

PIMA COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES, PARKS AND RECREATION

# VOLUNTEER NEWS

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## WILDFLOWER HIKE FOR VOLUNTEERS

It looks to be a potentially excellent year for spring wildflowers in southern Arizona, particularly if rains continue in February. So, mark your calendar for a wildflower hike with Meg Quinn in Catalina State Park on Friday, March 18. This will be an easy 1 to 2 mile hike from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. There will be a designated place to meet for carpooling before entering the park. More details to come. Stay tuned!



75 fourth graders are expected. Volunteers are needed to assist staff with the activities. If you would like to volunteer for History Days, please contact Steve Russell 615-7855 x 1, [Steve.Russell@pima.gov](mailto:Steve.Russell@pima.gov).

## LEGACIES OF THE PAST: ARIZONA WOMEN WHO MADE HISTORY

On January 10, at Agua Caliente Park, author and historian Jan Cleer gave a fascinating presentation about Arizona women who made history. Below are some highlights from Jan's presentation.

"Women have always been in business of one type or another, and their enterprises have had a remarkable impact on the nation. During the early westward movement, many women ran boardinghouses and restaurants as did prospector Nellie Cashman who fed and sheltered miners in Tucson and Tombstone, earning her the reputation as the *Miner's Angel*.

Annie Dodge Wauneka is credited with improving the well-being of her Navajo people by advocating for better health care and living conditions. Annie was the first Native American to receive the highest award given to a civilian when President Lyndon B. Johnson awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1963 for her efforts to eradicate tuberculosis on the reservation.

The photographs and paintings of artist Kate Thompson Cory, who lived with the Hopi for seven years and recorded ritualistic ceremonies as well as their daily lives, illustrate an intense cultural sensitivity to Hopi rituals and ceremonies. Because the Hopi have not allowed photographs to be taken of some of their ceremonies since around 1917, Kate's collection is a valuable record of the Hopi people that can never be replicated." – Jan Cleer

There is still room in the last three Sunday lectures programs at Agua Caliente Park. On January 24, University of Arizona Geosciences Professor George Davis presents *The Geology of the Rincon Mountains*. On January 31, anthropologist and author Barbara Marriott shares *Tales of Arizona's Pioneer Men*. And on February 21, historian Robin Pinto presents *Hispanic Settlement in Southeastern Arizona*.

## DESERT DISCOVERY DAYS

Come explore the quiet beauty of the Desert Discovery Center, nestled in among saguaros and ironwood trees. Desert Discovery Days are free events, and will feature family-friendly hands-on activities, our Living with Urban Wildlife trailer, a guided nature walk, and our newest program, Geology: Travel through Time. The Desert Discovery Center is located at 7798 W. Gates Pass Road on the west side of the Tucson Mountains. Dates and Times: Saturday, March 12, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Saturday, March 26, 2:00-6:00 p.m., Saturday, April 2, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. We could use two or more volunteers at each event. To volunteer, please contact Erin at [Erin.Sol@pima.gov](mailto:Erin.Sol@pima.gov)

## SCHOOL PROGRAM VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers are needed to assist with school program events coming up in February and March. Tuesday, February 9 is Agua Caliente History Day. Approximately 160 fourth graders will be attending to learn about Arizona history through hands-on activities. Canoa Ranch History Day is scheduled for Thursday, March 24. Approximately



## FEDERAL PROHIBITIONS REGARDING FEATHERS AND NESTS

*All volunteers need to be aware of the federal restrictions on collecting nests, feathers and other bird parts. Please leave these items in place and encourage others to do the same.*

The US Fish and Wildlife Service under the Department of the Interior, manages and protects avian species through the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). This act was originally established in 1918 between the U.S., Canada, and Great Britain. Later, treaties with Japan, Mexico, and the USSR followed. A migratory bird was defined as: any species or family of birds that live, reproduce or migrate within or across international borders at some time during its annual life cycle. Presently 836 bird species are protected. 58 species are currently legally hunted. The Bald and Golden Eagle Act affords additional protections to these species.

*Under the MBTA it is unlawful to take, import, export, possess, buy, sell, purchase, or barter any migratory bird. Feathers and other parts, including nests, eggs, and products made from birds are covered by the act.*

## WILL WE BE ATTACKED BY A WILD ANIMAL?

A common concern of children who have had limited experience in the natural world is the fear of being chased by a wild animal. Inaccurate portrayals of wildlife in books, movies and television often characterize animals as vicious hunters out to eat anything in their way. These depictions give children, as well as adults, unwarranted fears of animals.

Predation is a commonly misunderstood concept. In stories and folk tales, predators have long been portrayed as the bad guys. In natural history interpretation, stress the importance of predation. Animals are not “mean” or “scary” or “bad” because they prey upon other animals, nor is it “sad” when a predator captures its prey. Predators have a vital role in maintaining an ecological balance.

*From the Family Go Guide and “Avoiding Interpretive Pitfalls” by Doris Evans*

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BRUNCH

Save the date! A volunteer appreciation event will be held on Thursday, April 21 at the Brandi Fenton Memorial Park Visitor Center from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided. We hope you will attend so that

we may extend our gratitude and appreciation for all that you do in support of Pima County’s education and interpretive programs.

## MORE HISTORY DAY PHOTOS

*History Days at Canoa Ranch and Agua Caliente*



**Interested in Volunteering? Email us at [eeducation@pima.gov](mailto:eeducation@pima.gov)  
Call us at Environmental Education Office 520-615-7855**

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