

PIMA COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES, PARKS AND RECREATION

VOLUNTEER NEWS

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WILDFLOWER HIKE FOR VOLUNTEERS

Join Meg Quinn for a wildflower hike on March 20, from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. at a location to be determined in the Tucson or Catalina Mountains. This will be a relatively easy hike at a leisurely pace with plenty of time to stop and look at flowers. Details and directions will be sent when the best location has been identified. It promises to be an excellent wildflower year! Contact Meg at meg.quinn@pima.gov to sign up. Thanks!



Farm and farmers from Three Points will be selling produce. All vendor fees and donations will go toward further improvements to the ranch, including installation of electricity in the Manning Jr./Schnauffer Residence located on the property.

NEWS FROM AGUA CALIENTE PARK

Is it really March already? Well, the increasing number of participants showing up at the weekly Wake Up with the Birds walk certainly suggests that the calendar is right. Thanks to our birding volunteers, especially Liz Harrison, Mary Ellen Flynn, and Dick Carlson, for making these walks such a fun experience for visitors to Agua Caliente Park. The park is currently awash in color with Western bluebirds, vermilion flycatchers, and yellow-rumped warblers. As the weather warms up, be on the lookout for new volunteer opportunities for insect programs, including butterfly and dragonfly walks and Blacklight Nights.

RANCH HOUSE TOUR GUIDES NEEDED

We are in need of Ranch House Tour Guides at Agua Caliente Park, especially on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. The volunteer guides greet visitors, tour them through the Ranch House and discuss the history of the property and the people who lived in the area. If you are interested, please contact Meg Quinn at meg.quinn@pima.gov. Thanks!



HERITAGE FAIR AT CANOA RANCH

Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation will be hosting a spring Heritage Fair at Canoa Ranch in the Raúl M. Grijalva Canoa Ranch Conservation Park, 5375 S. I-19 Frontage Road, on Saturday, March 7 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The event is free to the public, although a donation of \$5.00 is suggested.

Volunteer docents will be stationed at the various exhibits and buildings to share the rich history of the ranch as guests tour the ranch on their own. Vendors selling antiques, collectibles, and various arts and crafts will participate in the event, and local artists Nancy Williams and Marsha Davis will be featured. Davis is an award-winning Artist Member of the Tucson Plein Air Painters Society. Additionally, the San Xavier Coop



Ranch House Tour Guide
Terry Grzyb-Wysocki

HISTORY DAY 2015

Unseasonably warm weather was on tap for History Day at Agua Caliente Park on February 10. Approximately 150 students, teachers and parents attended. The event ran smoothly thanks to the hard work of the faithful cadre of school program volunteers. Many, many thanks to Mary Karrels, Jack Monahan, Linda Howard, Eudene Lupino, Liz Harrison, Nancy Blanchard, and Amy Gaiennie. I received many kind comments from teachers and parents about the value of the event to their students. Thanks are also due to the EE staff who rallied to provide this experience. Financial support for this event is provided by the Friends of Agua Caliente Park.

REMEMBRANCE OF BOBBYE HAGGERTY

Bobbye Haggerty, Agua Caliente Ranch House volunteer, passed away on the morning of January 27 following a long battle with cancer. Bobbye came to us about 10 years ago by way of Ohio and Florida with her husband Harry, to live near their son and daughter. Bobbye had been involved with the botanical gardens in Ohio and had hoped to lend her expertise to the Park. We recruited her to lead tours of the Ranch House and care of the house plants. Under her stewardship the huge



fern in the living room flourished. She enjoyed meeting and greeting our visitors, sharing her travel experiences and interacting with our guest artists. She loved the park and had great concern for its future. Bobbye was an avid reader and crossword puzzle enthusiast, always eager to hear what others had read recently. We became good friends and shared many adventures and restaurants away from the park. A lovely and caring lady, Bobbye will be greatly missed by those who knew her. *Joanne Triplett*

BIGHORN SHEEP REINTRODUCTION IN THE SANTA CATALINA MOUNTAINS

Tuesday, March 24, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m., Joyner-Green Valley Branch Library, 601 N. La Canada Drive, Green Valley Join Arizona Game and Fish Department Wildlife Manager Joe Sacco for an overview and history of Desert Bighorn Sheep in Arizona and their reintroduction into the Santa Catalina Mountains. This presentation discusses logistics and problems in repatriating sheep to historic habitats near Tucson and describes the goals the program hopes to achieve. Reservations not required, but space is limited.

GILBERT RAY NATURE WALKS

The nature walks at the Gilbert Ray Campground in the Tucson Mountains are in full swing and the campground is at full capacity during this, our busiest time of the year from January through March. Our knowledgeable and friendly Volunteer Naturalists provide interpretive walks twice per week during the busy season for campers from throughout the US and Canada. Thank you to Pat Monahan, Liisa Reid, Hazelle Gonter, John Scheuring, Allen Alderman, and Betty Harris. You all do a fantastic job!

**Interested in Volunteering? Email us at eeducation@pima.gov
Call us at Environmental Education Office 520-615-7855**

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PIMA COUNTY
Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation
3500 West River Road • Tucson, AZ 85741
520-724-5000 • www.pima.gov/nrpr