

TOWN OF GILA BEND

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

November 2015



Gila Bend Grand Prix

November 21, 2015



Arizona OffRoad Promotions and Shock Therapy present the Gila Bend Grand Prix UTV State Championship to take place on November 21, 2015 in Gila Bend.

The Gila Bend Grand Prix will feature racing of bikes, quads, UTV's, mini bike/quad, PeeWee bike/quad and those that are considered unclassified. This is a Non-Points Race.

The gate, located at the "Pit" on Cemetery Road, opens at 5:00 PM on Friday night, November 20th and remains open until 10:00 PM. The day of the race, Saturday, November 21st the gate opens at 5:00 AM. Gate fees are \$10 for Adult, \$5 for ages 6 – 12 years and anyone 5 years old and under are free.

Registration for the race begins on Saturday, November 21st at 6:00 AM. Entry fees are \$55 for Bikes, \$55 for Quads, \$100 for UTV's and \$20 for Unclassified.

If you would like to camp at their designated areas, it is free and no membership is required. Transponder scoring is set at \$10/each.

For those participating in the race, there is a 9:30 AM meeting on Saturday for all UTV drivers and a draw for the starting order. The schedule for Saturday is as follows:

- 7:30 AM Unclassified (Practice) Bikes/Quads – 30 minutes
- 8:00 AM Unclassified (Practice) UTV – 30 minutes
- 9:00 AM Bikes – 50 minutes
- 10:00 AM Quads – 50 minutes
- 11:00 AM UTV's – 1.5 hours
- 1:00 PM Mini Bikes/Quads – 45 minutes
- 2:00 PM PeeWee Bikes/Quads – 30 minutes

There is a \$2,500 cash purse with \$1,000 cash going to the 1st Place in the 1000cc class, \$750 cash to the 2nd Place in the 1000cc class, \$250 cash to the 3rd Place in the 1000cc class, and \$500 cash to the 1st Place in the 900cc class.



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Recap: 20th Annual Pitch-In for Gila Bend

October 24, 2015

This year the community clean-up event was its 20th year and was held on October 24th. Gray Faupel, Case Manager for the Social Services Department, coordinated the event. Over 50 people registered as volunteers, including the Mayor and two Council Members

The weather was great for the event and the approximately 75+ participants picked up lots of roadside trash. Raffle prizes were handed out to lucky winners and included gift cards, T-shirts, haircut, free meals and more. A free lunch was included for all registered participants which was delicious, thanks to the kitchen crew. Thanks to Beth Knutson who provided 10 dozen cupcakes as desert.

Thanks to all of the sponsors who provided donations to make the event successful. Sponsors included [alphabetically]: Adelante Healthcare; APS; Burger King; Cactus-n-Stuff; Carl's Jr.; Davis & Sons; DoubleTree Paper Mill; DTS Trucking; Gila Bend Fire Department; Gila Bend Sun; Gila Bend Title & Registration; Gila Bend Water & Ice; Ron & Dianne Henry; Holt's Interstate Services; Hometown Hardware; Beth Knutson; Lion's Club; Love's; M & M Portable Toilets; McDonald's; Mr. Tibbs; NRCD; Sofia's; Taco Bell; Waste Management; Wireless Zone; Yucca Motel.



Top: [L-R] Crew picking up trash; Victoria Young and crew; Mayor Chuck Turner Bottom [L-R] Kitchen crew; Gray Faupel, Event Coordinator; Council Member Clyde Kreeger; crew on Richards picks up trash

Left: Pictures from Fright Night 2015

November Community Calendar



- 11/10 – Council Meeting: 5:00 PM – Media Center
- 11/11 – Town Offices Closed for Veteran’s Day
- 11/21 – Gila Bend Grand Prix
- 11/24 - Council Meeting: 5:00 PM – Media Center
- 11/26 – Thanksgiving Day – Town Offices Closed
- 11/27 – Town Offices Closed

ADEQ Lifts Fish Consumption Advisory for Gila River and Tributaries

October 3 & 4, 2015 NEWS RELEASE



PHOENIX (September 30, 2015) – The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) announced today that it has lifted the consumption advisory for fish caught in the Gila River and its tributaries within and downstream of the Phoenix metropolitan area – this includes 100 miles of streams and 286 acres of lakes. Fish caught from these waters are no longer unsafe to eat due to banned pesticides (DDT, chlordane or toxaphene).

“This is the first time ADEQ has lifted a fish consumption advisory,” said ADEQ Water Quality Division Director Trevor Baggione. “Fish tested by ADEQ and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service show that banned pesticides no longer pose a health risk in the Gila River and its tributaries.”

Lifting this advisory, which has been in place for 24 years, is credited to the cessation of the use of the pesticides in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. Detailed information about the delisting of the Gila River and its tributaries can be found at:

www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/assessment/download/delisting_hassayampa.pdf

ADEQ and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service tested 67 fish tissue samples from eight different fish species in the Gila River and several of its tributaries west of Phoenix during 2011 and 2012. Fish tissue data demonstrated banned pesticide levels (DDT, toxaphene and chlordane) dropped from more than 160 times higher than threshold levels designed to protect human health in the 1990’s, to 16 times lower than these thresholds in 2011 and 2012.

On March 10, 2015, ADEQ requested that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) remove the Gila River and its tributaries from Arizona’s Impaired Waters List, which EPA approved August 7, 2015. Each water body removed from the list also had a fish consumption advisory in effect.

SMART – 1 Freedom Team at Gila Bend Municipal Airport

October 14 & 15, 2015



On October 14th and 15th the SMART-1 Freedom Team used the Gila Bend Municipal Airport as their base to fly a training mission to Yuma on both days. The Small Manned Aerial Radar Target – Model 1 (SMART – 1) is a manned, long range tank with UHF data transmission antenna and stealth canopy that is transportable by road or air cargo and has rapid turn around times.

These tiny jets have a wing span of 17 feet and are only 12 feet long. Empty, the SMART-1 only weighs 465 pounds with a gross weight of 1,150 pounds. Wings and tail are detached for storing and hauling. They are available only for military use and have been employed by several military organizations.

Aerial Productions International, out of Marana and Tucson, are the “operators of the World’s Smallest Jets”, provide “Cruise Missile Surrogate Services to the United States Military” and make up the Freedom Team. When asked, the pilot of one of these jets told me that the tallest pilot they had fly one of these was 5’11” and he had to remove the seat pad and was still a little too tall to operate one comfortably. The pilot I spoke to was approximately 5’4” in height.

For more information on the SMART-1, go to <http://www.smart-1.us>



Town Office Closures

November 2015



Town offices will be closed in observance of Veteran’s Day Wednesday, November 11th, 2015 and the Thanksgiving Holiday on Thursday and Friday, November 26th and 27th, 2015.

Happy Thanksgiving
From Mayor, Council, Management & Staff