

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Mayor's Message

The diversity of our community makes our Town great. In Gila Bend we must continue to promote social equity and inclusiveness, embrace diversity, and work towards improving the lives of our entire community.

Although events around our nation may suggest we are moving in the wrong direction, it is my hope that we never forget the leadership Gila Benders take to welcome all into our community. Our similarities are more powerful than our differences.

Gila Bend must be a Town that understands we can thrive only by seeing everyone as part of our strength. No matter where you are from, what you wear, or what your culture is, I want you to know that you belong here in Gila Bend!



Individual Americans can, and often do, agree to disagree with each other on issues large and small. Differences should be celebrated. We treasure our freedom, our commitment to our values are what has made America great for more than 420 years!

Thank you,

Mayor Tommy L. Sikes

Community Calendar

2018

- **3/13** – Town Council Meeting
6:00 pm- Media Center
- **3/27** – Town Council Meeting
6:00 pm- Media Center
- **03/31** - The Great Easter Eggsperience & Firemen's Pancake Breakfast – 8:30 am - Burseson Park
- **05/04** – Cinco de Mayo Celebration
Time & Place TBD

Community Goings-On

Article by the West Valley View

Goodyear-based nonprofit Up by Their Bootstraps along with the Town of Gila Bend and Glendale's Military & Veteran Success Center donated a car to Army veteran Tiffany Griffard on February 3rd at Gila Bend's 9/11 Memorial Park.

Griffard, who lives in Gila Bend, received a 2004 Chevrolet Classic. "My first thing was, 'Isn't there somebody else that needs it more than me?'" she said. "I was shocked," she said. "I'm still shocked, because I live in a small town and there are many other veterans out there."

In addition to coming from a family of military personnel, her resume includes service with V Corps in Heidelberg, Germany, a field artillery unit at Fort Hood, Texas, 15 months of deployment in Iraq, and service at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. She served the country for one main reason: "I just wanted to do something with my life," she said. "I actually graduated from high school at 17 and literally five months after graduating, I joined the military and left."

Now, she is looking to help other veterans. She plans to further her involvement with Up by Their Bootstraps in the future.

"Veterans are the backbone of every community; they are the first to raise their hand to help others," said Tim Suan, Director of Community and Economic Development for Gila Bend, and an Air Force veteran. "None of this would be possible without the strong veteran supportive communities and organizations that we are fortunate to have here in the West Valley."



Butterfield Stage Days Rodeo

Meet Your 2018 Butterfield Stage Days Rodeo Queen

One young lady in Gila Bend is after the 2018 Butterfield Stage Days Queen title. The Pageant was held on Friday, February 16th at 8:30 a.m. The winner was announced later that afternoon after the horsemanship portion of the contest.



This year's Queen contestant was Samantha Fernandez. Samantha is the daughter of Humberto and Lindsey Fernandez. She is 15 years old, lives in Gila Bend, and attends Gila Bend High School where she has a GPA of 3.8. Her

activities and hobbies include: riding horses, volleyball, basketball, softball, singing, dancing and being goofy.

The contest consisted of a personal interview, a prepared speech, impromptu questions and horsemanship. This was Samantha's first competition. She said it changed her goals and helped her discover her calling. "I am shy, a huge tomboy and this competition helped bring out my personality and really helped me with my confidence."

Thank you to this year's judges; Codi Ross, Will Gibson, Eleanor Ortega and Theresa Getzwiller.

Congratulations to Samantha!



Business Spotlight

Circle K Store #347

On Friday, February 23, 2018 Circle K Store #347 opened its doors with a soft opening after four months of construction.

This store includes all the typical amenities of a Circle K as well as a restaurant. Store #347 is one of the largest in the region employing approximately 50 people. If you are a job-seeker in Gila Bend visit the Gila Bend Resource Center located at 303 East Pima Street.

Circle K's success in the convenience retailing industry spans more than 60 years. Their roots trace back to 1951 when Fred Hervey purchased three Kay's Food Stores in El Paso, Texas.



Dwayne King, Operations Manager; **Karen Rowell**, Store Manager; **Tim Suan**, Economic Development Dept. Gila Bend

In 1999, a franchise program was introduced to support operators looking to build a business with a leading convenience store brand. In 2003, Circle K was acquired by Alimentation Couche-Tard and has developed into a global brand represented in over 20 countries. Circle K has become one of the most widely recognized convenience store brands, known worldwide for quality products and great customer service. They have come a long way since their humble beginnings, and they're proud of where they've been and where they're going.

Keep your eyes open for Circle K's Grand Opening sometime in late-March, early-April.