



## Ajo Unified School District ...Grant Award

Congratulations to the AUSD who were just awarded \$960,000 for an ADE School Improvement Grant. The school district Board and Superintendent Dr. Robert Dooley began the process of development of the grant in January of this year and their work certainly paid off.



Photo courtesy of AUSD website.

This is a three year grant that is designed to help the high school to achieve Annual Yearly Progress. Achieving AYP in the past few years has been a challenge due to fluctuating graduation rates which were at 55% in 2007, but were up to 70% for 2010. The state average is 75%, with a goal of 80%.

The grant funding has enabled the district to hire a "turn around" principal, additional staff to fill numerous teacher coaching positions, purchase an academic formative assessment program which will extend the learning time for some students and enhance staff development opportunities.

Dr. Dooley is optimistic about the possibilities for the students with the additional support from the Arizona Department of Education. "We have good kids in our high school and need to provide them with the support necessary to be successful," he stated. Once again...**Congratulations!**

## Labor Day...

A little bit of a history quiz:

- 1) Do you know which state was the first to pass legislation creating Labor Day?
- 2) In what year and where was the first Labor Day celebrated?
- 3) In what year did Congress pass the act making Labor Day a legal National Holiday?

**No Peeking....Answers at bottom of article**  
**Have a safe and relaxing holiday!**

Check out the following website for a pictorial view of some past Labor Day celebrations, going back to the 1st one:  
<http://www.dol.gov/laborday/history.htm>

County offices will be closed  
 Sept 5th, 2011 in honor of the  
 day.

1) Oregon Feb 21, 1887  
 2) Sept 5, 1882 NY City  
 3) June 28, 1894



## Pima County Attractions....

Try to take some time out from your busy schedule to visit some of the Pima County Attractions....which covers a wide array of great things to do...

You can go from watching the horse races at **Rillito Park** to reliving a century of our aviation history with actual planes at the **Pima Air and Space Museum**...and before you know it you are viewing a rattlesnake and watching the behavior of a coyote at the **Desert Museum**.

Looking for something a little different, then head over to the **Colossal Cave Mountain Park**...2400 acres to hike, camp, picnic, tour the cave, visit the museum, bird watch or just relax and enjoy the day. Take in a concert or watch some drag racing at the **Pima County Fairgrounds** or enjoy the indoor/outdoor equestrian facilities.

In the mood for some golf...then take time to stop by the **Author Pack Golf Course**...did you know it was designed by Lee Trevino. Visit **Old Tucson Studios** and relive the days of Roy Rogers and John Wayne or for a more current look back in time, Russell Crowe and Leonardo DiCaprio have also walked the streets of the studio.

Pima County's newest attraction is **M.C. Motorsport Park**, the legal off highway vehicle park. There is grand prix racing in the desert to drag racing in a rally cross and even wheel to wheel racing on the short course.

Check out the website at [www.pimacountyattractions.com](http://www.pimacountyattractions.com) for a complete listing and take your pick of all that is available and of course...**HAVE FUN!**



## Pima County Sheriff's Department...Reporting Crime



We all know how big Pima County is and our Deputies cannot be everywhere...as citizens we can make a huge difference by reporting any crime, suspicious activity, illegal dumping, animal cruelty in progress etc.

There are several ways you can report a crime....and yes, you can report a crime anonymously if needed.



If you are not sure a crime is being committed, call anyway. The call you make may be helping one of your neighbors, a friend, a family member or a total stranger who will never forget you for helping them when it was needed the most.

**Just call... and report it!**

- ✓ Call 911 at anytime
- ✓ Call 88-crime to give anonymous tips about crimes or criminals
- ✓ Text the information: Text: 274637 and enter "tip259" then text your message
- ✓ Go to: <http://pimasheriff.org/departments-services/online-services/> - select the services you need
- ✓ On line at [www.88crime.org](http://www.88crime.org)

## Pima County... Animal and Plant Life



Have you ever wondered what animals call Pima County home....what plants are native and are currently thriving in our county? Are there others that may be in danger because of loss of habitat or other factors? The Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan is addressing these very issues. Please take a few moments to review the website at:

<http://www.pima.gov/cmo/sdcp/index.html>

### Birds, Fish, Mammals, Plants, Amphibians and Reptiles

Part of the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan is to ensure the long term survival of plants and animals within our county. There are currently 23 threatened and endangered plants and animals in Pima County. A few are pictured below and you can review the entire list at:

<http://www.pima.gov/cmo/sdcp/species/fsheets/facts.html>

The SDCP is also working on restoring (when possible) and creating new riparian areas which will not only protect our plants and animals, but will maintain recreational trails, promote groundwater recharge and much more...



## Pima County...Vital Records

Did you know there are three (3) different ways you can get copies of your vital records:



In person, by mail, or via the internet  
Pima County Health Department  
Office of Vital Records  
3950 S. Country Club Rd Ste 100  
Tucson, AZ 85714

Phone # : 520-243-7932

Email: [vital@pima.gov](mailto:vital@pima.gov)

Web site: [www.pimahealth.org/birthdeath/index.asp](http://www.pimahealth.org/birthdeath/index.asp)

Office hours: Mon - Fri - 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The web site lets you know what documents or information you will need in order to get a copy so be sure to check it out or you can call and speak to a staff member.

## PRO Neighborhoods Community Organizing Course



Date: Sept 7th - Nov 30th

Day: Wednesday Evening and some Saturdays

Cost: REDUCED to \$25.00

Course is geared for neighborhood residents, non-profit staff responsible for community involvement, social services or social work students and anyone else interested in mobilizing residents.

For more info call 520-882-5885 or email to:  
[info@proneighborhoods.org](mailto:info@proneighborhoods.org)

## Pima County Library in District 3...The Woods Branch



Pima County Public Library

Has it been a while since you have visited one of your local libraries....you might want to stop in and check out some of the opportunities and events that are currently taking place. At the Woods Branch located at 3455 N. 1st Avenue you'll find:

### Community Spotlight - UA Law Student Legal Referral Clinic (July 23rd at 11:00 - 1:00 and every other Saturday)

Do you need legal referral advice? The University of Arizona Law Student Legal Referral Clinic is a service provided by volunteer UA law students. They will guide you in the right direction for free or inexpensive legal advice on a walk-in basis.

### Bilingual Story time (Tuesdays/Martes 6:30 - 7:15p.m.)

Designed for children and their parents or caregivers. We will read stories, sing and do a craft to take home. Esa hora de cuentos es para los niños y sus padres y cuidadores. Leen cuentos, cantan, y hacen un arte para llevar a casa.

**Did you know...** We have **Kid's Laptop Night** every Thursday evening from 5:00pm - 7:00pm. If you are 12 or under, hurry in and join the fun! Check your e-mail and play the latest video games. Laptops are first come, first served, and you can sign up at the front desk.



**Play Chess at Woods (Thursday 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.)** Come out of the heat and play a *cool* game of chess! All ages and skill levels are welcome. Teaching is available, in an informal setting.



**Food Stamp Application Assistance (Mondays 11:30 - 2:30 p.m.)** Let an employee from the Community Food Bank help you apply for SNAP ("food stamps" or the government nutrition assistance program), AHCCCS (health care) and TANF (cash assistance). To find out what documents you will need, please call the Community Food Bank at 520-622-0525 extension 275.

These are just a few of the activities and programs available for you and your family....so stop by the Woods Library and let the staff **WOW** you with all the regular programs and the special events that happen every month....for additional information call 520-594-5445 or visit <http://www.library.pima.gov/locations/woods/>