

Gila County



FALL 2015

NEWSLETTER



Forest Service Initiates NEPA Process for Fossil Creek

The United States Forest Service (USFS) has announced the initiation of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for two Fossil Creek Wild and Scenic River (WSR) proposals. The WSR is located within the Coconino and the Tonto national forests.

(See the full text of the announcement at www.gilacountyaz.gov under RECENT NEWS.)

USFS proposes to implement certain short-term actions to protect WSR river resources and address public safety issues with managed day use, reduced overnight camping, an online reservation system, and entry booths to manage traffic. These measures would be in place beginning in the spring of 2016 through the spring of 2017 while the Fossil Creek WSR **comprehensive** river management plan is being developed.

The second proposal includes a geotechnical soil survey involving sample drilling and limited excavation near the historic Fossil Creek Bridge for eventual replacement of the Bridge, requiring additional NEPA analysis.

The USFS is requesting comments, concerns and questions on the proposals by **October 22, 2015**, and is providing detailed information and maps at:

http://data.ecosystem-management.org/nepaweb/nepa_project_exp.php?projectproject=476751

Did you know? Fossil Creek was the site of the first hydrologic power system in Arizona. In 1909, a dam that diverted the entire baseflow for hydropower generation was built across Fossil Creek. In 2005, the hydroelectric project was decommissioned and full flows were returned to Fossil Creek.



“Gila County ranks 24 out of 3,111 counties in the U.S. based upon “the physical characteristics of a county area that enhance the location as a place to live.” These ‘natural amenities’ include climate, topography, and water area. “ *WOW!* SOURCE: USDA Economic Research Service. Published August 14, 2015

AZ TAX RECOVERY '15

Interest Waived • Civil Penalties Waived • Act Now

September 1, 2015 to November 2, 2015

www.azdor.gov/TaxRecovery.aspx

Evading state taxes is not only a serious crime; it hurts everyone in Arizona. Taxes are used to fund government programs such as education and public safety. When people evade taxes, these programs do not get the support they need.

Governor Douglas Ducey signed into law SB 1471 which authorized the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) to establish a tax recovery program that provides a limited-time opportunity for taxpayers to come into compliance.

The goal of the tax recovery program is to offer relief to those taxpayers who, for whatever reason, underreported or failed to file returns and pay their taxes. Tax recovery applications must be received by the Department between September 1 and November 2, with all tax liability paid with the application. Taxpayers who meet all the requirements will pay no interest and have no civil penalties imposed.

Now is the chance to avoid harsh penalties, criminal sanctions and higher interest!

What Taxes are included?

- ▶ Income Tax (individual, corporate and fiduciary)
- ▶ Transaction Privilege (sales) Tax
- ▶ Use Tax

Tax Recovery Program brochures are available at the Board of Supervisors office and the Library District office, both of which are located at 1400 E. Ash Street in Globe, and at the Board of Supervisors office in Payson at 608 E. Hwy 260.

To have a brochure mailed to you, please call ADOR toll-free at 1-844-698-9176 or call the Library District locally at 928-402-4329 or toll-free at 1-800-304-4452, Ext. 4329. Full program details can be found at ADOR's website at:

www.azdor.gov/TaxRecovery.aspx

Upcoming Elections—(ALL MAIL)

November 3, 2015:



Miami Unified School District #40

(Real Property Resolution)



Tri-City Regional Sanitary District

(Intergovernmental Agreement with Town of Miami)

IMPORTANT DATES:

Last Day to Register/Update Voter Registration:	<u>10/5/15</u>
Ballots Mailed:	<u>10/7/15</u>
Last day to request a replacement ballot by mail:	<u>10/23/25</u>
Last day to vote a replacement ballot in person:	<u>11/3/15</u>
Deadline to turn in voted ballot:	<u>7:00 PM —11/3/15</u>

Questions? Call:

GILA COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE
(928) 402-8731
(Voter Registration, Early Voting + Sites, Military & Overseas Voters, etc)

GILA COUNTY ELECTIONS
(928) 402-8709
(Candidate Filing, Campaign Finance, Ballot Tabulation, Special Districts, Initiative, Referendum & Recall, etc)

HOLIDAY CLOSURES:

Wednesday,
November 11, 2015

VETERANS DAY

Thursday & Friday
November 26 & 27

THANKSGIVING

Contact us:

General Information
(928) 425-3231
(928) 472-5340
(800) 304-4452

www.gilacountyaz.gov

Grand Opening of G.E.S.T. Day Training for Adults Program in Payson



The Payson office of Gila Employment and Special Training (G.E.S.T.) celebrated the opening of its new building at 501 S. McLane Road for the Day Training for Adults (DTA) program on Thursday August 13, 2015, with an Open House. Many people from the community attended the grand opening and ribbon cutting. The building is owned by Payson School District and was once the Center for Success. The building needed some *TLC* and, with the efforts of Gila County staff, was given the special touches needed.

Payson G.E.S.T. staff and DTA participants greeted attendees with smiles, grand tours and special treats made by staff and some of the participants. Participants were eager to show off some of the projects they have been working on and staff provided tours of the building. The ribbon cutting was covered by local media, including the Payson Roundup newspaper.

The G.E.S.T. program first began in 1975 as a “Demonstration Project” and was founded on the principle of *ACCEPTANCE*. Establishing community acceptance of individuals with disabilities is and always will be the priority of the program. The program name was changed in 1996 to Gila Employment and Special Training, but the goal remains the same as staff strives to provide daily living skills and employment support to all G.E.S.T. participants.

The hope for the participants is that their quality of life will be enhanced by the skills learned which will enable them to live independently in a community where there are no boundaries.



G.E.S.T. staff extends heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped in any way to make this dream a reality. From the very start of this endeavor, there were caring and dedicated staff from Gila County ensuring the building would be ready to open its new doors and show off the lovely, generously donated furnishings.

From the desk of Kendall Rhyne, Chief Probation Officer/Superior Court Administrator

Over the past twenty years that I have had the pleasure of serving youth and families in the field of probation, there has been one constant: change. In the mid 1990's there was the “Get Tough” movement resulting from a fundamental belief in (1) a “Super Juvenile Predator” among us in society and that (2) the only way to combat this was to begin treating youth as adults, in terms of punishment. I, too, subscribed to this notion during my early career. Sometime between 2005 and 2008, perhaps one of the few good things to come from the economic downturn was a realization that our high incarceration rates were unsustainable. Incarceration is costly and has little positive results.

**Do we believe all kids – *no exceptions!* - are capable of success?
If so, what is the purpose of detention?**

These two questions are essential to the gradual cultural shift in the probation system. Detention centers (DC) are designed to house children that are a clear risk to the community and/or self. Our DC IS reserved for the “super juvenile predator” and NOT designed to house children that upset us as a society. This shift was based upon the two fundamental questions above.

It's easy to lock people away; but at what cost? Are we as a society looking for long-term behavioral change? Or, are we looking for the immediate, short term gratification of locking children in a DC? I think we can all agree that children learn from adults; adults model the way. So, are we teaching our children that only some kids are capable of success? Or, do we take on the task of understanding the traumatic effects caused by detaining children and declare “No more!” It's not that I don't believe there is a purpose for detention. I do believe, however, that only the right kids should be detained.

Gila County Probation Department has embarked upon two important initiatives in the past several years. First, we have teamed up with the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI). This partnership has allowed our department to examine internal practices to ensure that all children are treated fairly as they navigate through the Juvenile Justice System, and we analyze data that assists in the development of appropriate alternatives to detention, as well as systemic changes with the Courts.

Secondly, we have partnered with Rick Miller's *KIDS at HOPE*. This is another conscious examination of how we believe in and treat our youth. We want the family of even the most difficult child to see that we believe that child is capable of success - *no exceptions!* These two initiatives are facilitating a shift in the work culture of probation programs and are resulting in success stories. Personally, this is an *awesome* time to be in the field of probation! We are truly trail-blazers that will assist upcoming criminal justice practitioners understand the purpose of DC's and the fundamental belief system that all kids are capable of success - *no exceptions!*

Kendall Rhyne



As a member of the National Association of Counties, Gila County offers this free Rx discount card to its residents. Print a card online or pickup a card at the Board of Supervisors offices in Globe and Payson, as well as various physician offices and retail businesses.

Save up to 75% of the Cost of Prescriptions!

- It's **FREE** — no enrollment fees
- 9 out of 10 Pharmacies accept the card
- No limits on how many times you use the card
- Use for yourself, your family — *and your pets!*
- Use the card anytime a prescription is not covered by insurance.

Visit www.nacorx.org to look up a participating pharmacy, get a price estimate for your prescription, check drug interactions, or view valuable health and wellness information.



For more information, call: 1-877-321-2652.



→ **Note:** 16 pharmacies found within a 50-mile radius of 85501 zip code, including Globe, Miami, Claypool, San Carlos, Kearny, Gold Canyon, Bylas, Apache Jct., and Whiteriver.

Within a 50 mile radius of the 85541 zip code are 27 participating pharmacies, including Payson, Sedona, Camp Verde, Carefree, Scottsdale, Cave Creek, Black Canyon City, Fountain Hills, and Cibecue.

Pharmacies included Walgreens, Walmart, Fry's, Bashas, CVS, I.H.S., Safeway, Target, independent pharmacies and local hospitals.

Donations Make School Supplies Possible

Staff of the Gila County Community Services Division recently distributed supplies to public schools throughout Gila County. The much-needed supplies were made possible by financial support from **FREEMPORT-McMORAN**, the Gila County Board of Supervisors, and Gila County Supervisor John Marcanti. Hopefully, some of the additional costs that are often passed down to teachers will be alleviated by the much appreciated generosity of these supporters ensuring that the appropriate tools for educating children will be available.

