

TOWN OF GILA BEND

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

September 2012



APS ANNOUNCES NEW SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT IN GILA BEND



Request for Proposal Issued

PHOENIX – [Arizona Public Service Co.](#) announces a Request for Proposal (RFP) from solar developers and installers to construct a 32-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic facility in Gila Bend, Ariz. This project will be financed by APS through the company's AZ Sun Program.

The RFP will commence on August 22; interested parties are encouraged to participate in a bidder's webinar on August 29. Additional information about the webinar and the RFP is available online at aps.com/rfp.

Projects must employ commercially proven technology. When completed in 2014, the new solar facility, part of the AZ Sun Program, will be owned and operated by APS and is expected to provide electricity to more than 8,000 Arizona homes.

With AZ Sun, APS is investing in the development of 200 MW of solar photovoltaic power plants across Arizona. APS is partnering with third-party developers and equipment providers to design and construct the facilities, increasing the opportunity for more developers to participate since project financing is provided by APS.

The five-year AZ Sun program, which was approved by the Arizona Corporation Commission, is expected to have at least eight solar facilities on-line by the end of 2015 and create more than 2,000 Arizona construction jobs.

[APS](#), Arizona's largest and longest-serving electricity utility, serves more than 1.1 million customers in 11 of the state's 15 counties. With headquarters in Phoenix, APS is the principal subsidiary of [Pinnacle West Capital Corp.](#) (NYSE: PNW)

Care 1st Resource Center Classes

September 2012

English classes will now be Thursdays from 6:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m. and Fridays 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Free Budgeting Class on September 25th at 9:00am.

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Library Ribbon Cutting

August 7, 2012



Approximately 70 people attended the Re-Dedication Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at our local library on Tuesday, August 7th. Speakers at the ceremony included Secretary of State Ken Bennett, Mary Rose Wilcox, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Cindy Kolaczynski, MCLD Director and Heather Goebel, Branch Manager. Other notable people included Acting State Librarian Janet Fisher, Assistant County Manager Rodrigo Silva, Maricopa County Human Services Director Trish Georgeff, Human Resources Manager Judi Peck and Finance Manager John Werbach. Several representatives from Library Transitions, MCLD Citizens Advisory Committee and Friends of the Ed Robson Library also attended.

Representatives from the Town included Mayor Ron Henry, Vice Mayor Chuck Turner, Council Member Armida Gonzalez, Town Manager Rick Buss, Town Clerk Beverly Turner and Social Services Director Diane Dempsey. Many local residents attended including Elva McMahan, President of the Gila Bend Friends of the Library and editors of the Gila Bend Sun.

After the ribbon cutting Board Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox surprised Town officials by presenting a check to the Gila Bend CAP for \$50,000⁰⁰. Social Services Director Diane Dempsey and Mayor Henry accepted the check on the Town's behalf.

National Voter Registration Day



September 25, 2012

September 25th is National Voter Registration Day. There will be a nationwide effort to register eligible voters. The Gila Bend Care 1st Resource Center will be participating by providing assistance to residents wanting to register to vote. Let your voice be heard by voting. Register to vote because your vote counts! For more information, contact the Gila Bend Care 1st Resource Center at 928-683-6502.

September Community Calendar



- 09/03 – Labor Day: All Town offices closed
- 09/04 – Council Meeting – Work Session/Special Meeting (5:00pm)
- 09/11 – Council Meeting Cancelled
- 09/11 – 9/11 Memorial Park Groundbreaking (8:30am)
- 09/13 – Car Seats: Care 1st Resource Center: 8:00 – 10:30am
- 09/14 – Mexican Independence Celebration (Loteria): Senior Center
- 09/22 – NFL Punt, Pass & Kick
- 09/25 – Council Meeting – Regular Meeting (6:00pm)
- 09/29 – Youth Tackle Football begins: Ages 11 – 14

9/11 Memorial Park Ground Breaking

September 2012

The Town of Gila Bend will break ground for the 9/11 Memorial Park on Tuesday, September 11th beginning at 8:30am. The ceremony will take place at the park site on Pima Street, on the empty lot just west of Ironwood Justice Court. The ceremony will include a reading of the World Trade Center timeline, moments of silence, presentation and raising of the colors and more. The public is encouraged to attend the Ground Breaking Ceremony.

The park, when complete, will have the World Trade Center artifact, received by the Town in 2011, as its central focus. The piece of the WTC will remain permanently on display at the 9/11 Memorial Park. The WTC artifact can be viewed after the ceremony at the Gila Bend Fire Department where it is temporarily housed until park completion.

The Town of Gila Bend is accepting donations of any goods, materials and/or services that are needed to complete the park. One local business has committed to providing the needed concrete at their cost. If you would like to donate to the 9/11 Memorial Park, please contact Eric Fitzer, Planning & Economic Development Director. He can be reached at the Town office at 928-683-2255 or by email at efitzer@gilabendaz.org. Rounds Construction was awarded the bid to construct the park.

Gillespie Dam Bridge Rededication

September 4, 2012

The Arizona Centennial Legacy Project for the Restoration and Rededication of Gillespie Dam Bridge is planning a Rededication Celebration on Saturday, October 20th. Mary Rose Wilcox, Maricopa County Board Supervisor, is hosting the ceremony. Plans for this family event include an antique car show parade, story tellers, walking tour, horseshoe throw and more. Mark your calendars for this fun-filled afternoon.

Got Mosquitoes?

August 28, 2012



Recently the Town of Gila Bend received calls from residents voicing concern about mosquitoes at the school. Maricopa County was notified and an investigator was dispatched immediately to set traps and fog the area. Though no sign of West Nile Virus (WNV) was detected, monitoring of traps will continue. All mosquitoes trapped were of the kind common throughout the U.S. and are not carriers of WNV. Although these mosquitoes are not carriers of the WNV, they can cause heartworm in dogs so it is important to take preventative measures with your pets.

Mosquito control is the responsibility of the property owner unless WNV is identified. If the virus is detected, Maricopa County becomes the responsible party. The Town of Gila Bend is responsible only for town-owned property.

To minimize mosquito problems in your area:

- Empty all containers of standing or stagnant water
- Replace animal drinking water with fresh water
- Repair outdoor water leaks to prevent pooling water
- Remove vegetation and floating debris in ponds and pools to limit the potential for breeding grounds
- Add mosquito-eating fish to ponds. Fish are available from the Vector Control office. Call 602-506-0700 to schedule pick-up time.

More information is available on the Maricopa County website at www.maricopa.gov/EnvSvc/VectorControl/Mosquitos

Clerks Corner

September 2012

The September 11th Council Meeting was cancelled as it is a National Day of Remembrance. The Council will meet on September 25th as the regular meeting schedule resumes.

Some statistics about September 11th:

Number of firefighters and paramedics killed: **343**

Number of NYPD officers: **23**

Number of Port Authority police officers: **37**

Total number killed in attacks (official figure as of 9/5/02): **2,819**

Estimated number of children who lost a parent: **3,051**

Tons of debris removed from site: **1,506,124**

Days fires continued to burn after the attack: **99**

Percentage of Americans who knew someone hurt or killed in the attacks: **20**

Number of FDNY vehicles destroyed: **98**

Estimated cost of cleanup: **\$600 million**

Information on the September 11th numbers retrieved from <http://nymag.com/news/articles/wtc/1year/numbers.htm>