

May 2016

Vol. 3, No. 5

## Sports tourism in Greenlee County

By Ákos Kovach

Recently Greenlee County has been host to several sporting events, the Mt Graham Golf Tournament at the Greenlee County Golf Course and Country Club; The 38th annual Lion's Club Baseball Tournament; the 3rd annual Javelina Chase and upcoming we have sporting events hosted by the Police activities league in Duncan as well as the Huge Duncan All Star Football event coming back in June.

The Javelina Chase had an international flavor this year with participants from Ambos Nogales, (Sonora & Arizona). The

continued on page 8



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## Small businesses thriving, despite challenges

By Kimber Lanning

*Editor's note: Kimber, head of Arizona Local First, is well known to business people in Greenlee County for her work here. While she wrote this article for the Phoenix market, it also applies locally.*

First, we should note that small businesses in Phoenix are indeed thriving. Nearly 80 new business-

es have opened in the city center during the past five years, and according to data from the 2015 Independent Business Survey conducted by the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, Arizona independent businesses reported a higher revenue growth of 7.1 percent than the national average of 6.6 percent.

It is incredible to think about

the success these local businesses have seen despite the challenges they face in terms of access to capital and financing. Data from the same 2015 survey reported that almost half the independent Arizona businesses applying for a loan in the past two years were unsuccessful, obstructing these businesses from expanding and creating jobs. To increase access to capital for small businesses, Phoenixians should consider moving their money to local

It is incredible to think about the success these local businesses have seen despite the challenges they face . . .

[Click here to read more](#)

# Reading Nook News

## Books and authors

By Karen Soohy

Are you an avid reader? Want to find out more about what kind of books are being offered in the literary world?

When you go to the Greenlee County Library website ([www.greenleelibraries.org](http://www.greenleelibraries.org)) and click the State Wide Database link on the left side you can find a data base that is very useful.

Remember this is available on any home computer by entering a library card number. If you don't have a card, come to the library to get yours. They are FREE!!! This article will talk about the Books and Authors button on the page.

**Books and Authors** lets you explore published books at a whole new level. You can browse by Authors, Titles, Genres, Award Winners, Expert Picks and also a category called Who?What?Where?When in which you can put in a type of character, time period, location and story type and it will recommend books that fit that profile for you.

The database even previews upcoming books and also allows you to create an account so you can review books with your opinion. This account will let you save a book list so you can have all your favorite searches in one place, too.

The books in this database are all recommended by librarians or other experts, are award winners or are on best seller lists. So if you are looking for your next "good read," this is one place you will want to check out. Once you find a book, go to your local library to find out if it is already on the shelf...if not make a request for it and see if we can get it for you.

While you are on the Greenlee County Library Website you might also want to check out the link on the right side to the Eastern Arizona Courier. The online edition gives you free limited access to many of the headline stories making news in our county. Check it out!

Don't forget to stop by your library to use Ancestry.com which is free on the computers in the library building.

*Library Quote: "A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies, said Jojen. The man who never reads lives only one." — George R.R. Martin, A Dance with Dragons*

## Clifton Council Corner

Mayor Felix Callicotte

The "Clifton Council Corner" is a place designed to keep the people in the Town of Clifton informed and up to date on current affairs. We will address concerns in the community; discuss future projects, and present ideas for improvement. We appreciate your responses to this column and are pleased by the many who have commented on their thoughts and issues. We cannot resolve an issue if we are unaware of it. We are continually looking for ways to help the Town of Clifton run more efficiently and this column will hopefully help you become involved.

## Distracted driving

You do not have to travel far in Clifton to see people driving with risky driving practices. One or more of the below dangerous driving habits can be seen on a daily basis on Coronado Blvd (US191), Clifton's main thorough fare and on most all our residential streets.

We all know that the amount of traffic that currently traverses through Clifton on any given day at times can be mind boggling. To that extent all drivers who happen to be caught in traffic that seems to be never ending the below traffic safety tips will help you to avoid a traffic mishap and keep you and your passengers safe. Though these may seem like common sense to you, Arizona traffic rules and laws exist for a reason. Accidents can happen in the blink of an eye.

### 10 ways to keep Clifton's roads safe

**1. Make the smart choice:** Don't Drink and Drive: Drive only when you are fully alert. It is illegal to operate a motor vehicle in Arizona while your ability to do so is impaired by alcohol. Specifically, you may not drive when your blood alcohol level is at or over .08 nor you are not to drive if your ability is impaired by drugs.

**2. Use seat belts:** The impact from a collision at 30 miles per hour, when not restrained by a seat belt, is the same as falling from a three-story building. Seat belts save lives when worn properly; they prevent you from being thrown around the inside of

[Click here to read more](#)

# 5th annual Frisco River cleanup

## Come early for bird identification workshop

The 5th Annual Frisco River Spring Cleanup will take place Saturday, May 7, from 8 a.m. till noon. Participants will meet at 8 at the ramada in the Clifton RV Park for scones, coffee & juice.

There will be a safety talk by reptilist Terry Johnson and there will be assignment of teams and clean-up areas.

At 8:30, the crews will go forth and pick up trash.

Participants should bring gloves, hats, sunscreen, trash grabbers and cameras. Friends of the Frisco will provide trash bags and drinking water. Trash dumpster will be provided by the Town of Clifton. Children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

For more information call Deborah at (928) 200-0790 or Terry at (928) 965-7842.

### Bird ID workshop

Come a half hour early, at 7:30 a.m., to sign up for a bird identification workshop with Southwest bird expert and wildlife photographer Homer Hansen.

For this, meet at the same location, but at 7:30 (sharp) for snacks and to plan , juice and scones. Plan the morning's birding adventure with instructor Homer Hansen. Then, after the cleanup orientation, visit the best birding spots on the lower San Francisco River and learn some of the basics of bird identification.

Because this morning session will be conducted as a part of Friends of the Spring Clean-up on the river, you'll take trash bags along. All ages are welcome. Children are encouraged to attend, but must be accompanied by parent or guardian.

### Classroom session in Duncan in the afternoon

From 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., there will be a classroom session at The Simpson Hotel in Duncan to prepare birders of any level of experience to join in the Global Big Day on Saturday, May 14.

The local group hopes to get a good number of local birders involved in this and future bird counts.

After 5:30, anyone who wants to can join in a walk on the Gila River Birding and Wildlife Trail



in Duncan, to practice some of the counting and identification techniques presented in the afternoon session. The group will return to the hotel at about sundown.

Those who plan to attend either session should email [friendsofthefrisco@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofthefrisco@gmail.com) or call 928-200-0790 (so there will be enough snacks.)

For more information on Global Big Day, see [ebird.org/globalbigday/](http://ebird.org/globalbigday/).

A \$10 donation to Friends of the Frisco is requested but not required.

## Insurance for small biz

Research shows that for small business owners, being able to offer health insurance for employees is a high priority. Even so, you may be confused – about how to control costs while offering quality coverage, which policies to choose for your employees, and how to enroll. Understanding the ins and outs of insurance can be hard. The SHOP Marketplace is here to help.

The Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP Marketplace) is the Health Insurance Marketplace for Small Businesses created by the

[Click here to read more](#)



*Vietnam veterans Oscar Urrea, left, and Steve Guzzo inspect some of the more than 2,000 replica dog tags on the Mares Bluff Veterans Memorial for the 2015 PBS documentary “[On Two Fronts: Latinos & Vietnam.](#)”*

## Mares Bluff now official landmark

### From The Copper Era

CLIFTON — A tribute to Greenlee County’s veterans has been honored by the Town of Clifton.

Placed before the Clifton Town Council during the April 14 meeting was a resolution to designate the Mares Bluff Veterans Memorial as a “Landmark of special cultural, educational and aesthetic importance for the Town of Clifton and its residents.”

The memorial, which stands at the top of the bluff for which it’s named, is the home of more than

2,000 replica dog tags.

All veterans are honored at the memorial — combat, noncombat and peacetime.

Having been erected in December of 2009, the site remains a popular outdoor venue for visitors as well as residents who can hear the bluff’s bell ring regularly.

The bluff was also part of a recent PBS documentary titled “On Two Fronts: Latinos & Vietnam,”

[Click here to read more](#)

## Duncan branch bank closing

### Search is under way for replacement

### From The Copper Era

DUNCAN — Bad news this week for Duncan businesses and residents, as the local branch of the National Bank of Arizona has announced it will be closing.

Calls to employees at the branch confirmed it will close as of July 28. The reason offered for the closure was that branch failed to meet expectations of profitability.

This raised the ire of Greenlee County Supervisor Robert Corbell, who posted about the closure on social media.

“One of the big considerations in awarding the contract to (the) bank is that they would not have to shut down in Duncan if (the) county would contin-

ue to do business with them; they would then gain enough profit to keep the Duncan branch open.

“During negotiations of this contract, the representatives from National Bank of Arizona made the statement on many occasions that, without the county business, the Duncan branch was being seriously considered to shut down. “

I have contacted county administration and neither the Greenlee County Board of Supervisors nor County Treasurer was given notice about the closure,” Corbell wrote.

Those sentiments were shared by the other members of the Board of Supervisors, who said at last week’s meeting they, too, were blindsided by the

[Click here to read more](#)

# Wildcats unbeaten in Lions tourney

## From The Copper Era

MORENCI — The Morenci Lions Club 37th annual baseball tournament last weekend went off without a hitch and it was the Wildcats taking the title.

Morenci went undefeated in the tournament, taking down Miami, Ariz., 12-2, in the finals Saturday to capture the championship trophy.

“All of our hard work is finally starting to show,” said Morenci head coach Joseph Morse. “The team is energized and proud.”

Morenci got on the board in the bottom of the first inning, when Ty Manuz cracked an RBI double to bring in Dre Nofchissey. That opened the floodgates and Caiden Harper, Happy Aguinaga, Sergio Garcia and Josh Ruedas all came in to score and the Wildcats a 5-0 lead.

Miguel Ruiz homered in the bottom of the second inning, sparking a four-inning showing. And by the top of the fifth inning, the score was 12-0 in

favor of Morenci.

Miami finally got on the board in the top of the fifth when Joseph Radke singled, stole second and third, and scored off a Diego Garcia single. Garcia came around on another single to finish off the scoring and the game.

“We played well,” said Miami head coach Brandon Powell. “It took us six games in three days to get here but, in the end, our hard work paid off and we achieved second place.”

Both teams advanced to the finals by defeating a team that traveled more than 1,000 miles to participate — the Konawa Tigers, of Konawa, Okla.

[Click here to read more](#)

## 4-H

### Growing future leaders

DUNCAN — The world will one day be in the hands of today’s young people; therefore, it is crucial that youths are prepared to become competent leaders and experts in their field.

Through participation in 4-H, youths are provided many opportunities to help them transform into tomorrow’s leaders. One of these opportunities occurred Saturday, April 2, 2016, as Greenlee County 4-H members came together to enhance life skills at Duncan Elementary School for the annual 4-H Demonstration Day.

Demonstration Day is an extremely important event in the 4-H program as it provides youths with the opportunity to work on presentation and communication skills, as well as build other life skills such as organization, preparation and critical thinking.

Mighty Mountain Kids Community Club leader and 4-H mom Amelia Savage said, “Activities (such as) Demonstration Day are an extremely valuable experience for our children.

The youth are introduced to real-world situations, like public speaking and public presentations, which require continued practice, so that they learn how to become effective communicators. This is a vital attainment to their future. Our 4-H youth are held to high standards, which instill a sense of self-esteem and self worth as they present their work.

[Click here to read more](#)



## The Greenlee Clarion

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# Torn from the Flag tells of freedom fight

*Editor's note: Torn from the Flag is one of the most meaningful documentaries of this kind. What was torn from the flag? That answer and more awaits those who are ready to bring Klaudia Kovacs to a nearby university or college campus for a viewing and discussion with the author/producer/director.*

The award-winning movie, TORN FROM THE FLAG, is about the decline of communism and the 1956 Freedom Fight in Hungary.

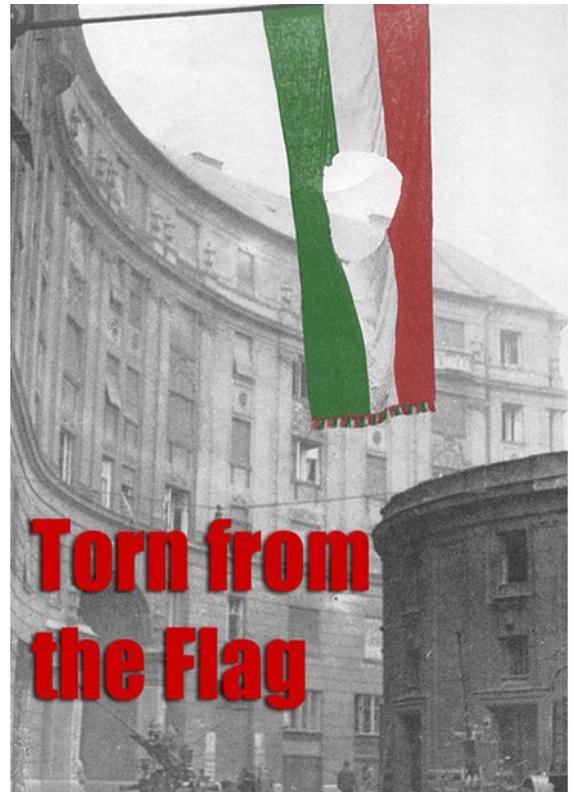
The film encompasses the tense Cold War era and presents the rivalry of the superpowers during that time. It shows the Hungarian event as a remarkable turning point for the advancement of democracy.

Multi-award-winning Director, Klaudia Kovacs, is Hungary's internationally well-known documentary filmmaker.

She wrote, directed, and produced Torn from the Flag, the most successful documentary in Hungarian film history. (\*By

the Motion Picture Public Foundation of Hungary.) The eight-time-award-winning, sociopolitical film is about the Cold War, the international decline of Communism, and the 1956 Hungarian Revolution. Torn from the Flag participated in the 2009 Oscar competition in the "Best Documentary" category, and according to several critics and historians, it is the best documentary ever made about this topic.

Klaudia Kovacs and her films have been awarded with the Hero of the Freedom Fight Award by the President of the Republic of Hungary, a Certificate of Celebration for Contribution to Cinema, Art and Culture by the City of Los Angeles, and a film of hers was also selected for the American Film Institute, AFI FEST Milestone Selection -



described as "celebrating the best of the best" — along with films by Ingmar Bergman and Michelangelo Antonioni. During her international and American career Klaudia Kovacs has worked on over 40 film, theater, and television projects.

## House Ag bill gives boost to rural dev

In mid-April, the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee approved its version of fiscal year (FY) 2017 Agriculture Appropriations bill. The bill totals \$21.3 billion in discretionary funding, which is \$451 million less than the FY2016 enacted level and \$281 million below the President's budget request. Despite the bill's overall funding level decrease, several U.S. Department of Agriculture rural development programs see an increase under the bill. In to-

tal, the bill provides \$2.88 billion for rural development programs, \$113 million above the FY2016 enacted level. The bill includes the following funding allocations for rural development programs:

- Business and Industry Loans: \$920 million, level with FY2016 funding;
- Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Loans: \$1.25 billion, level with FY2016 funding;
- Rural Water and Waste Dis-

posal Program Grants: \$533 million, an increase of \$11 million above current levels;

- Rural Electric and Telephone Infrastructure Loans: \$6.94 billion, level with FY2016 funding;
- Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program: \$24 billion in loan authority, level with FY2016 funding;
- Rental Assistance for Rural Housing: \$1.4 billion, an increase of \$15 million above current levels.

## Upcoming activities

**5/7** starting at 8 a.m., 5th Annual Frisco River Spring Cleanup. Meet at ramada in the Clifton RV Park. See article on page 3 for details.

**5/7** starting at 7:30 a.m., bird identification workshop. See article on page 3 for details.

**5/14** An effort is being made to organize a Community Jam Session at the Labyrinth in Morenci. Anyone and everyone is cordially invited to play musical instrument, sing music or be there to listen and have great time. Open to teens, young adults and older adults. The venue will be inside or outside based on the size of the crowd and weather. If interested please call 928-439-4015.



**5/23** Social Media Bootcamp: A Cochise College SBDC Event, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 5:30-8:30 p.m. each day. For info, contact Rachel at 520-515-5478.

**5/28** 10 a.m., Sons of the American Legion Turkey Youth Shoot, Table Top Gun Range. Also an adult shoot. See flyer on page 10 of this newsletter.



The Clifton Fire Department sponsored the most recent Chamber mixer. Visit their [Facebook page](#) for more photos and information.

# Sports Tourism

continued from page 1

addition of a 5k and 10k plus the Criterium and Omni Races at the Greenlee County Airport truly added a special quality that opened many eyes to the prospect that cycling events could grow to capture several days of events in the near future.

Not far down the road we will see the Clifton Hill Climb, 60th anniversary celebration. The multi day racing event will have some new offerings this year.

Greenlee County is fortunate to have the Rivers, Valleys, Mountains & Trails Tourism Council leading the charge to bring maps, brochures and a new Tourism Website to our area.



*Gabe Ramirez (from left), Robert Corbell, David Gomez and Geronimo Ramirez with a blanket Greenlee County sponsored at the recent horse races in the Gila Valley. [Click here to read more.](#)*

## Another successful Javelina Chase

### From The Copper Era

DUNCAN — Once a year, a big event comes to the little town of Duncan, and it's truly something to see and experience. Especially for those who are cyclists.

The 2016 Javelina Chase Omnium and Gran Fondo Cycling race took place last weekend in Greenlee County. Cyclists not only came from across the state, but across the shores, as the race entertained foreign cyclists and collegiate teams alike.

Racing proper kicked off Saturday morning at 8

a.m. sharp as the first racers began to depart. What followed was a day full of events for everyone, including a bicycle rodeo for children and a 5k for those who preferred using their feet to pedals.

The event is the hard work of a number of people, and none worked harder than organizer John Lieberenz to bring the event alive in Greenlee County.

"It's going quite well. We've had the participation level, and we've had the excitement in the 5k

[Click here to read more](#)

[Click here for complete results](#)

## Senior All-Star football game to be held in Duncan



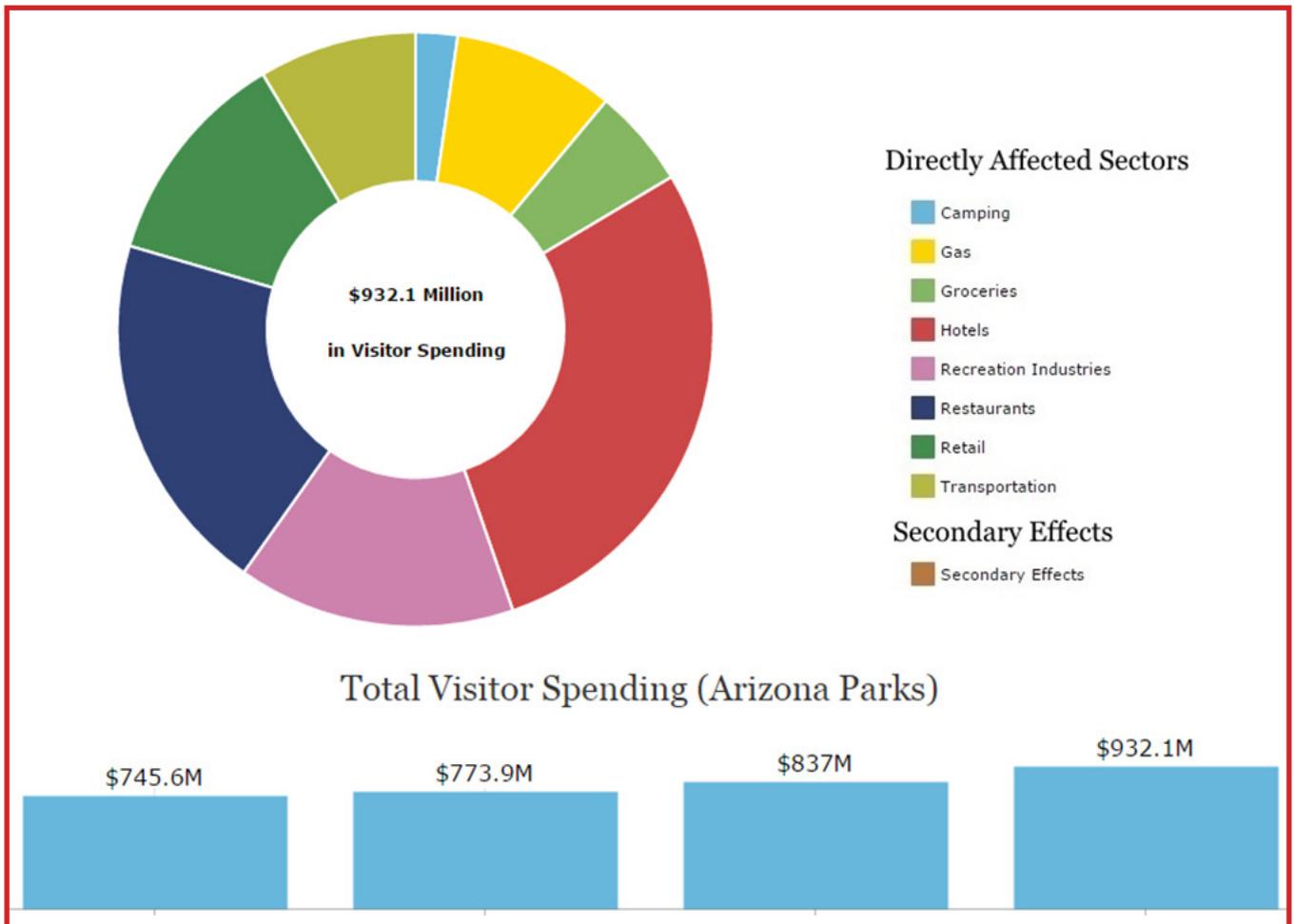
DUNCAN — This year, the Arizona Coaches Association small-school Senior All-Star Game will again be held in Duncan. The game will take place at Packer Field on June 11 at 6 p.m.

The All-Star event will include three days of activities at Duncan High School, culminating with the game Saturday. There has been a significant growth in the number of athletes, attendees and participating schools.

This year, 50 athletes and eight coaches from 17 different schools will participate, representing a 20-per-

[Click here to read more](#)

# Ntl. park tourism in AZ = \$1.37 billion



DENVER — A new National Park Service (NPS) report shows that the 11,729,985 visitors to national parks in Arizona in 2015 spent \$932.1 million in the state. That spending supported 14,729 jobs and had a cumulative benefit to the state economy of \$1.37 billion. The results represent an 11.3 percent increase in spending and 9.1 percent rise in visitation over 2014.

“From Petrified Forest National Park to Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, the national parks of Arizona attract more than 11.7 million visitors a year from home and abroad,” said Sue Masica, director of the NPS Intermountain Region, which includes Arizona and seven other states. “Whether they are crossing America on a family vacation, visiting on a school trip or just out for the afternoon, our park visitors come for a great experience — and they spend a little money along the way. This annual report confirms again that national park tourism is a significant driver in the national economy, returning \$10 for every \$1 America invests in the National Park Service. As we celebrate the NPS centennial

this year, that financial reality makes national parks tourism a significant factor in Arizona’s economy, too. It’s a result we all can support.”

Total spending by visitors to Arizona’s 20 nation-

[Click here to read more](#)



*Fort Bowie is one of the many national parks, monuments and historic sites in Arizona.*

## Letter to the Editor

# Clifton Hillclimb 2016

Jim Malone has been promoted in the racing world and now teaches all over the country. To that end Jim will be gone most of May, June and July, but ongoing plans for the Hill Climbs 60th anniversary are underway. Next suggested meeting dates: May 24, 25 or 26. In June - June 30 and in July on the 18th. A lot of the work that needs to be done can be accomplished by coordinating with Tami Nancolas and Chris Page.

In the meantime, we all know work will begin on: permits (race cars on state highway, the parade, signage along and over the road); paddock space (the lots from last year and the high school parking lot if available); coordinating the Saturday night activities and vendors (and vendors at the start / finish) along with the cemetery bleachers; 3 shuttles and a route map; spectator parking and grandstands at start / finish and cemetery; traffic control; road closure plans (Thursday through Monday night); deciding on whether we race on Monday (Labor Day); and, a list of participating hotels in Duncan and Clifton.

Let's begin making lists of anything we need to consider, add, or reconsider. We desperately need lots of volunteers. Many locals wanted to help last year. We need to appoint a local contact person and team leaders. We will need the names and contact info for any volunteer so that they may be properly credentialed and covered by insurance.

At our end, Chris/Tami and I will handle acquiring porta pots, towing services, timing, scoring, registration, insurance and other "race details". Tami, Chris and I have discussed my limited availability and we feel that Tami can make many meetings while I am out of town that are required.

We are in essence asking for more help in coordinating at the Clifton/Greenlee County end due to our heavy commitment load. There appear to be some e-mail issues so here are alternatives for both Tami and myself. Please copy Tami and Chris on all e-mails.

Tami tami@raptormotorsports.com and tami@dragonnandon@yahoo.com

Jim jim@raptormotorsports.com and jmalone944@cox.net

Chris az944racer@gmail.com

You may also call Tami 520-343-5808 or Jim 602-509-7644

Sincerely,

Jim Malone and Tami Nancolas

**Get Ready For The  
3rd annual  
Veterans Resource Fair**

HOSTED BY: **GRAHAM & GREENLEE SERVING VETERANS**

**U.S. Military Service Veterans & Family Members**

You are invited to the **2016 Resource Fair** at the  
**National Guard Armory**  
3625 S. U.S. Hwy 191 Safford, AZ

**May 20, 2016 From 9:00am to 2:00pm**

Do you ever wonder who to contact for information on what services you may need or qualify for? Well this is the place for you! We have over 30 providers here to serve you!

**Kids Corner & Pamper Services Available!!**

**There's even a job fair on site!!**

**Come out and join us and see what's happening!!**

**Food & Fun & Something for Everyone!!!**

Contact Chair Lisa Lane  
928-432-6932  
llane@cpic-cas.org

Provider Chair Samantha Bivens  
520-318-6866  
Samantha.bivens2@redcross.org

Just to name a few!!





**Sons of the American Legion**

**Turkey Youth Shoot**



**May 28<sup>th</sup> @ Table top gun range**

**10am registration Children 17 and under with a parent**

**\$5 donation per shooter / open sights (.22 long rifle)**

**Prizes and trophies**

For more information contact:  
Tony Espinoza 928-292-0081 or Jeff Wright 602-505-9615

**\*\*\*NEW\*\*\***

introducing a new Adult Shoot...

The Penny Drill-\$1.00 a shot...

use any caliber you got (except .50 cal) winner takes pot