

## ON THE COVER



# It's Time For Fish Tales

BY CAROL L. ALLEN

With the warmer temperatures and change of seasons, “a young man’s (and woman’s) fancy turns to thoughts [of fishing]”. Throughout the Southwest the focus is on both fresh and salt water fishing. If you are in Arizona’s high country, it’s time for trout stockings; if you are in San Diego, the annual Day at the Docks celebrates the start of salt-water fishing. Whatever your preference, we wish you tight lines.

And when you are on the water, salt or fresh, remember to think safety first. Our boating co-editor Ed Huntsman reminds us to take a boating-safety course and to always wear a life jacket (no exceptions!). None of us wants to become a “statistic” because of ignoring the rules or the available training by experts.

So, spring ahead into the beginning of the boating and fishing season. May it be a wonderful time of year for you, your family, and friends.

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### DOWNSTREAM

Spring ahead.



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### BOATING

Rule number 1 is safety.

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Hunting and Fishing days ahead.

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### LAND CRUISING

The Kolbs still welcome visitors.



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### WESTERN WILDLIFE

Mexican wolf population increases.



# Trout To Be Stocked Soon In Some Mogollon Rim Waters

Stockings will mark earliest Canyon, Haigler and Tonto creeks have received fish.

PAYSON, Ariz. — As warmer springtime weather approaches, the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) will begin its annual trout stockings a bit earlier in some waters near Payson on the Mogollon Rim.

Canyon, Haigler, and Tonto creeks began receiving catchable-size rainbow trout in March. This will mark the first time these waters have been stocked this early in the traditional spring and summer stocking season. All other area streams will be stocked according to the standard schedule that begins in April.

Visit AZGFD’s website for the latest stocking schedules: <https://www.azgfd.com/fishing-2/where-to-fish/fish-stocking-schedule/> These schedules are tentative and subject to change due to weather or conditions at the sites.



Anglers At Rainbow Lake

# AZGFD Adjusts Trout Stocking Schedule In Show Low, Pinetop-Lakeside Areas

Lakes to receive fish until July; stocking numbers to remain similar to 2023 .

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) has announced waters in the Show Low and Pinetop-Lakeside areas will be stocked with catchable-size trout from March to July, a change from the traditional stocking schedule of April to September.

Those waters include Fool Hollow, Rainbow, Show Low, and Woodland lakes, as well as Scott Reservoir. AZGFD is expected to maintain the schedule change until at least 2026 to provide department staff with sufficient time to determine its effects on angling opportunities.

The rationale behind the schedule change is that previously stocked trout al-

ready have adapted to warmer water temperatures and survived, while those fish being transported for stocking are accustomed to cooler water temperatures coming from the hatchery and could become stressed or even die when released into warmer waters.

The strategy includes stocking as many trout as possible before water-quality issues force the department to pause its stocking schedule, as was the case every summer from 2020 to 2023 when these lakes experienced warmer water temperatures and high pH levels from mid-July to mid-September. As a result, these factors can create stress on the trout, which can lead to poor angling opportunities and possible mortality.

STOCKINGS, continued on page 19

## ON YOUR NEXT TRIP TO GCNP

# Be Sure To Visit The Kolb Studio

### A Family Home and Photography Studio

Kolb Studio appears to be just an old house perched on the rim of the canyon. However, if you step inside, or see it from Bright Angel Trail on your hike out of the canyon, you get the sense it is much more than that.

This is the Victorian-era home of the Kolb Brothers, who created a lasting legacy of adventure, exploration, family love, and amazing Grand Canyon photography that will last as long as the canyon itself.

### The Family

• Emery (a young photographer) and Ellsworth (a budding adventurer) put Grand Canyon on the tourist map.

• The brothers filmed the first ever moving picture of the mighty Colorado and performed stunning and death-defying photography stunts, just to show the magnificence of Grand Canyon.

STUDIO, continued on page 12





Tour De Scottsdale

## Tour de Scottsdale

APR 12 – 13  
HOURS - 7:00 am - 5:00 pm  
ADMISSION - \$125

The HonorHealth Tour de Scottsdale offers challenging and scenic courses that will undoubtedly push the limits of cyclists

WestWorld Scottsdale  
16601 N. Pima Rd  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85260  
520-745-2033



Adventure Van Expo

## Adventure Van Expo

APRIL 13  
HOURS - 10:00 am - 5:00 pm (Sat)  
10:00 am - 3:00 pm (Sun)  
ADMISSION - \$5 at the door

Open house vans, DIY contest, Live Music, Food trucks, Camping. Adventure Vans are the latest evolution of the camper van started by the Westphalia (VW Camper bus) now these fuel efficient, 4x4, nimble and fun to drive vehicles are taking over ski area, mtn bike park parking lots, off-grid campsites and road tripping all over the country, because THEY ARE FUN and help you do more while away from home. Come check out the custom builds check out some #vanlife stuff, see old friends and meet new ones. BUT ITS NOT JUST VANS! We will have 4x4 trucks with roof top tents, campers, and tent trailer systems as well. Vendors will be selling related items.

## Raptors At The Rails

Thursday, Apr 18  
Saturday, Apr 20  
Saturday, May 4  
HOURS - 11:00 am - 12:45 pm  
ADMISSION -Free at depot  
TIME - 11:00 am to 12:45 pm

By partnering with Phoenix's Liberty Wildlife the Verde Canyon Railroad provides visitors an opportunity for a close-up glimpse of raptors such as hawks, owls, falcons, vultures and eagles at the depot. Once or twice a month, Liberty volunteers will share several rescued educational animals, and fascinating information about each species, with passengers on the patio, from 11:00am until 12:45pm, prior to the train's 1:00pm departure. All are welcome. In June, July and August the pro-

gram features Reptiles at the Rails, cold-blooded creatures who savor the summer.

Verde Canyon Railroad  
300 N Broadway  
Clarkdale, Arizona 86324

## Red Rock UTV Fest

APRIL 19 – 21

Get ready to unleash the power of your SxS in the heart of Arizona's stunning wine country! Cottonwood, a place that's not just a location but an experience, beckons you to join in on an adventure that's nothing short of breathtaking.



Presenting the event that will have you revving your SxS engines with unbridled excitement – the Red Rock UTV Fest by UTV Offroad Adventures. If you're seeking an adventure that's got it all – heart-pounding trails, camaraderie, and the splendor of Arizona's landscapes – this is the place to be. Brace yourself for a three-day escapade that'll take you through some of Arizona's most scenic trails, all done in a manner that's safe, organized, and ready to fuel your adrenaline.

Did we mention that this event isn't just about having a blast? By joining in the quick draw poker, you're helping to raise funds for local charities, so you're not just conquering trails; you're making a positive impact too.

And for the icing on the cake, staging and camping will be right at the Verde Valley Fairgrounds in Cottonwood, making sure you're right where the action is.



Lake Havasu Boat Show

## 33rd Annual Lake Havasu Boat Show

APRIL 19 – 21  
ADMISSION - \$10  
TIME - 12:00 to 3:00 pm

In its 33rd year, the Marine Association originally designed this event to promote marine businesses in the Lake Havasu region, and, today, it is now one of the largest premier outdoor boat shows in the entire Southwest! The Lake Havasu Boat Show attracts more than 150 exhibitors and more than \$50 million in boats, including more than 65 different brands of new and used boats. Leading the way at the Lake Havasu Boat Show is the more than 50 top name brand boats on display.

Marine vendors include fishing boats, pontoons, family runabouts, wakeboard/ski boats, personal watercraft, jet boats, and the hottest high performance sport boats and all of the marine accessories, bells and whistles that the country has to offer.

Food, beverages and beer gardens on-site.

Lake Havasu State Park, Windsor Beach  
171 London Bridge Road  
Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86403  
928-453-3444



Cruise In For Veterans

## Annual Cruise-in for the Veterans Car Show

APRIL 20  
TIME - 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
ADMISSION - Free to spectators

Hundreds of vehicles on display, food, music Free admission  
Heights Church  
2121 E. Larry Caldwell Drive  
Prescott, Arizona 86303  
724-809-6696

## Desert Storm Predicted For Lake Havasu

APRIL 24 - 27  
TIME - 1:00 - 9:00 pm  
ADMISSION - free to spectators

Check out the top high-performance boats in the U.S. as they descend on Lake Havasu to show off their speed. Be here to check out the kick-off a multi-million dollar presentation of extraordinary super-charged racing vessels from the world's top custom boat-builders on display in the Downtown District. On Friday, more than 100 of the jaw-dropping boats will cruise through the famed Bridgewater Channel and under the London Bridge before heading off on a lake poker run. On Saturday, the top boats will see who can be crowned King and Queen of the Desert, with the reigning King topping speeds of 182 mph on a one-mile shoot-out course on the lake.

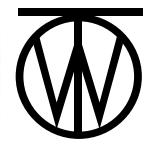
Downtown District (Main Street)  
McCulloch Blvd N  
Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86403  
520-745-2033

## Verde Valley Birding and Nature Festival

APRIL 25 - 28TH

The four-day festival is held at Dead Horse Ranch State Park on the banks of the Verde River. With close proximity to the Verde, Oak Creek, Sycamore Creek and other perennial waters, festival participants are invited to choose from a wide selection of offerings such as guided tours, hikes, and workshops in one of Arizona's richest birding habitats.

The Verde Valley Birding and Nature Festival engages birders, photographers, and nature lovers by providing quality guided birding experiences and workshops across Northern Arizona. ■



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# Our waterways are ready, but are you?

To learn more about boating safely in Arizona visit [www.azgfd.gov/boating](http://www.azgfd.gov/boating) or call: 623-236-7258

**Wear a life jacket.  
Every trip.  
Every time.**

Under state law, life jackets are required to be worn by children 12 years old and younger, but it's strongly urged that everyone wear one while on the water. Life jackets save lives.

Before heading out on the water, it's important that boaters check to ensure that their life jackets are in good condition and that they are the right size and fit for passengers. Look for:

- Any rips or tears
- Missing straps
- Broken fasteners
- Ensure that the flotation hasn't shifted.

Life jackets should be inspected each boating season due to the environment's impact on their materials and replaced if necessary.

## Register Your Watercraft

Make sure your vessel's registration is current before heading out on the water! Skip the line and renew your watercraft registration online at [www.azgfd.gov/boating](http://www.azgfd.gov/boating)



Arizona Game & Fish Department  
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## Lake Havasu: Where Your Lake Boating Adventure Begins

Rent a boat or bring your own—don't miss this Arizona lake boating experience!

Lake Havasu is one of America's best boating lakes. Unlike other recreational lakes in the arid Southwest, Lake Havasu remains at a near-constant water elevation. Boaters enjoy ideal boating conditions and great weather year-round.

From high-performance race boats to pontoon boats, there's plenty of room for everyone to have fun.

### Family Boaters

If you have a family, you'll cherish making lasting memories on a sparkling clean and calm lake. Take a slow pontoon ride through the Bridgewater Channel. Play on a sandy beach or cove. Enjoy adventures aboard a wakeboard or waterski. The possibilities for family fun are endless.

### High-Performance And Sport Boaters

If you have a need for sport or speed, take it to new levels on Lake Havasu. Except in the no-wake zones, there are no size restrictions or speed limits on the lake.

### Sightseeing Boaters

If you enjoy sightseeing and exploring, Lake Havasu has easy access to coves, beaches and other boating attractions. Amenities include barbecue grills, portable restrooms and shaded picnic tables. You can also explore the lower Colorado

River with its scenic canyons, cliffs and abundant wildlife. At the majestic [Topock Gorge](#), spiritual and wellness seekers can experience one of the newest-discovered [vortexes in Arizona](#).

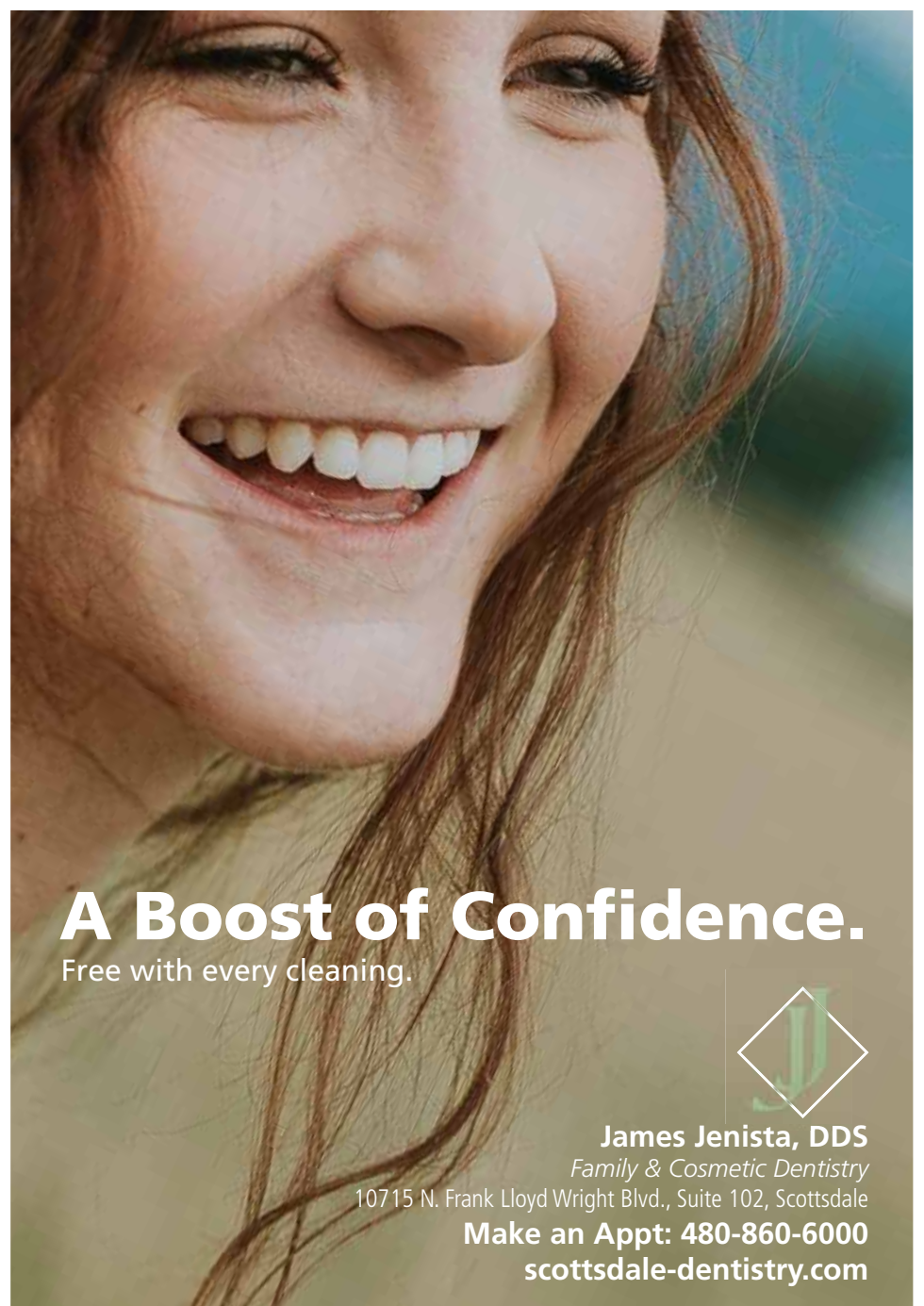
### Houseboaters

If you want the ultimate lake boating experience, rent a [houseboat on Lake Havasu](#)! Enjoy the amenities of a hotel while exploring the lake and river. All who take part will have the vacation of a lifetime.

### Top 10 Reasons Why Lake Havasu Should Be Your Next Lake Boating Adventure

1. Lake Havasu is centrally located along 60 continuous miles (30.16 sq. miles) of lake and river waterways.
2. Lake Havasu enjoys 300 days of sunshine a year. Plan your lake boating vacation around your schedule instead of the weather. View live video from our [Lake Havasu weather webcam](#).
3. Water temperatures average 79 degrees from May through September, perfect for a quick dip.
4. Don't own a boat? Lake Havasu City's [boat rental companies](#) stand ready year-round to help you get on the water.
5. Lake Havasu has many [launch ramps](#) to get you going quickly, [marinas](#) to dock your boat and [boat fueling locations](#) to keep it going.
6. Lake Havasu is the ultimate destination for fishing, watersports, beaches and swimming.
7. Most hotels, RV parks, and campgrounds have boat trailer parking. Some have their own docks and launch ramps

**HAVASU, continued on page 19**



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# Its That Time of Year!

BY ED HUNTSMAN  
BOATING CO-EDITOR

Have you completed your National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) approved state boater education course yet? If you're a California resident, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 a NASBLA approved California course is required for any California resident age 60 and under. The course is available online, in a classroom or through home study. More information regarding the California approved courses can be found at <https://californiaboatercard.com/courses/>



## Your State Required

Arizona doesn't require a course for residents. But if you're visiting from another state or boating on the Colorado River and reside outside of Arizona you will be expected to have a NASBLA approved boating education card from your home state or meet whatever requirement your home state requires. So even though Arizona still has no boater education requirement for residents, those from out of state will be required to meet the requirements of their home state. So if you're from California and you're on

your watercraft on the Arizona side of the River should officer friendly board you for whatever reason and you haven't complied with California's education requirement get ready to press hard on the citation you'll receive!

So why are these courses necessary in almost every state and territory besides Arizona? Boaters are exposed to, and learn the very basics of recreational boating laws and other valuable information in a short, six to eight hour classroom or online course.

## Course Includes

Details regarding the direction boaters should be operating their craft on the lake, what all those different buoys and other informational markers mean, when navigation lights should be energized and under what conditions, the basic rules of the road (Navigation Rules) among many other topics.

How to avoid common mistakes and how to handle varying weather conditions are also key to keeping a good day on the water good. And one of the single most important safety information subjects is learning about different kinds of life jackets and which design you should wear when, depending on the type of boating you do. For example, if you paddle most of the time you'll likely find an inherently buoyant life jacket for appropriate that an inflatable as you're likely to get wet because of falling out of your canoe, kayak or off of your paddle board. If you'll be out in the sun all day on a relatively protected lake fishing on your open bass-boat you're likely to find an inflatable waist pack more comfortable.



## More Intense Course

If you're up to date on all the state required education and are looking for something more informational, intense and hands-on you may want to consider taking a US Sailing / World Sailing certified International Safety at Sea Course. But be ready to spend one of the two days of this course in the water for a while. You'll be learning how to use personal safety gear, stay warm in the water, how to be more easily seen from a rescue aircraft and how to enter a life raft in this course designed especially for off-shore cruisers and racers. Learning about topics including how to use flares and smoke signals, putting out fires, basic first-aid, sea sickness treatments, damage repair, crew overboard, emergency communications, providing assistance to others to how to meet the Coast Guard or other rescue services half way as well as more.

## Robust Training

Described by many as the most robust training they've had the opportunity to participate in, you will have reduced your statistical probability of being the victim of an accident or other maritime casualty by at least some 70-80 percent. And your insurance agent will likely give you a break on your boat premium when you provide them a copy of your completion



certificate. With the course is not NASBLA approved, it is a requirement for 70% of the crew on board any sailboat competing in a US Sailing or World Sailing sanctioned race. And the cruisers, both power and sail, find it rewarding as well.

You can find out more about the International Safety at Sea and other courses at <https://www.ussailing.org/education/adult/safety-at-sea-courses>

## Don't Be A Statistic

Don't become a statistic this boating season. Take a class, learn what you didn't know and keep a good day on the water good! Questions? Check out [www.azboatcaptains.com](http://www.azboatcaptains.com) ■

## Will Your Emergency PLB or EPIRB Work When You Need It?

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# NWSA To Host 2024 Conference Saturday, June 8, In New Orleans

The National Women's Sailing Association (NWSA) comes to the Crescent City with the 2024 National Women's Sailing Association Conference on Saturday, June 8, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Southern Yacht Club with help from Community Sailing New Orleans. The all-day event welcomes women sailors of all levels and ages to workshops including the popular "Take the Helm" track — an introduction to sailing for women. A sailing scholarship fundraising mixer will be held after the conference to continue networking.

Programming includes a full day of classroom, dockside and on-the-water workshops taught by experienced female instructors and captains from across the country. Sailors can fine-tune their spinnaker sail trim skills, practice navigation using paper and electronic charts, learn how to recover a crew overboard with a Lifesling rescue device, and more. Breakfast and lunch are provided as well as a cocktail social hour.

A highlight of the event is the announcement and presentation of the 2024 BoatUS/NWSA Leadership in Women's Sailing Award. The annual award recognizes an individual with a record of achievement in inspiring, educating and



MATTHEW COHEN PHOTOGRAPHY

The 2024 National Women's Sailing Association Conference offers both hands-on instruction aboard sailboats as well as in classrooms (Credit: Matthew Cohen).

enriching the lives of women through sailing.

Some of the event's sponsors include BoatUS, Offshore Sailing School, Louisiana Sailing School and Mantus Marine.

Early-bird registration opened March

16, and offers the best registration value. After April 14, general registration rates apply. Details can be found on [womensailing.org](http://womensailing.org). For more information, email [conference@womensailing.org](mailto:conference@womensailing.org) or call (985) 247-8919. ■



**IMPORTANT — Boat sellers need to understand the importance of taking care of all the paperwork when they sell their boat. Not doing so could impact the safety of the new owner.**

## SELLING A BOAT THIS YEAR?

### Don't Forget These Four Critical Paperwork Tasks

The spring boat-buying season is upon us, much to the delight of boat sellers, some of whom may be eager to unload their boats after racking up off-season storage bills. However, when a boat is sold, sellers need to understand — sometimes for safety reasons — that they aren't in the free and clear until critical paperwork is done right. Here is a seller's paperwork to-do list from Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS).

**1. Cancel the boat insurance policy.** This is the first thing most boat sellers do right. It's super important to cancel a vessel's insurance policy once the sale goes through. Not doing so potentially adds unnecessary risk and potential liability to the seller. Also don't forget to cancel any automatic bank payments that were set up to pay policy premiums.

**2. Release the 1DSC-VHF radio's Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) number.** If you're selling your boat, remember a key fact about MMSI's: Once issued, the MMSI number stays assigned to the boat (installed VHF radios). The emergency contact information, among other data, requires updating. If a seller forgets to release the MMSI number to the buyer, a future mayday distress aboard the vessel could delay first responders. BoatUS members can release or update an MMSI for no cost at [BoatUS.com/MMSI](http://BoatUS.com/MMSI).

**3. Have an EPIRB aboard?** A seller will need to ensure an Emergency Position-Indicating Rescue Beacon (EPIRB) attached to the boat is updated with new owner contact information. To update an EPIRB go to NOAA's Beacon Registration site and change the status to "Sold/Transferred." Once this happens, the new owner can register the beacon in their

TASKS, continued on page 12

## 44-Mile Stretch Of Wild, Remote Colorado River Now Has 24/7 Coverage

TowBoatUS Fisher's Landing, Ariz., helps boaters and anglers get home after running aground.

It's a shallow, sandy-bottomed, blue ribbon of Colorado River that stretches 44 miles across the low desert of the remote Arizona Southwest. Now, recreational boaters and anglers navigating here from the Interstate 10 bridge down steam to the Imperial Dam have professional, 24/7 on-water towing and assistance available with the opening of TowBoatUS Fisher's Landing, Arizona. The company, located at Fisher's Landing Resort, is part of a

nationwide network of more than 600 red TowBoatUS towing response vessels, offers soft ungrounding, on-water towing, battery jump and fuel drop off services.

Capt. Kayla Fulcer, with extensive knowledge of the river and its backwaters, is lead captain at the newest TowBoatUS port. General Manager Charles Stankovich says, "I've been on the river 12 years, and we understand how boaters can have unexpected trouble. Getting fuel can be a



TowBoatUS Fisher's Landing is ready to assist boaters 24/7 with professional on water towing, soft ungrounding, battery jump and fuel drop off services.

challenge, but what snags boats the most are the shallows. There are few markers and fluctuating water levels greatly affect navigability, even for smaller vessels," he adds. "We provide routine assistance to boaters, and help make their day get much better after a breakdown or running aground."

Stankovich offers that the resort's two tour boats and the 23-foot, red TowBoatUS response vessel are the only commercial vessels that ply these waters, which are a prime bass fishery. He highly recommends that boaters in this rugged and hot Arizona desert have a VHF radio aboard. "Cell coverage can be spotty, and a VHF radio is important for safety as well as to

COVERAGE, continued on page 12



Capt. Kayla Fulcer at the helm of TowBoatUS Fisher's Landing response vessel, ready 24/7 to assist boaters on the lower Colorado River.

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As a college English teacher, editor, and writer of both fiction and non-fiction for many years, I am available online (or by U.S. mail) for tutoring, editing, proofreading, copyediting, and writing. I have skills in academic research at both high school and college levels and can also assist those working toward their GEDs, those who need help with resumes, and with both advertising and proposals.

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# Port Of San Diego's Day At The Docks Set For April

A San Diego sportfishing tradition, The Port Of San Diego's Day At The Docks is the largest public celebration of sportfishing. Signaling the official start of Southern California's spring saltwater fishing season, Day At The Docks takes place on Sunday, April 7, 2024 against the colorful and dynamic backdrop of world renowned sportfishing fleet on San Diego Bay.

In 2024, we are expanding our focus and invite you to discover and explore the many marine recreational opportunities on our waterfront, the restaurants and breweries in the area and the Port's bay-side walkway which makes San Diego Bay tidelands accessible. This annual event provides marine attractions for the whole family.

## Fishing Seminars

The serious fisherman can explore the latest fishing tackle presented by the industry's leading manufacturers. Historical displays underscore how far saltwater tackle design has come. How-to seminars by expert fishermen reveal secrets on improving both technique and results.

## Kids Fishing Adventure

Sponsored by Okuma Fishing Tackle & Everingham Bros Bait Company. From 9 am-4 pm. For kids 4-12 years old. The Kid's Fishing Adventure is made up of areas set aside and stocked with fish, providing kids with the chance wet a line and make a catch. Expert assistance is provided by members of the San Diego Rod & Reel Club and the San Diego Anglers. Don't miss out – there just might be a tasty fish biting at the end of the line.



## Catch, Prep & Cook Center

Throughout the day on April 15th, our CATCH, PREP & COOK DEMOS will provide ideas and techniques to improve the enjoyment of your catch. There will be presentations on proper handling, storage and preparation of fresh fish to ensure that every fish caught and kept is fully enjoyed. Recipes and samples will be available at the seminars. Schedule to be Announced Soon!

## Casting Contests

You've got to try your hand at this true test of an angler's skill. If you have never cast a line in your life, don't worry. This competition is for everyone, pro and novice alike. Competition is set for 11 am and 2 pm. Points are awarded for distance and accuracy.

## Izorline Knot Tying Competition

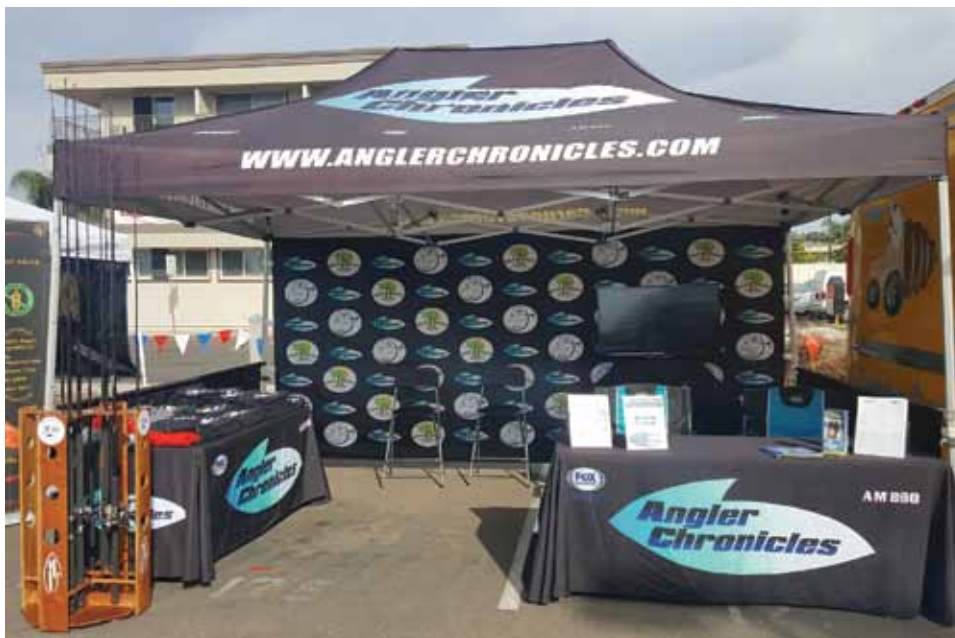
Young and old alike can try their hand at tying the strongest fishing knot with assistance from the pro staff at Izorline. Knot tying demonstrations will be followed by hands-on competition in which individual knots will be tested against the Izorline Knot Gauge, a device that measures a knot's breaking point by pressure. Competition will take place in three divisions: Small fry (up to 10 years old), Juniors (11-16 years old) and Adults. A voluntary donation of \$1-5 to enter the competition will benefit the Friends of Rollo a non-profit organization that takes



kids fishing. The contest runs all day at the Izorline exhibit booth. Winners in each division will be announced at the end of the day. Prizes include ½ day and full day fishing trips.

## Fishing Videos

Look inside the Sportfishing Landings for continuous showings of dramatic sportfishing videos. From San Diego to



Baja, Clipperton Island and Costa Rica ... get a glimpse of the sportfishing adventures and action that are available on the San Diego fleet.

## Boat Rides Around The Bay

Boat Rides Around BayThe whole family will want to take a boat ride around San Diego Bay and it only costs \$4. Trips run continuously throughout the day from the three sportfishing landings.

## Gourmet Galley

There is great variety to choose from... Seafood, Thai, Chinese, Mexican and more. Many local restaurants around the harbor will also be serving up DAY AT THE DOCKS specials.

## Hot Tackle

Find out what's hot on the fish equipment market. The top manufacturers will be there to show off their latest. Some really new technology has hit the scene. Be prepared this season with the latest and greatest! You'll find some great bargains on fishing tackle from exhibitor retailers and in the landing tackle shops.

## Lots Of Boats

You'll find boats of all shapes and sizes. The modern sportfishers in the San Diego fleet will be hosting a grand open house. You are welcome to climb aboard and look around. Joining the fleet for the day will be several small boat dealers.

## Marine Art

Peter J Galleries art features painting atop marine charts and Gyotaku, the traditional Japanese method of printing fish. Larry Beard Ocean Fine Art displays beautiful marine photography printed on aluminum, Marea Baja Designs will be offering beautiful sea glass mosaics. And, there are many other marine artists on display.



## Open House On Boats In The Fleet

Step aboard and meet the captains in the San Diego fleet. Have you never been on a San Diego sportfishing boat before? Well now is your chance. You'll see that the accommodations are quite nice, with many of the comforts of home.

## Entertainment All Day On Stage

On the Main Stage things get going at 9:00 AM. The day will also feature three raffles benefiting The Burn Institute. Raffles will be drawn at 12:00 noon, 2:30 PM and 4:15 PM – all from the Main Stage. Great Prizes include fishing trips, tackle, tickets to area attractions and much more!

Come join in the fun and help us celebrate the season's official start! ■



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# Lake Havasu Is Your Bass Tournament Headquarters

Lake Havasu has big bass, a lot of them. Big bass means big bass tournaments. Thousands of fans from Arizona and surrounding states are drawn to Lake Havasu's premier bass fishing events. Great weather and a beautiful lake—chock full of healthy fish—create the perfect setting for exciting pro angler action.

Bass love the lake because of its natural fresh waters, structural contours and warm climate—all reasons why Bassmaster Magazine ranked Lake Havasu as one of the 100 best bass lakes of the decade.

Bass tournaments at Lake Havasu have become a family tradition for people of all ages. They're a great way to create memories while spending quality time in the outdoors. Some anglers have even returned to fish in bass tournaments with their kids.

*Bassmaster Magazine* says Havasu is one of the 100 Best Bass Lakes.

Lake Havasu Fishing Guides

Considering a day or half day of fishing at Lake Havasu? Lake Havasu City's fishing guides will take you to the top spots for bass, panfish and catfish. They also provide anglers at all levels with expert advice about tackle, lake and weather conditions, fish species, preferred bait and fishing techniques.

"It's got the makings for everything you want in a single lake. I've lived here



CUBMAC

## Smallmouth Bass

for 15 years and have never seen the fish in a poor state. They're really incredibly healthy."

~Shaun Bailey, Lake Havasu City fishing guide & winner of the 2018 Costa Fishing League Worldwide Western Division opener on Lake Havasu

"Come join me for a wonderful fishing day on the Lower Basin from Havasu Springs Resort. You will experience a quiet day fishing while enjoying some of the best fishing on the lake!"

~Don (D.A.) Allen, Havasu Net Em



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## Largemouth Bass

Guide Service, Lake Havasu City fishing guide specializing in fishing the less-heavily fished areas of the Lower Basin near Parker Dam

Please contact guides directly for more information about their services.

## Lake Havasu City Fishing Guides

- Cap'n Cory's Outfitters, 208.230.3347
- G2 Fishing Guide Service, 949.829.7084
- Lake Havasu Experience - Aaron Wiley, guide, 928.732.2659
- Havasu Bowfishing Adventures, 515.707.8777 (Oct-Apr)
- Havasu Net Em Guide Service, 888.290.2284, x2 (Guide)/888.290.2284, x1 (Booking)
- Nick Young Outdoors, 541.709.1542 (Guide)/541.709.4628 (Booking)
- Ron's Fishing Guide Service Lake Havasu Arizona, 310.907.6410 (Guide)/310.489.3300 (Booking)
- Shaun Bailey Guide Service, 818.324.8630

## New Horizons Pro Am Bass Tournament

• April 6th, 2024 @ 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Havasu Riviera Marina, 2067 Havasu Riviera Parkway, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406, [havasurivieramarina.com](http://havasurivieramarina.com)

• Organizer: Brooke Russell, Phone: 928.855.9392, Email: [brussell@newhorizonsaz.org](mailto:brussell@newhorizonsaz.org), Website: [newhorizonslhcaz.org](http://newhorizonslhcaz.org)

• Venue: Havasu Riviera Marina, Phone: 928.962.7462 ■

# Both Fishing And Hunting Have Special Days

Fishing is a beloved pastime for many, and many states offer "free fishing days" where residents and visitors can fish without a license. These days are a great opportunity for people to try out fishing for the first time, or for experienced anglers to introduce a friend or family member to the sport.

## Free Fishing Day: June 1, 2024

The Arizona Game and Fish Department invites anglers to fish Arizona waters for free Saturday, June 1. It's an ideal time to take the family out for some fun and relaxing outdoor recreation. Arizona's Free Fishing Day is celebrated as part of National Fishing and Boating Week. As an incentive, a fishing license is not required Saturday for persons fishing any public



waters in Arizona.

While a fishing license is not needed Saturday, bag limits and other fishing reg-

ulations still apply and must be observed on Free Fishing Day. Children under 10 can fish for free all year long in Arizona, so this special fishing license exemption means that older kids and parents get a free pass for the day, as well.

Then, once you're hooked on fishing, purchase a valid Arizona online for only \$37 (for Arizona residents 18 and older). A combination fish/hunt license is only \$5 for youths 10 to 17.

Anglers also can share their fishing success stories and photos to AZGFD's FishAZ Facebook group, as well as connect with other anglers around the state.

## And Ahead

**National Hunting & Fishing Day is on September 28, 2024.**

What is NHF Day? On May 2, 1972,

President Nixon signed the first-ever proclamation of National Hunting & Fishing Day, writing "I urge all citizens to join with outdoor sportsmen in the wise use of our natural resources and in insuring their proper management for the benefit of future generations."

Now in its 52nd year, NHF Day is the largest, most effective grassroots movement ever undertaken to promote outdoor sports and conservation. Celebrated on the fourth Saturday of every September, the federally recognized holiday brings together sportsmen and women from across America to celebrate the rich tradition of hunting, sport shooting and fishing through organized local, state and national events aimed at introducing new audiences to the outdoors. ■

# There's Still Time To Get Your Hunting Tags

Arizona hunters still (as of press time) have an opportunity to receive a hunt permit-tag for select 2024 elk hunts.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has posted a list of [leftover hunt permit-tags](#), as well as a [printable paper application](#), on its website.

Leftover hunt permit-tags include the following:

- 70 — limited opportunity (general) antlerless elk.
- 3 — archery-only antlerless elk.
- 3 — archery-only bull elk.

The department will begin accepting



paper applications for leftover hunt permit-tags on a first-come, first-served basis — by mail only. All completed paper applications must be addressed to: Arizona Game and Fish Department, Attn.: Draw/First Come, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086. There is no "mini" draw. Allow 10 to 15 business days to receive a hunt permit-tag by mail.

Any remaining leftover hunt permit-tags went on sale on a first-come, first-served basis on March 25, at all department offices. Some of the leftover hunt permit-tags are for Hopi hunt open areas and are available to everyone, both

tribal members and non-tribal members, through the first-come, first-served process.

A number of leftover hunt permit-tags remain for military hunts at Camp Navajo, for those who qualify. For more information, visit <https://dema.az.gov/arizona-national-guard/training-area-ranges/camp-navajo/camp-navajo-hunting-information>.

For more information, including license and hunt permit-tag requirements, view the "2024 Pronghorn and Elk Hunt Draw Information" booklet online, or call 602-942-3000. ■

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## KEEP IT CLEAN

RV owners know that sun, ozone, embedded dirt, sweat and temperature extremes are hard on flexible outdoor materials like vinyl, rubber, leather and isinglass. They become dry and prone to cracking, as well as old-looking due to color fading. Vinyl and Leather Cleaner & Conditioner from Iosso Products helps prevent recreational equipment from aging prematurely. As it cleans, it restores the original suppleness and shine, and provides long-lasting protection in one simple-to-use product. Contact local dealers or Contact Iosso Products, [iossoproducts@iosso.com](mailto:iossoproducts@iosso.com); [www.iosso.com](http://www.iosso.com).



## COVERAGE

Continued from page 7

request routine on-water assistance.”

Much like an auto club for recreational boat owners, Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS) offers annual on-water Unlimited Towing Memberships for freshwater boaters and anglers for just \$109 per year. Towing, soft ungrounding, battery jumps and fuel drop-offs are all included along with more than 25 BoatUS benefits. Also offered with membership is a subscription to *BoatUS Magazine*, free DSC-VHF radio registration and more.

Like Fulcer, all of the company’s cap-

tains are U.S. Coast Guard-licensed. Separate from BoatUS on-water towing services, the company offers vessel salvage and environmental remediation services.

This is the fifth and most southern TowBoatUS port on the lower Colorado River, which stretch north to Lake Mead, Nevada.

TowBoatUS Fisher’s Landing monitors VHF radio Ch. 16 24/7 for routine on-water requests for assistance. Additionally, where cellular coverage permits the company can be reached at 928-920-6920, or by using the BoatUS App. The BoatUS toll-free 24/7 Dispatch Center is at 800-391-4869.

For more, go to [BoatUS.com/Towing](http://BoatUS.com/Towing) or call 800-888-4869. ■

## TASKS

Continued from page 7

name with their own emergency contact information.

4. Contact the state boat registration agency to advise them the boat was sold. Sending a letter by mail or email to your state’s boat registration agency acknowledging the boat has a new owner

may help prevent future misdirected registration renewal notices. In some states it is a legal requirement to report any change in vessel ownership status within a certain number of days with the name of the purchaser, purchase price and date of sale.

To help make buying and selling easier, BoatUS offers a free Boat Buying and Selling Guide and other helpful resources at [BoatUS.com/Guide](http://BoatUS.com/Guide). ■

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Also located inside Changing Hands Bookstores and now in Lake Havasu City at Southwest Kayak Center

## STUDIO

Continued from page 1

- The Kolb family created a business on the edge (quite literally).
- They built a home, a life, and family in the very studio that is used to show artwork today.

### A National Icon

Photographers Emery and Ellsworth Kolb helped turn the Grand Canyon into a national icon. They built Kolb Studio, one of the earliest tourist destinations on the South Rim. The brothers began to take photographs of the mule riders from a small toll shack on the Bright Angel Trail. The toll shack would later become today’s five story home, theater and photo studio built right on the edge of the canyon! The studio was used to document the trips of visitors and create imagery of Grand Canyon for 75 years.

The Kolb Studio is preserved on the edge of the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park, having once been the home and photography studio of the Amazing Kolb Brothers. The Kolb Brothers brought the beauty and adventure of the Grand Canyon into millions of people’s hearts and minds through their photography, back when a photograph was hard to come by. Take a “Minute Out In It” to listen to excerpts of The Grand Canyon Film Show as narrated by Emery Kolb himself. And be sure to visit the Kolb Studio on your next visit to Grand Canyon National Park! Video by NPS R/Lane.

### Trip Details

- Learn about the wonders of the Kolb Family from an experienced, expert guide
- Walk through the home of Emery, Blanche, Edith, Ellsworth and family
- Expect to see sweeping views of the canyon from a home on the edge
- Learn about the fascinating history of private entrepreneurship and art at Grand Canyon
- Grab some of the best photos of your vacation

### Itinerary

Your group will meet our guide in the gallery of Kolb Studio, where we will weave the stories of the Kolb family into our behind-the-scenes tour. Very few people ever get a chance to visit the rooms throughout this once-private home. You’ll get a glimpse of what it was like to live on the rim of Grand Canyon in the early part of the 20th Century.

**Meet Location:** Gallery (downstairs) of Kolb Studio

**Time:** 9:30 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. | 60 minutes (one hour)

**End location:** Kolb Studio

### What’s Included

- Price for the class includes the following:
- Our expert instructor.

- Behind the scenes access to the lower stories of • Kolb Family Home
- Instructions on best places to park

### What’s Not Included

You are responsible for the following:

- Being on time (once the tour group has gone behind the residence tours, we cannot allow access)

- Reading, understanding, and signing the Assumption of Risk Form before the start of your tour

- Transportation to and from the Canyon

- Guide gratuity (industry recommendation 15-20% of trip cost)

### Additional Notes

**Where should you stay?**

- [Xanterra Parks & Resorts](#)
- [Yavapai Lodge](#)

*Participants should come seasonally prepared and be enthusiastic about outdoor exploration. We do not cancel or transfer tour dates for weather events.*

### Cancellation Policy

- If tickets are cancelled after 24 hours prior the start of your tour, all fees are forfeited.

- If tickets are cancelled before 24 hours to the start of your tour, a \$10 per ticket processing fee is forfeited.

- Participants who do not show up for the appointed tour time will receive no refund or tour transfer.

- Participants who are not able to make it to the tour before the residence doors are closed-- forfeit all funds and the ability

### Testimonials

**The Zelvovic Family**

“Our day with the Field Institute exceeded all our expectations and we came away with a great respect for the canyon and for the work of the Conservancy. It was such a wonderful experience from beginning to end and hope we can return.

**The Jankowskis**

“Our family’s experience was nothing short of amazing! Slim (our guide) provided a perspective we would have never been able to get on our own and we learned so much. Her passion for the canyon and what she does came through too, which made our time something we’ll never forget!”

**Amy Waits**

“The guides were awesome – so educational and patient!!! Encouraging & helpful in every way. Such an amazing first visit to the canyon – Life changing to have experienced the GC up close & personal... Thank you so much!”

**Joe Sweeney**

“I’ve brought many school groups to the Field Institute and the quality of instruction provides them with an understanding of Indigenous cultures, diverse ecology, and geologic history. Students leave with a stronger sense of self-confidence, an intimate connection to nature, and memories that will last a lifetime.”

**Andy M.**

“Top to bottom, the Field Institute exceeded all of my expectations .... they ensured we packed wisely for our trip and saved me from lugging around 5 lbs. of junk I didn’t need. Overall, it’s packed with value that I don’t think commercial outfitters would provide and delivered a deeply rich experience.”

### The Conservancy

Grand Canyon Conservancy is the official philanthropic and collaborative partner of Grand Canyon National Park. Our mission is to inspire generations of park champions to cherish and support the natural and cultural wonder of Grand Canyon. Your annual membership makes this work possible. ■

# Big Tony

VFW Post 3513, Scottsdale,  
Rescues Alley Cats

BY JIM ALLEN

I would like to tell you the ongoing story of Joelle, David and “Big Tony”.

My sister told Joelle and David about the Cat Rescue program we have at our VFW Post 3513 in Scottsdale. Joelle was looking for a companion for her cat. Joelle’s cat, named **Kitty**, had been a feral cat living behind her house. Since this was in Arcadia, I kidded her about how her cat got to be named “Kitty”. If you have been around the Valley for a few years, you probably know that Miss Kitty from the television series *Gunsmoke* lived in Arcadia.

Kitty, having been feral, was not altogether comfortable with other cats. We looked around for the perfect match and decided on Tony. Tony had come to us a few months earlier and was timid with other cats and with people. He soon learned to fit in with the other cats in our colony and our Post members grew to love him.

Tony did not readily adapt to living inside. He hid on a bookshelf for the first few days. He is gradually becoming adjusted thanks to the persistence of Joelle and David. He has been groomed, visited the vet, and is about to have the benefit of a personal cat trainer.

We at the post who have adopted some of the feral cats in our colony know what great companions they can become given care and loving. As any other relationship, it takes some work but is well worth the effort.

Joelle Addante and David Thayer are business partners at Launch Powered by Compass (602/790-6484). I am sure that they treat their business with the same caring, respect and dedication that they have shown to “Big Tony”.

More information on the VFW 3513 Alley Cats is available at **VFW 3513 Alley Cats Project**.



Big Tony’s First Bath



Big Tony

Big Tony is a success story. We have had a number of these stories since we began the VFW 3513 Alley Cat Rescue several years ago. Unfortunately, these success stories don’t make it any easier to remember the kitties who were not so lucky. This has definitely been a learning process. Starting out I was naive and hopeful of making all of their lives easier and better. Reality soon took over. It is a monumental task. And, the odds against saving them all is unrealistic. Still we persist and take comfort in the ones we can help.

- JIM ALLEN

**Chester James** was our first to be caught and taken into Arizona Spay and Neuter. This picture shows Chester sitting in his carrier on top of my car when we brought him back to the Post after his visit with the Vet. He was so groggy from the anesthesia that I thought I would open his carrier door for a minute to get this picture. Chester fooled me, the second after I took this picture he sprang to life and out the door to freedom. My plan was to keep him in the carrier over night to let him recover. He obviously did not agree with that plan. As he flew over my head to escape he gave me this look that said “I trusted you and look what it got me”. He still gives me that look today but from a distance.

even a foster home), please email jim@zbow.com. Another way to be a part of this valuable project is to donate in the name of the Post to Arizona Spay and Neuter Clinic.

**NOTE** - *Mr. Goldwater is still with us and still looking for a home. He is a beautiful cat and would make a loving companion.*

#### Kirk Russell Photos

Kirk Russell, BuyWesternArt.com, has offered to do a portrait photography session at VFW 3513 to raise money for the VFW 3513 Alley Cat rescue effort. A \$10 per person fee will be charged for this sitting. This \$10 will be donated by Kirk Russell to the Alley Cats. This fee

includes the sitting and a digital image, approximately 4x6 in size of your choice, for the internet and social media. A set of preview images will be sent (via email) to all participants with the ability to order photographic prints starting at \$39.95 for 2-5x7’s or one 8x10. Additional print sizes available.

This will be held on a Sunday (date to be determined).

Appointments will be scheduled at 10-minute intervals.

Advance reservations are highly recommended. Or, you may schedule in person on Sunday as time permits.

Contact information will be provided when the date is determined to make reservations. ■



#### Frank and Cali

Frank was number 21 in our rescue effort. Frank was a complete loner until Cali came along a little later. Frank would have nothing to do with any of the other cats but he followed me around wherever I went. When Cali showed up she took to Frank and they became a pair. Frank is now living with Carol and I and is the most loving and playful cat you can imagine. Totally different personality than when he was literally living in the alley. Unfortunately Cali just disappeared one day. With all of the hazards, including coyotes, that these cats face her disappearance was not unusual. We all know that the cats face terrible odds but it does not make it any easier to accept.



#### Mr. Goldwater

**Mr. Goldwater** was one of 13 (at press time in 2020) young kitties who have been captured, spayed or neutered, and released by members of VFW Post 3513 as part of their neighborhood community service. It’s known as VFW “Alley Cats Operation Paws”. If you would like to offer this gentle boy a forever home (or

## They Are Compassionate, Caring, And Community-Minded

Here at Scottsdale Spay and Neuter, we are closely affiliated with our full-service veterinary partner, Animal Medical Services of Scottsdale. Our mission is providing a safe, healthy alternative to expensive veterinary surgical care. Your pets health and safety doesn’t have to cost a fortune, and we are committed to providing spay/neuter services, as well as vaccines, routine parasite screening tests and microchips, at the lowest possible cost while maintaining a high level of safety, comfort and compassion for your pet.

We care about all animals, and giving back to the community is important to us. That’s why we proudly work with numerous local and regional animal rescue groups, humane societies and animal control officials to provide low-cost surgical and medical services

to people and pets in need. Reducing overpopulation, pet homelessness and needless euthanasia is our goal. At Scottsdale Spay and Neuter, we believe that even one less homeless pet is a step in the right direction.

If you are in need of low-cost, high-quality spay/neuter or vaccination services for your pet, call us today!

#### You Save

We are a spay and neuter clinic that focuses on spays, neuters, and declaws. Since we are focused on these areas, it allows us to provide more cost effective surgeries for our patients and clients.

#### We Care

We are very efficient since we have

**CLINIC, continued on page 19**

# Arizona State Parks Presents

Throughout the month and beyond: There are wonderful things to do and see in Arizona.

## Tours of Goodfellow Lodge at Tonto Natural Bridge

*Tonto Natural Bridge State Park*  
Sundays and Wednesdays 11 a.m. (Wed. & Sundays) | 2 p.m. (Sundays)

Join us for a ranger or volunteer led walk through the Goodfellow Lodge, with a history of the property, the Lodge, and the people that called Tonto Natural Bridge home. The history, former use, and present use of these buildings will be included. Tour is approximately 45 minutes and is available at 11 a.m. on Wednesdays and Sundays, as well as at 2 p.m. on Sundays. Tour registration covers the standard park entry fee.

This event will have limited space, so sign up here today.

## Verde Valley Birding and Nature Festival

*Dead Horse Ranch State Park*  
April 25-28, 2024

This beloved celebration of birding and nature during peak migration in the Verde Valley began as a celebration of birding at Dead Horse Ranch State Park in 2001. The founders of the festival sought a way to provide a fun and educational birding experience to both the local community and visitors. We knew we had an undiscovered treasure in the diversity of habitats within the Verde Valley, as well as great birding in Dead Horse Ranch State Park.

The Verde Valley Birding and Nature Festival gives participants the opportunity

to experience birding during the peak spring migration season. The four-day festival is held at Dead Horse Ranch State Park on the banks of the Verde River. With close proximity to the Verde, Oak Creek, Sycamore Creek and other perennial waters, festival participants are invited to choose from a wide selection of offerings such as guided tours, hikes, and workshops in one of Arizona's richest birding habitats. Visit the festival website for details and specifics!

This year's festival theme is bird migration and its impact on riparian areas in our environment. The keynote speaker, Richard Crossley, will lead discussions, and the featured bird for the year is the common black hawk. There will be arm-chair birding and guided bird walks all across the Verde Valley from April 25 - 28 that require registration at [verderiver.org/events/verde-valley-birding-and-nature-festival-2024](http://verderiver.org/events/verde-valley-birding-and-nature-festival-2024).

The Free Family Nature Festival at the event will be in the lagoon area on Saturday, April 27.

## Guided Bird Walks at Catalina

*Catalina State Park*  
Sundays and Wednesdays 7:30 a.m.

Located in the Tucson Sky Islands Important Bird Area, Catalina State Park is home to 150+ species of birds. Experienced birding guides will help you spot and identify beautiful birds as you walk through the park for 3-4 hours. Bring binoculars and a birding field guide to en-



## Patagonia

hance your experience! Guides are sold in the gift shops. Meet at the Trailhead Parking Lot near the restrooms.

## Daily Guided Nature Hikes at Red Rock

*Red Rock State Park*  
Daily 10 a.m.

Every morning, a volunteer naturalist leads a guided nature walk informing visitors about the different life zones of Red Rock State Park. The subjects discussed on this walk may include geology, wildlife, history, archeology, and plant life. The naturalists welcome questions during the walk, enhancing the learning experience.

Hikes are included with park entrance fees but are first-come, first-serve.

## Faro Demonstrations

*Tombstone Courthouse State Historic Park*

Sundays 10:30 a.m. | 1 p.m.  
Volunteer Steve presents an educational and interactive demonstration of the popular Wild West game of Faro. Not only will you learn how to play the game but all the devious ways that players AND dealers would cheat. Faro was a popular gambling game and an important part of the fabric of Tombstone society during its mining boomtown days. We are excited to bring this exciting gaming demonstration to our historic Courthouse!

Please note that Faro demonstrations are for educational purposes only; betting of real money is not permitted.

## Guided Bird Walks at Tonto Natural Bridge

*Tonto Natural Bridge State Park*  
Mondays 9 a.m.

Join a ranger on a ~1 mile, mostly paved, walk through some of the most biodiverse terrain in central Arizona. A combination of plant communities and habitats surrounding the world's largest travertine bridge supports a wide variety of bird species that call the park home and we will be searching for. Meets between the Waterfall Parking and Waterfall Trailhead. Bringing your own optics is encouraged!

Event is free, day-use fee still applies.

## Catalina State Park - Past, Present, Future

*Catalina State Park*  
Second and fourth Monday of the month 10 a.m.

Catalina State park has been beloved for decades by many but do you know how the park came to be? Explore the history of Catalina State Park and its surroundings from the 1850s to today. Take a "behind the scenes" look at today's operations and get a "sneak peek" of excit-

ing new upgrades coming to the park.

Meet at the Bobcat Amphitheater. There is no cost to attend this program but standard park entry fees apply.

Note: This program is weather dependent.

## Guided Bird Walks at Red Rock

*Red Rock State Park*  
Wednesdays and Saturdays 8 a.m.

Bird enthusiasts join a naturalist for a guided walk appropriate for beginner and advanced birders. Most year-round birds are found in the riparian area next to Oak Creek or along the field behind the Visitor Center. The Audubon Society has designated Red Rock State Park as part of the Lower Oak Creek Important Birding Area (IBA) because of the many species that live or visit here. Please meet up with the leader on the viewing deck above the visitor center.

Bird walks begin at...  
8 a.m. March through May  
7 a.m. June through August  
8 a.m. September through November

## Adventures at the Presidio

*Tubac Presidio State Historic Park*  
Saturdays through April 27, 2024

At the Tubac Presidio, every month is a new adventure! Join a family-focused program to explore nature and create your very own nature craft to take home. The adventures never end, because every month brings a new and exciting craft to enjoy! Activities include making wildflower seed bombs to sprout in the garden this spring and flower printing, making unique designs with flowers. See the cost and RSVP at the Friends of Tubac Presidio State Historic Park and Museum.

## Guided Hike at Sonoita Creek

*Sonoita Creek State Natural Area*  
Every Saturday through April 13 9 a.m.

Join us for a 5.5 mile hike through Sonoita Creek State Natural Area. This moderately strenuous hike will showcase grasslands, a rocky canyon and a forest of massive mesquite, ash, willow and live oak beside Sonoita Creek. Bring water, snacks, trekking poles and sun protection.

Call the Visitor Center to sign up. Hike is limited to first 10 people. (520) 287-6965

## Gift Shop Open House

*McFarland State Historic Park*  
First Thursday of the Month, Through April 2024 9:30-11 a.m.

Visitors are invited to stop by the park gift shop for coffee, conversations with local artisans, and the chance to shop

**STATE PARKS, continued on page 15**

# TripleWall Productions

TripleWall Productions specialize in outdoor video production as well as all your video-production needs.

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**STATE PARKS**

Continued from page 14

for unique items such as fused glass earrings, stained glass hummingbirds and feathers, petrified rocks, crystals, Arizona postcards, McFarland State Historic Park patches & magnets, books pertaining to Arizona, farmhouse home decor, photography featuring the Sonoran Desert and images of Florence, hand painted rocks, metal yard art, a variety of paintings and photographs, saguaro rib hiking sticks, goat's milk soap and lotion, hand knitted baby blankets and jackets, raw local honey.

Free to the public - fee waived!

**Catalina Nights**

**Catalina State Park**  
*First and Third Friday of the Month*  
*Varies by Date*

Witness Catalina State Park's nocturnal wildlife and stargaze on a one-mile, guided night hike on the Nature Trail. You'll learn fun facts about the Sonoran Desert's nocturnal animals like scorpions, coyotes, and bats. When the stars come out, experience a guided constellation tour featuring a variety of cultures and astronomy facts.

Please bring a flashlight, water, closed-toe shoes, and appropriate clothing for the weather.

Event is weather permitting. Caution, the hike begins with a steep climb and ends with a steep descent on slippery gravel at night. Children ages 5 years old and up are welcome to participate. The hike will take approximately 1.5 hours.

Meet at the main trailhead parking lot near the restrooms.

Registration is required.

**Guided Hikes with Charles - Hunter Trail**

**Picacho Peak State Park**  
*April 6 Times vary*

Have you ever wanted to get to the peak of Picacho but didn't want to do it alone? Join our local volunteer Charles! He will guide you and a group of hikers up to the peak via our Hunter or Sunset trails. Learn more about the mountain, the surrounding land, and even some of the native plants. While taking consistent breaks, you will make your climb to the peak. If the peak isn't for you and you want something less strenuous, don't fret! Join Charles for his more beginner-friendly Calloway hike! A nice short hike that has a beautiful view. Sign up at our visitor center or give us a call! Spaces are limited.

**Guided Tours of the Historic Kannally Ranch House**

**Oracle State Park**  
*Apr. 7 | May 18, 2024 1 p.m.*  
 Join one of our knowledgeable park



**Picacho Peak**

docents on a 1-hour tour of the historic Kannally Ranch House. You'll learn the true story of how a family from Sterling, Illinois ventured west to start a new life on the land we now call Oracle State Park. There's lots to discover in this beautiful Mediterranean-inspired home!

Standard park entry fees apply.

**Stargazing at Picacho Peak**

**Picacho Peak State Park**  
*November - June Times vary*

Come on down to Picacho Peak State Park and take a grand look at the beautiful stars above. In this 45-minute program, a park ranger will help you learn about some of the constellations in our night skies, their stories, and how they may have been used long ago. We will even have a telescope set up to look at the various planets and space phenomena throughout our solar system. Bring a blanket and your curiosity! And please, thank the stars above. (Meet at the Jackrabbit East Group Area)

**Reptiles of the Verde Valley**

**Red Rock State Park**  
*Sunday, April 7, 2024 2 p.m.*

Join us for an interactive program about native snakes in Sedona and the Verde Valley. This program will cover snake identification, mimicry behavior and feature a meet-and-greet with "Cosmos," a rescued Sonoran gopher snake. This program is included with your park entry fee; however, seating is limited. Please call the park at 928-282-6907 to reserve your spots for this theater presentation.

**Guided Bird Walk at Lost Dutchman**

**Lost Dutchman State Park**  
*April 10, May 8 Times vary*

Join us for a bird walk starting at the Cholla ramada. We will start by going over the basics of bird watching and the rest of the program will be a guided walk on the trails searching for our feathered friends. Please bring your own binoculars if you have a pair.

Event is free, day-use fee still applies

**Ranger Kira Guided Hikes - Sunset Vista Trail**

**Picacho Peak State Park**  
*Apr. 13 8 a.m.*  
 Have you ever wondered what the top

of Picacho Peak looks like? Well, wonder no more! Join our wonderful Ranger Kira on a hike to the peak. You and a few other hikers will be guided up to the top of the mountain via the Sunset or Hunter trail. Learn more about the mountain and the surrounding areas, make some new hiking buddies, and enjoy the views. While taking consistent breaks, you will make your way all the way to the peak.

This trail involves steep switchbacks, rock scrambles, climbing up several cableways, and an elevation gain of 1,300ft. The total distance is 6.2 miles round-trip and takes 5-6 hours to complete. No children under the age of 10, no dogs, bring 4-5 liters of water, wear hiking boots, and bring gloves for the cableways. Hikers will meet at the Sunset Vista Trailhead parking lot. \*Not recommended for inexperienced hikers\*

Sign up at our visitor center or give us a call! Spaces are limited.

**Guided Hikes with Charles - Hunter Trail**

**Picacho Peak State Park**  
*April 6 Times vary*

Have you ever wanted to get to the peak of Picacho but didn't want to do it alone? Join our local volunteer Charles! He will guide you and a group of hikers up to the peak via our Hunter or Sunset trails. Learn more about the mountain, the surrounding land, and even some of the native plants. While taking consistent breaks, you will make your climb to the peak. If the peak isn't for you and you want something less strenuous, don't fret! Join Charles for his more beginner-friendly Calloway hike! A nice short hike that has a beautiful view. Sign up at our visitor center or give us a call! Spaces are limited.

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**Picacho Peak State Park**  
*November - June Times vary*

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**Touch Table Talk at Picacho**

**Picacho Peak State Park**  
*April 14 9:30 a.m.*

Come on down to the Visitor Center and ask a ranger about our touch table! Learn about the different plants, animals, and minerals here at Picacho Peak. Take a closer look at some animal skulls, feel some cool pelts, and learn about the dif-

ferent minerals on our peak. Not only will this teach you some cool new facts about the desert, but we hope it will bring some newfound appreciation for this wild yet amazing environment.

Visitor Center, 1 1/2 hours. (will be outside for the time, guests make the experience last for as long as they want.)

**Guided Hikes with Charles - Calloway Trail**

**Picacho Peak State Park**  
*April 20 8 a.m.*

Have you ever wanted to hike the trails of Picacho but didn't want to do it alone? Join our local volunteer, Charles! He will guide you and a group of hikers along our trails. Learn more about the mountain, the surrounding land, and even some of the native plants. Join Charles for his more beginner-friendly Calloway hike! This is a nice short hike that has a beautiful view. Sign up at our visitor center or give us a call! Spaces are limited.

- Calloway Trail
- Learn a little about hiking safety and enjoy the scenic surroundings of the Sonoran Desert as you hike up to an overlook below the face of Picacho Peak. The total distance is a 1-mile round-trip, elevation gain is 300ft, and will take 1.5 hours. Hikers will meet at the Calloway Trailhead located in the Harrington loop.

\*All skill levels welcome\*

**Picacho Peak Bird Walk**

**Picacho Peak State Park**  
*Apr. 21 10 a.m.*

Walk the trails with one of our rangers and learn of the many birds inhabiting the Sonoran Desert region! You may be able to see the quick yet beautiful Anna's hummingbird or even catch a glimpse of the majestic red tailed hawk. There are all sorts of birds in our deserts that we will help you find. During this short hike, the rangers will help you identify, find, and log each bird you see. So bring your binoculars and some water!

Sunset trail: 1 hour

**Into the Snake Den**

**Picacho Peak State Park**  
*April 28 9:30 a.m.*

Join our park rangers at Picacho Peak State Park and learn about some simply spectacular serpents! From the tricky hognose to the stunning rattler, these snakes are absolutely ecstatic to meet you! In this 30-minute presentation, you will learn snake anatomy, whether a snake is venomous, and how to act if this slithery friend were to cross your path. These misunderstood creatures are not something to fear and we hope to bring some light to their many myths. ■

# 'It's A Miracle': Yakima, Wash., Man Killed In Pearl Harbor Attack Is Home

BY DONALD W. MEYERS  
YAKIMA HERALD-REPUBLIC

Eighty-one years (2022) after he joined the U.S. Navy, Patrick Lloyd Chess is back home in Yakima.

Chess, who was killed in the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, was laid to rest Saturday in the veterans section of Tahoma Cemetery, Yakima, Wash. About 100 people attended the service, in which Chess was buried with full military honors by the U.S. Navy.

For Chess' family members, the service was the fulfillment of a hope spanning generations.

## He Is Now Home

"It's a miracle," said his niece, Crystal Chess. "It is amazing that he is now home."

Chess' return was made possible through DNA samples provided by family members seven years ago to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, which works to identify the remains of U.S. service members.

Chess was born Nov. 28, 1917, in Yakima, the youngest of eight children of James and Josephine Chess. He worked on farms, said his great-niece, Darrilyn Cranney, and joined the Navy on Oct. 11, 1940.

## Assigned To USS Oklahoma

On Dec. 13, 1940, he was assigned to



USS Oklahoma

the crew of *USS Oklahoma*, one of the Navy's battleships, as a shipfitter.

*Oklahoma* was moored off Ford Island at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, when it was hit by nine torpedoes from Japanese bombers. The ship capsized, trapping hundreds of sailors and marines in its hull.



Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941



Pearl Harbor Now

## 429 Died

While some of the trapped sailors made it out, some through holes cut in the overturned hull by rescuers, 429 — including Chess — died on the ship, with their remains eventually recovered after *Oklahoma* was righted.

By 1947, only 35 of the remains were identified, and Chess and the rest of his shipmates were declared "nonrecoverable" by the Navy and buried at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu.

## Awarded The Purple Heart

Chess, a third-class petty officer, was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart.

But Chess' family never gave up hope that one day he would be brought back to Yakima.

"His mother always wanted him to come home," Crystal Chess said.

Cranney said family members visited Hawaii several times, seeing his name on a plaque near the *USS Arizona* memorial, inscribed in the Courts of the Missing at the national cemetery in Honolulu and at the *USS Oklahoma* Memorial on Ford Island, where 429 white pillars are arranged to represent the dead shipmates as if they were "manning the rails."

## Enter DNA Technology

In 2015, the POW/MIA Accounting Agency re-opened the case of the *Oklahoma's* crew. Armed with DNA technology, the government had the *Oklahoma* crew exhumed and brought to the laboratory at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska for testing.

Several Chess family members supplied DNA samples that could be compared with the remains.

## Chess Identified

In 2020, the Chess family received the news they were waiting for: Chess had been identified. While they learned that Chess was found, his nephews who spearheaded the effort to bring him back to Yakima, David Chess and Willis Raltz, died as funeral plans were delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

But Crystal Chess and other family members took over Chess' homecoming,



Tahoma Cemetery, Yakima, Wash.

which began Monday when his remains were flown to Seattle and brought back to Yakima in a procession escorted by the Patriot Guard Riders and various police agencies.

## Memorabilia At Viewing

More than 70 people attended a viewing for Chess at Shaw & Sons in Yakima Friday, where memorabilia, including the telegram telling the family that Chess had been lost, were displayed alongside his flag-draped casket.

Saturday, the funeral procession, with the Patriot Guard Riders providing motorcycle escort, entered the cemetery's east entrance, under an American flag strung between two Yakima Fire Department ladder trucks, and past his parents' graves to the veterans section of the cemetery. There, a Navy honor guard in dress white uniforms placed Chess' casket atop his grave and folded the flag.

## "Amazing Grace"

U.S. Navy Rear Adm. Theodore LeClair, deputy director for operations for the Indo-Pacific Command, presented the flag to Crystal Chess. U.S. Army soldiers fired a 21-gun salute and a bagpiper played "Amazing Grace".

Chess' family members were grateful for the support and his return to Yakima.

"Something that wasn't right has been made right," said Lance Chess, a second-great-nephew of Chess.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** I have reprinted this story from the *Yakima Herald-Republic* because it holds such special interest for me. *Yakima, Wash., is my home town, and my brother (Don Lemon, Army, WWII) is also buried there in Tahoma Cemetery. This reprint is to honor them both and all who have served.* ■

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# Mexican Wolf Population Grows For Eighth Consecutive Year

Joint announcement from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

The wild population of Mexican wolves saw another year of growth in 2023, according to the results of the annual survey.

The 2023 population census revealed a minimum of 257 Mexican wolves distributed across Arizona and New Mexico. This increase marks the eighth consecutive year of population growth, the longest continuous streak since recovery efforts began.

## Six Percent Increase

The 2023 population minimum count represents a six percent increase from the minimum of 242 wolves counted in 2022. Survey results show the population is distributed with a minimum of 144 wolves in New Mexico and 113 in Arizona.

“In the aggregate, the 2023 data points out that Mexican wolf recovery has come a long way since the first release,” said Jim deVos, the Mexican wolf coordinator for the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

## Pups Selected For Genetic Value

“Each year, the free-roaming Mexican wolf population numbers increase and the areas they occupy expands. Genetic management using pups from captivity is also showing results. In total, 99 pups carefully selected for their genetic value have been placed in 40 wild dens since 2016,



**HEALTH CHECK — A sedated Mexican wolf is carried from a helicopter to a team of staff who will conduct a health check and replace or attach a collar to the wolf before releasing it back into the wild.**

and some of these fosters have produced litters of their own. While recovery is in the future, examining the last decade of data certainly provides optimism that recovery will be achieved.”

Mexican wolf population information is gathered from November through February by the Interagency Field Team. During this time, the field team conducts ground and aerial surveys, using a variety of methods, including remote cameras, scat collection, and visual observation. Counting the population at the same time each winter allows for comparable year-to-year trends at a time of year when the Mexican wolf population is most stable.

## Among The 2023 Findings

- A minimum of 60 packs were documented at the end of 2023: 37 in New Mexico and 23 in Arizona. A wolf pack is defined as two or more wolves that maintain an established home range.

- A minimum of 138 pups were born in 2023, with at least 86 surviving until the end of the year (a 62 percent survival rate). In general, wild wolf populations have an average survival rate of 50 percent for pup survival in the first year.

- A minimum of 26 breeding pairs (15 in New Mexico, 11 in Arizona) was re-

**WOLVES, continued on page 18**



**CWD FREE — Arizona’s deer and elk populations remain CWD-free due to surveillance efforts.**

## Arizona Is Free Of CWD Disease

Chronic Wasting Disease Not Detected In Arizona’s Deer, Elk Populations

*No cases found in more than 1,200 samples tested from latest hunting seasons*

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) has announced that Arizona continues to be clear of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), a fatal wildlife disease that affects the nervous system of deer and elk.

Department officials did not find any cases of CWD in the 1,235 deer (mule and white-tailed) and elk that were sampled in 2023. AZGFD collected 431 samples from animals that were harvested and voluntarily submitted by hunters, and another 732 samples through partnerships with game processors and taxidermists. An additional 72 samples were obtained from animals that were involved in vehicle collisions or subject to other fatalities.

AZGFD has been testing for the presence of the disease in Arizona since 1998.

**DISEASE, continued on page 18**



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Scottsdale, AZ 85257

# Golden Algae-Caused Fish Kills Confirmed At Saguaro, Canyon Lakes

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) has confirmed golden algae toxin blooms as the cause of recent fish kills at both Saguaro and Canyon lakes.

When golden algae is the cause of a fish kill at one of the Salt River chain lakes (Saguaro, Canyon and Apache), varying degrees of fish kills are typically observed at all three of the lakes. AZGFD staff recently collected water-quality samples at both Saguaro and Canyon, which confirmed golden algae as the cause of the fish kills.

## At Saguaro Lake

At Saguaro Lake, AZGFD staff observed small numbers of dead and dying threadfin shad (less than 500), along with a handful of other species including largemouth bass, bluegill and catfish. At Canyon Lake, about 1,000 dead threadfin shad were observed; no other species were affected at that time.

Golden algae can produce toxins harmful to gill-breathing animals, such as fish. Similar golden algae-related fish



kills have occurred at Saguaro, Canyon and Apache lakes since 2003. To date, no adverse health impacts have been noted for humans or non-gill-breathing wildlife that have come in contact with waters experiencing a golden algae toxin bloom.

## Water Samples Confirm

In addition, select coves at Saguaro Lake appeared bright green in color, an indication of another type of algae present in high concentrations. Water samples confirmed a filamentous cyanobacteria *Dolichospermum* (formerly *Anabaena*) was also present in high concentrations.

*Dolichospermum* can release toxins that have been associated with health impacts on humans and pets. For more information on human health impacts, please refer to Arizona Department of Environmental Quality's website (<https://azdeq.gov/AZHAB>)

It is likely fish kills will continue at Saguaro, Canyon and Apache lakes over the next two months and range in severity. Occasionally, select coves at Roosevelt Lake are affected with minor fish kills, as well as the Salt River near the inflow to Roosevelt Lake. Salt River Project (SRP) will be doing its annual springtime swap to the Salt River, which is usually completed by late April.

## AZGFD Will Closely Monitor

With the influx of water, there is a chance the algae bloom will be flushed through the system and decrease the severity of the fish kill. Keep in mind several factors can determine the severity and duration of fish kills in all three lakes. AZGFD will closely monitor the situation and provide updates as needed. ■

## WOLVES

Continued from page 17

corded in 2023.

There were 113 collared wolves in the wild at the end of the year, which is 44 percent of the minimum population of Mexican wolves.

The field team documented additional success with fostering efforts in 2023. To date, a minimum of 15 fostered Mexican

wolf pups have survived to breeding age, and at least 10 fostered wolves have successfully bred and produced litters in the wild. Fostered Mexican wolves have produced more than 20 litters, and several of those offspring have gone on to produce pups of their own.

## It's Encouraging

"It's encouraging to see success across the board with our recovery efforts," said Brady McGee, the Mexican wolf recovery

coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "Having fostered Mexican wolves survive, disperse, pair up, breed, and start packs of their own tells us that fostering is working.

"These genetically diverse wolves, which came from captivity as pups and were placed into wild dens, play a vital role in boosting the genetic diversity of the wild population."

## Listed Separately From Gray Wolves

The Mexican wolf is listed separately from the gray wolf as an endangered subspecies under the federal Endangered Species Act. In 1977, the Service and its partners initiated efforts to conserve the subspecies by developing a bi-national captive breeding program stemming from just seven Mexican wolves. Mexican wolves were first reintroduced to the wild in 1998.

In addition to the minimum wild population, there are approximately 350 Mexican wolves currently maintained in more than 60 facilities throughout the United States and Mexico under the Mexican Wolf Saving Animals From Extinction program.

## Partners In Recovery

Partners in Mexican wolf recovery in the United States include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service, USDA APHIS Wildlife Services, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and the Saving Animals From Extinction program. ■

## DISEASE

Continued from page 17

While CWD has been found in the neighboring states of Utah, New Mexico and Colorado, the disease has not been detected in Arizona. CWD has not been documented to cause disease in people.

AZGFD appreciates the assistance of hunters who submit deer and elk heads for testing, as well as the cooperation of game processors and taxidermists. For more information about CWD, visit [www.azgfd.com/healthy](http://www.azgfd.com/healthy).

Join our Conservation Membership program and ensure a wildlife legacy for the future. ■

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## CLINIC

Continued from page 13

a special interest in this area of pet medicine and like to provide these services for our patients to help reduce the overpopulation of pets in the United States.

### A Huge Help

The Clinic has been a huge help with the Post's VFW "Alley Cats Operation Paws". Each kitty client has been given a name on arrival, treated gently and expertly, and the staff stays in close touch with the VFW Auxiliary volunteer after the procedure. In fact, if you cannot adopt one of the "Alley Cats", please consider a donation in the Post's name to the Clinic.

Thank you.

### Some Need-To-Knows

- Address: 6835 E Thomas Rd., Scottsdale, Arizona 85251
- Phone: (480) 874-3647
- Online: azspay.com
- Open: Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. (no appt. needed)
- \*Vaccines: \$18/each
- \*Free exam with vaccines
- Dr. Consult/Exam for other medical issues: \$40
- \*Recommend calling ahead for availability
- Now accepting Care Credit

For updates on this rescue effort go to VFW "Alley Cats" at [azbw.com/vfw-cat-rescue](http://azbw.com/vfw-cat-rescue). ■

## HAVASU

Continued from page 4

for guests.

8. Lake Havasu's shores host boat-in dining restaurants, so you can spend as much time on the water as possible.

9. Boating on Lake Havasu won't sink you. It's one of the most budget-friendly

lake boating spots in the U.S.

10. Watercraft with two-stroke motors are allowed on the lake (boaters motoring with two-stroke watercraft are urged to ensure their vessels are running properly before launching their boats).

Pack your shorts, flip flops and sunscreen, and come see why Lake Havasu City is a lake boating paradise! ■

## STOCKINGS

Continued from page 1

AZGFD assures anglers that the number of trout scheduled for stocking will remain the same or even increase from

2023, but all stockings are expected to be completed by July 4. Visit the department's website for the latest stocking schedules. These schedules are tentative and subject to change due to weather or conditions at the sites. ■



Post 720 celebrated its 100th anniversary in early 2021.



### VFW POST 720

- Barry Goldwater was a lifelong member.
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Bartlett Lake Marina has a boatable surface area of 2,815 acres - more than Canyon Lake and Saguaro Lake, combined. Fed by the pristine waters of the Verde River, Indians of this valley spoke descriptively in their legends of the river's "sweet waters".

Outdoor enthusiasts frequent Bartlett Lake for a variety of recreational opportunities, including shoreline camping in Arizona's natural desert terrain. While in this part of the Tonto National Forest, visitors may see mule deer, bald eagles, javelina, coyotes, and many indigenous desert plants, including the majestic saguaro, mesquite trees, and blooming ocotillo.



## BOAT RENTALS

Bartlett Lake Marina we are ideally located 17 miles northeast of Carefree and only one hour from Phoenix. Our marina offers a range of well equipped comfortable pontoon rental boats. All safety gear and full instruction are included. We welcome novices! You can trust our rental boats to keep you and your family safe while exploring the surrounding bays. We have a number of different pontoon boats for your party needs. We also offer a variety of packages from full day rentals, and weekend rental packages.



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VOLUME 19 | ISSUE 4

WESTERN

APRIL 2024

# OUTDOOR TIMES

A PUBLICATION OF ARIZONA BOATING & WATERSPORTS



## Gone, Fishin',

### SAVE THE DATE

Day at the Docks signals start of saltwater fishing.

### TIME FOR TROUT

Stockings soon in Mogollon Rim.

### THE BASS ARE

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