favorite spots from the comfort of their home computers and laptops. Online reservations may be made at www.maricopacountyparks.org," said R.J. Cardin, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation director.



copacountyparks.org," said R.J. Cardin, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation director.

Participating Parks

Cave Creek Regional Park — Located north of Phoenix, this park offers the illusion of being miles away from civilization. The campground has 38 individual developed campsites. Reservations may be booked by calling (623) 465-0431.

Estrella Mountain Regional Park — Located near the meeting of the Gila and Agua Fria Rivers in the southwest Valley, the park includes a large wetland area. The park also offers seven developed campsites. Reservations may be booked by calling (623) 932-3811.

McDowell Mountain Regional Park — Nestled in the lower Verde River basin, this park is a desert jewel in the northeast Valley. This park has 76 developed campsites that are perfect for RV or tent camping. Reservations may be booked by calling (480) 471-0173.

Usery Mountain Regional Park — Located on the Valley's east side, this park is located at the western end of the Goldfield Mountains, adjacent to the Ton-ta National Forest. The park offers 19 in-

See **FREE CAMPING**, Page 18

Fifty Desert Tortoises Need Forever Homes

Leg injury led to now-adopted 'Tripod's' amputation, but dozens still need homes.

A brutal round with a dog resulted in an amputated leg, but Tripod the three-legged desert tortoise is ready for a new home.

The surgery was conducted at the Arizona Exotic Animal Hospital and since then, "Tripod" — as he is affectionately known — has recovered at the Arizona Game and Fish Department Wildlife Center, where he and 50 other desert tortoises are in desperate need of a forever home.

"When this tortoise was brought into the veterinary clinic, the damage was so severe that its left front leg needed to be immediately amputated," said Tegan



NEED HOMES — Although Tripod, above, has been adopted, many other desert tortoises are in need of forever homes.

Wolf, AZGFD Tortoise Adoption Program coordinator. "Tripod has since recovered nicely and gets around perfectly

fine on three legs."

While Tripod is between 30 and 50 years old, dozens of other desert tortoises eligible for adoption vary in age and size. Arizona residents interested in providing an adoptive home to a desert tortoise can find an adoption application and packet with general information at www.azgfd.gov/tortoise.

Those applying to adopt a tortoise will be contacted by the department once their application is approved.

Adopters need to have a securely enclosed yard or separate enclosure in their yard, free from potential hazards such as

a dog, fire pit or unfenced pool. The enclosed area must include an appropriate shelter for the tortoise to escape Arizona's extreme summer and winter temperatures.

All of the desert tortoises eligible for adoption are given health exams before going to their new homes.

Desert tortoises offer a unique alternative to more traditional family pets and can teach many of the same life lessons to children, including responsibility, compassion and commitment. Contrary to many assumptions, desert tortoises can be interactive and provide companionship without as many demands as a cat or dog.

AZGFD Takes Possession Of Newborn Fawn 'Kidnapped' From Wild

Those wishing to help care for an animal can text 'CRITTER' to 41444 to donate.

An approximately three-day-old deer fawn "kidnapped" from the wild near Salome will now be forced to a life in captivity.

In August, the Arizona Game and Fish Department took possession of the days-old fawn after learning an unknown man took it from the wild, then stopped off at the local bar to show the patrons. A short time later, AZGFD was notified and took possession of the fawn.

"This truly is an unfortunate situation for this deer fawn. Instead of living a life in the wild, it must now remain in captivity due to the irresponsible actions of one person," said Mike Demlong, AZGFD Wildlife Education program manager. "The fawn is healthy, but requires feeding every three to four hours, which is time consuming and costly in the long run. The Department will keep the fawn for a few days to ensure it is healthy and feeding well, and then it will be transferred to wildlife sanctuary in Arizona."

The fawn will eventually be transferred to Keepers of the Wild Nature Park near Kingman.

The public is also invited to help name the fawn by visiting the AZGFD Facebook page by leaving a comment or on Instagram.

To help defray rising costs of caring for Arizona's wildlife, AZGFD recently began its "Be a Hero for Wildlife" donation campaign to give the public an opportunity to support its efforts to treat sick, injured, orphaned and confiscated wildlife by texting CRITTER to 41444 from any smartphone.

"Unfortunately, the department does not receive any state general fund dollars, including funds to provide long-term care for captive wildlife. That's what makes donations that much more important," Demlong said.

Funding raised through the "Be a hero for Wildlife" text-campaign will be used to care for the sick, injured, orphaned and confiscated animals housed at the Wildlife Center, in addition to the many non-releaseable animal ambassadors — such as a great-horned owl, golden eagle, desert tortoises and prairie dogs — that are used in educational outreach statewide.

In addition to donations, the public can also help keep wildlife wild by leaving baby wildlife alone. Young wildlife is rarely abandoned so there is often little reason to "rescue it." One or both of its parents is likely nearby searching for food and will return.

Baby birds and bunnies are the most



KIDNAPPED — An approximately three-day-old deer fawn "kidnapped" from the wild near Salome will now be forced to a life in captivity.

common wildlife species misguidedly removed from the wild by the public. Young birds that have fallen from the nest can be placed back in the nest or as close as possible. Baby birds that are partially flighted should be left alone or moved nearby out of harm's way.

Those with questions about a specific situation should contact one of the Department's licensed wildlife rehabilitators listed on the department's website at www.azgfd.com/wildlife/urbanrehab/ or contact your local Game and Fish office.



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Bat Aid

BAT AID — The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) was awarded \$12,440 in grant funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to help protect the state's 28 species of bats from white-nose syndrome, a deadly fungal disease. Funds issued by the FWS were part of \$1 million in grants to 37 states to help combat the disease that has killed millions of bats in recent years nationwide. In Arizona, the funding will be used to research whether the fungus is impacting our own bat populations. For more information on Arizona's bats, visit www.azgfd.gov and search for "living with bats."



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Keyboard Killers Need To Be Held Accountable

BY JOHN (JK) KOLESZAR
SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR

Welcome to the Wild West! The Internet, with all of its wonderful benefits, has also become a place for refuge for those without a life or the courage to get out and do something positive. Trollers have become the new, cowardly lions of the 21st century. Troller's make other people's lives miserable by bullying, gang messaging and attacking the core of another human whom they have never met.

For Wrong/Evil, Few Repercussions

Because of the relative newness of the Internet, there are very few rules about what you can say, when you can say it and few, if any, repercussions for being wrong or evil.

Over five years ago, I was involved in some political controversy, and there were a few e-mails that suggested my life be terminated. There were efforts to blackball my business and to avoid having anything to do with me. Ultimately, things quieted down, but I still feel the anger and hurt at those who had no clue about who I was or what I did, but chose to threaten me behind the security of their

WAKE ZONE



anonymous keyboard with fake identities. I was able to witness the gang mentality up close and personal and it can have an effect on your mind.

Melania Capitan

This past month the news was released that Melania Capitan from Spain had committed suicide. That she chose to take her life is sad enough but when it was revealed that she had been trolled by animal activists/ extremists, it became painfully clear that the keyboard killers had found a victim. No one will ever know the exact reason she chose to take her life, but I found more information about who she was and how she lived.

Capitan was quite attractive, loved to hunt and had a number of pets that she adored. She chose to be open about her passions for hunting and had a following internationally of over 39,000 followers.

The sad part is that somewhere in that 39,000 followers were a number of key-

board killers who despised her, what she represented, how she looked and whatever else their imagination could conjure up. There was a concerted effort by the gutless wonders who chose to hide behind imaginary names and they set out to vilify her. There were over 3,000 vile e-mails and texts, including a number of death threats.

The pathetic part of all of this is that even after the news of her death had been made public, the keyboard killers would not stop. They laughed, insisted that she had done the "despicable" things and that she deserved to die.

Really? What or who made these people judge jury and executioner? Where will we go with the technology that is available today and in the future?

A Time Of Rage

We sadly live in a time of rage. It is painfully clear that many are suffering from low or no self-esteem. Those who cannot "Do" become angry; they form groups of disenfranchised and some do it in the name of wildlife. If we do not see it your way, than that gives you the license to say all kinds of evil things that you would never have the courage to say



to someone's face?

Common decency has become a thing of the past and trolling has become an art form in which these worthless individuals find an identity. Until someone is brought to punishment / justice for their threats and evil wishes, the activities will continue. All of this in the name of seeing the world through their narrow minded way is a pathetic path.

A Life May Depend On It

I hope that those who chose to harass, threaten and drive a vibrant young woman to her own destruction will be brought to justice. Anonymity releases individuals from accountability and for now, a pattern of mob hate is the norm rather than an isolated incident. I hope we all begin to think about what we enter into the numerous forums and pause before we push "send". Someone's life may depend on it.

AZGFD Officials Honored By WAFWA

The Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) honored four leaders from the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) for their conservation efforts at an awards ceremony last month.

Craig McMullen received the WAFWA Professional of the Year Award for achievements during his 24-year career with AZGFD. Starting with the department in 1993 as a wildlife manager, McMullen quickly moved into positions of increasing responsibility including as chief of the Wildlife Recreation Branch and regional supervisor in Flagstaff for the past five years. In July, he was promoted to role of assistant director of field operations for AZGFD.

"I am honored to have received the award of Professional of the Year," McMullen said. "The award reflects the great and important work done by the Arizona Game and Fish Department and everyone who is a part of those efforts."

The President's Award was presented to the **Mule Deer Working Group, which is led by Jim Heffelfinger**, wildlife science coordinator for AZGFD. The Mule Deer Working Group develops strategies to assist in the management of mule deer populations throughout the West, works to improve communication among mule deer biologists, and provides a forum to respond to information needs from agencies. "Our success rests entirely on robust collaboration and communication to deliver mule deer conservation across state and provincial boundaries,"



WAFWA
CONGRATULATIONS! — AZGFD award winners (left to right): Larry Voyles, Scott Lavin, Craig McMullen and Jim Heffelfinger

Heffelfinger said.

AZGFD Wildlife Recreation Branch Chief **Scott Lavin** received the Contributor of the Year Award for his work on WAFWA's Hunter, Angler, Shooting Sports and Wildlife Recreation Participation workgroup. Lavin's efforts in Arizona continue to maintain a longstanding and active statewide R3 collaboration with strong industry support.

Recently retired AZGFD Director **Larry Voyles** was awarded with a WAFWA lifetime membership for his career accomplishments and service to the department.

The awards were presented in Vail, Colo., at WAFWA's annual conference.

AZGFD Accepting Applications For 2017 Heritage Fund Grants

The Arizona Game and Fish Department is accepting applications for more than \$400,000 in Heritage Fund grants.

The deadline to submit an application is Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2017 to be eligible for grant funding, which will be available through a competitive application process in the following categories: environmental education, outdoor education, schoolyard habitat, urban wildlife/habitat, public access; and Identification, Inventory, Acquisition, Protection and Management (IIAPM).

In addition to government agencies, the department welcomes non-profit organizations to apply for a Heritage Grant as eligible applicants. This eligibility applies to any non-profit group which meets the internal revenue service definition of a 501(c) organization.

The Heritage Fund was created after voters approved an initiative in 1990 and is funded through Arizona Lottery ticket sales. Heritage funding goes toward conservation efforts such as protecting endangered species, educating students and the general public about wildlife and the outdoors, and creating new opportunities for outdoor recreation.

The grant program was established by AZGFD in 1992 as part of the overall Heritage Fund program. The grants were initially developed as a way to promote outreach to enhance important partner-

ships and generate fresh approaches in support of the department's mission.

Since the grant program's inception, the department has awarded more than \$16 million and supported more than 800 projects throughout the state.

Applicants for this year's grants should refer to the documents on our Heritage Grant web page for guidance on applying. The documents include the Heritage Grant application manual, the grant application form and the various "Heritage Grant Funding Window" documents, which describe eligibility information and provide specific eligibility criteria listed within each grant sub-category.

Potential grant recipients must have a project that is either located in Arizona or involves research in which the wildlife or its habitat is located in the state and meets the requirements in the funding windows.

Proposals and applications for these grants can be submitted either by e-mail to rbeck@azgfd.gov or mailed to Arizona Game and Fish Department, Attn: Wildlife Grant Administrator, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086. No faxed applications will be accepted.

Applicants can submit grant applications up until the application deadline of 5 p.m. (MST) Tuesday, Oct. 31.



Native Americans' Day In The United States: Oct. 9

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Inside Lookout Mountain Outdoors
Also located inside Changing Hands Bookstores
and now in Lake Havasu City at Southwest Kayak Center

CLOTHING

Continued from page 8

right pocket is available for other gear. The best part? These jeans were less than \$17, about a quarter of what a good pair of tactical pants will cost you.

A phone holster worn on a belt is one of the best ways I've found to carry a phone. You don't have to worry about sitting on and breaking it, and it's convenient and easy to hear.

A Good, Sturdy Belt

One thing I've learned is that whether you carry everyday gear or a gun, you're going to need a good sturdy belt. All that stuff can start to drag your pants down in a hurry. It doesn't have to be a military-style tactical belt — any good leather belt will do.

Alien Gear has an awesome gun belt that is classy enough to wear with a suit. It comes in black or brown leather and costs about \$60-\$45 if you're buying a holster as well. See them at www.aliengearholsters.com.

Pocket Carry Problems Solved

The drawback to pocket carry is twofold: first of all, sometimes the pocket opening is a bit small, which slows you

down. Second, you *must* have the gun in a holster, and often the holster comes with it when you draw, slowing you down yet again.

CCW Breakaways solve both those problems. Their jeans, khakis, and cargo pants look like normal pants, but the pockets are designed deep so the firearm is carried below the hip line, and there is an easily installed adjustable trigger guards (\$6 to \$7) so you don't have to use a holster.

Both front pockets are designed with breakaway snaps under the waistband that make the pocket opening enlargeable instantly, and there are places inside the pants for carrying extra magazine, a knife, even a small flashlight. These pants are pretty awesome, and the jeans are around \$80. You can check them out at www.ccwbreakaways.com.

Another Option

Another option is pants, vests, and jackets by SCOTTVEST. This company manages to put an incredible number of pockets in very stylish clothing. They don't look at all tactical, and, in fact, are very popular with travelers, because you can stash away a lot of gear and valuables, eliminating the need to carry them in a bag that can be snatched.

They are pricey, with most garments going for \$100 to \$300, but you can totally fly under the radar with these clothes. You can carry cameras, tablets, phones, wallets, passports — plus your EDC gear with ease. They even have some with RFID blocking pockets for your credit cards. Go to www.scottvest.com to see them.

Getting Mainstream

Since more and more folks these days are wearing cargo pants and the like, actual tactical pants are getting more mainstream. Companies like 5.11 make very nice-looking tactical pants that are popular with law enforcement, and they come in several colors — navy, black, gray, tan, olive green, etc.

They also make them for women, and the best thing about these pants is that they have lots of pockets, starting with good deep front pockets. Most also have a couple of narrow but deep pockets in the front next to the side pockets or in the back just behind the side seams. These little pockets are ideal for tactical pens, knives, flashlights, etc. The back pockets usually have button or Velcro closures, and the cargo pockets lie flat but have pleats so they hold quite a bit.

Prices vary, and so does the fit. If you

go to a place like Shooters World you can try several different types on to see which ones you like best. Or go to www.tacticalgear.com and get them. It's easy to return them if you don't like them. I love the tan and green ones for scouting and hunting.

Pay Attention To Pockets

When you buy tactical pants, pay particular attention to the pockets. The ones I prefer have interior divisions in the cargo pockets, so I can put my pen inside where it won't catch on things but is still readily accessible. I also prefer the narrow deep pockets in the front, so I can hook my phone holster or walkie talkie to them. Also, you can put a knife or flashlight in the front — if you put them in the back, those clips can rip upholstery in your car or house. No bueno.

Lots Of Options

There's no need to go around looking like Rambo and attracting unwanted attention just because you carry. There are lots of options, some more affordable than others, but all good. Do some research and I know you'll be able to find the perfect carry clothing for your particular needs.



Although Now Adults, The Girls Still Play With Bugs On The Trail

GRANDPARENTS

Continued from page 13

daughters, and if we're very, very lucky — maybe even with great-grandkids as well. If you are blessed to be a grandparent, I wish you a very happy and love-filled Grandparents' Day. And if you haven't hiked with your grandkids, it's never too late to start. Go online and search for easy day hikes near you, and just go for it. I know you and your grandkids will love it.

Editor's Note: How very fortunate are Trinity and Emily to have Margie and John Anderson for grandparents. The lives they are sharing in the great outdoors are treasures that will last their lifetimes, and, I imagine, that both will have with their own children and grandchildren one day.

clining lake level has allowed them to find the habitat and forage they like and stay put. Their prime location now is along a shallow shoreline covered with brush. It is possible to find smallmouth along the tall main channel walls or in rocky coves but the most consistent spot is along sandy flats with brush.

I took my young grandson fishing and trolled along the brushy shoreline of West Canyon and Neanderthal with a lure that ran at 12 feet over the brushy bottom at 20 feet. Smallmouth were holding near the tree tops and were very excited to attack my shad lure (Live Target 2.5 inch, Threadfin Shad Silver Bronze) as it swam past their bush. He caught a lot of bass.

Troll For Walleye

Trolling over tree tops is a great way to find walleye as well. It is best to fish for walleye at first and last light now that shad are abundant. Walleye prefer to feed at night in summer conditions but they are fat and healthy and can be caught trolling and casting.

Catfish, Another Night Prowler

Catfish are another night prowler that is easy to catch off a sandy beach near camp or where the houseboat is parked for the night. Use some table scraps on a (#4) circle hook behind the boat for fun fishing action.

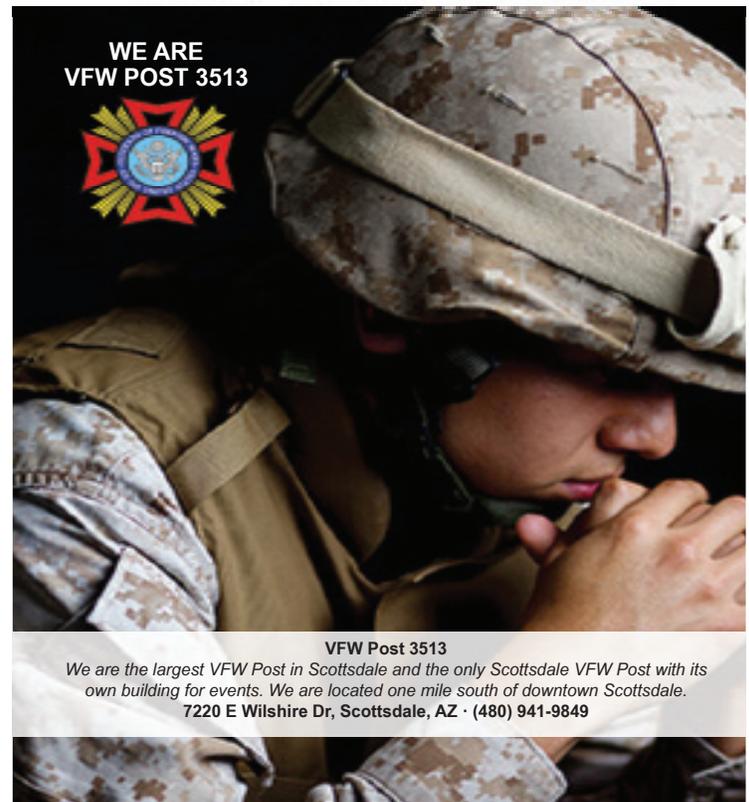
Bluefill, Sunfish Active Now

Bluegill and green sunfish are active now and often use a parked houseboat for shade. Take the kids to the back of the houseboat. Put a Gulp Minnow or small worm on a tiny hook and catch some sunfish. There are still lots of things to do at Lake Powell.

Note: At press time, lake elevation was 3633, and water temperature was 79-83F.



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FISH REPORT

Continued from page 9

are close enough to make a short cast and catch many fish in a short time. Reports continue to come in of one group of anglers catching over 100 stripers in a morning of fishing.

Stripers' Day Off

Be aware that stripers often take a day off. They can boil prolifically in one spot two days in a row and then be missing completely on the third day. When they don't show up, spend time looking for another active group. Heading north from Bullfrog may be the best way to find another active school, but boils occur randomly and can be hard to predict.

When stripers do not come to the surface as expected, keep a rod ready to cast while traveling up or down the lake. When the fish start to boil, get in range quickly and cast to the feeding fish. They will go down quickly and then pop back up close to spot where first seen. It is wise to have a travel pattern between spots where boils were previously seen. Stripers can miss a day and then come back up in the same spot where they were found a few days ago.

The boil pattern in the southern lake is very similar to that reported uplake with the exception that boils are less abundant, quicker and fish take more days off. On my trips uplake I often see a few quick boils in only a spot or two. I catch 10-20 fish instead of 50-100.

Smallmouth Bass Are Easy To Catch

The Great News lakewide is that smallmouth bass are feeding actively and easy to catch. They were missing in action during the first part of the month. The de-

Pets In Need

LOST OUR HOME PET RESCUE was founded in 2008 as a grassroots response to the thousands of pets in need as a result of the economic downturn and Phoenix-area foreclosure crisis. Prior to starting Lost Our Home, Jodi Polanski, Founder and Executive Director, worked in the mortgage business for 13 years and saw first-hand the devastating effects the housing crisis had on people and pets. During that time, many pets were abandoned in foreclosed homes, often times without food or water. Others, having no choice, were forced to give up their pets to shelters. Soon after Lost Our Home began, we learned that the need was even greater than originally thought and quickly expanded to offer additional programs for pets and pet parents facing other life crises too. More: www.lostourhome.org.



FREE CAMPING

Continued from page 14

dividual developed campsites which can accommodate either an RV or tent camping. Reservations may be booked by calling (480) 984-0032.

White Tank Mountain Regional Park — At nearly 30,000 acres, this is the largest regional park in Maricopa County. Most of the park is made up of the rugged and beautiful White Tank Mountains on the Valleys west side. The park offers 40 individual developed campsites for tent or RV camping. Reservations may be booked by calling (623) 935-2505.

At approximately 120,000 acres, Maricopa County is home to one of the largest regional park system in the United States. The parks are located throughout

the county and are all within a 45-minute drive from downtown Phoenix. Some restrictions do apply. To learn more about this offer or a county park, visit www.maricopacountyparks.net or phone (602) 506-2930.

Restrictions

Visitors interested in taking advantage of this offer must contact the park directly either by phone, or in person. The call directory at (602) 506-2930, can assist in directing you to the park you are interested in, and you will be redirected to the park to book your campsite reservation.

Online reservations: Any and all online reservations are not eligible for the Buy One, Get One offer.

Reservation extensions: Extensions are eligible for the Buy One, Get One

offer if booked during the identified promotion dates either in person or via telephone.

Offer valid only for designated camping spaces only.

Offer not valid for primitive camping, group campground reservations, or unit fees.

Limit of one free night per family, household and/or group in a seven day period (Monday through Sunday).

Rain checks will not be issued if space is not available.

Refunds and credits will not be issued to individuals who reserved campsites prior to August 1 for the October 1 through November 10, 2017 timeframe.

Offer not valid at Lake Pleasant Regional Park.

Offer is only valid for camping stays

between October 1 through November 10, 2017.

About The Maricopa County Parks & Recreation Department

From hiking on a barrier-free trail, to horseback riding along a creek, Maricopa County Parks offer visitors the best of the Sonoran Desert. At approximately 120,000 acres, Maricopa County is home to one of the largest regional park system in the United States.

All trails within the Maricopa County Park System are for non-motorized use only. The ten parks in the system circle the metropolitan area and all are within a 45-minute drive from downtown Phoenix. For more information on the park system, visit <http://www.maricopacountyparks.net/> or phone (928) 501-9200.

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DESTINATION

Continued from page 14

Harbor RV Park at 800-475-3272 or the Pleasant Harbor Marina at 928-501-5270.

Maricopa Water District (MWD)

MWD is the owner and operator of Pleasant Harbor RV Resort and Marina, was formally organized in 1925, as Maricopa County Municipal Water Conservation District Number One (MWD).

Maricopa Water District (MWD) controls more than 150,000 acre feet of water storage at Lake Pleasant, managing more than 100 miles of lateral pipelines, while providing water to a 60 square mile service area, including citrus trees, flowers, vegetables, farms and golf courses.

Additionally, MWD is the owner of Pleasant Harbor RV Resort and Marina, sitting on 225 acres of pristine desert along the banks of Lake Pleasant.

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POKER RUN

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About The Storm Poker Run Team

James "Jimmy" Nichols and Christina Crane, are the co-owners of Phantom Productions LLC., based in Peoria, Ariz., the newly named production company for Monster Storm and Desert Storm Poker Runs. Nichols and Crane will continue

the Poker Run legacy that Jim Sr. (Jimmy's father) created.

The younger Nichols says, "We are making some small changes to update the current atmosphere. The participants and sponsors will feel that it is centered around them. We intend to attract spectators to come and see what the Poker Run is. While we all share what we are passionate about – boating."

Registration Details

\$350 until Oct. 2 (includes two adult tickets for all events and meals, two event t-shirts, two poker hands, two raffle tickets),

Contact Christina Crane, 623-238-1330, christina@stormpokerruns.com,

Or contact James "Jimmy" Nichols, 302-739-4739, jimmy@stormpokerruns.com,

Event dates, times and/or details subject to change. Please contact event coordinator or check event website to verify information;

Event categories: Boating, Sports, Top 25 Event, and

Venue: Nautical Beachfront Resort, 1000 N. McCulloch Blvd., Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

REGATTAS

Continued from page 6

bring unique regattas to the shores of Havasu during the summer weekends in 2018," said Jackie Leatherman, director of Event Marketing for the Lake Havasu City Convention and Visitors Bureau. "It's a great way to stop and to take a moment to recognize the uniqueness of all of the boat manufacturers that have been gracing our waters for so long."

About Lake Havasu City

Lake Havasu City is located on the Colorado River in Western Arizona and attracts 835,000 visitors a year with its London Bridge, pristine lake, friendly community, abundance of sunshine, and ideal weather. The region also is host to extensive off-road trails and gorgeous stretches of uninterrupted river. To view more information, including an annual calendar of more than 250 events, go to www.golakehavasu.com.

For More Information

For more information, contact Jackie Leatherman, director of Event Marketing Lake Havasu City Convention and Visitors Bureau at jackie@golakehavasu.com or by calling O: 928-453-3444 x 132 or C: 928-486-2665.

RAMBO

Continued from page 7

Once In Position

Once he positions himself over the fish, Curt drops his lure to the bottom until the line goes slack, then reels up the slack. He puts the tip of the rod on the water's surface and reels until the line is taut, then lifts the rod and lowers it, over and over. Lift slowly, then lower slowly, not letting any slack go into the line.

If the line goes slack, set the hook. You know it's not the bottom because you reeled it up off the bottom. It's a fish. Crappie feed up, and they often swim up and grab it on the way, so all you get is slack line, not a bite you can feel.

Occasionally in the winter, Curt will use little Kastmaster spoons for deep crappie. You have to move them very very slowly if at all. Graph the deep centers of coves for fish, then drop that spoon down and barely move it. Towards February he starts moving toward the river ends of the lake. He often finds them in 7-8 feet of water, suspended over brush that is 15 feet deep.

This is a good time of year for big fish, and he'll troll for them using the trolling motor and his light jigs. If there is good run-off the Tonto end is better, and if there isn't, the Salt end is better.

If You're Not Getting Bit

From June all the way through February the crappie will be 12-25 feet deep over brush or rocks. The most important thing is a light rod and light line, second is to keep things slow and steady — don't make any jerky movements, and third is to keep your jig in the zone the fish are in. If you're not getting bit, reel in a bit and fish a bit higher in the water. You may be under them, and their eyes are on the top part of their heads.

Curt Is 'Awesome'

Curt once told me that bass fishermen make lousy crappie fishermen. "First of all, they'll try to prove you wrong in whatever you tell them," he says, "And secondly, they are too used to fishing fast and fishing big and fishing on the bottom." Hopefully I'm the exception that proves the rule, because I make sure I follow Curt's advice the best I can, and I've caught some huge crappie on lakes all over Arizona.

Curt is just about the nicest guy I've ever met, too. Even my dog loves him. He's taught my granddaughters how to catch crappie, and shared his lunch with my dog. I'd adopt the guy if I could. If you see him on the lake, say hello. He's awesome.



CAMPING

Continued from page 7

Shore-angling is still an option, but as the summer goes along, you might want a boat (rentals are available at the store) because most trout will be deep. Trolling from a boat is the most productive method during the summer. If shore fishing, get out early or late in the day, and take cover in your vehicle or camp during monsoon/lightning storms.

Directions: Big Lake is accessed via state routes 260 and 273 (Forest Road 113). See a Google map.

Before You Go

Remember to check fire restrictions, as well as any special regulations, that are in place. Grab a license online (that helps conserve all species of wildlife, not to mention provides funding that goes back into fishing opportunities) and go. You'll catch memories.

60th Reunion Yakima High School Class of 1957: Sept. 29th

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Please call the Barrow Connection at 602-406-6280 for further questions.



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