



Maricopa County

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

41835 N Castle Hot Springs Rd
Morristown, AZ 85342-9887
Phone: 602-506-2930
Fax: 602-372-8596
www.maricopa.gov/parks

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 13, 2014
To: Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
From: R.J. Cardin, Director
Re: Director's Summary of Current Events

Listed below are activities the department has been involved with during September and October 2014.

From the Office of the Director

The White Tank Mountain Conservancy held its initial kick-off meeting on October 23, 2014. Membership is comprised of a diverse coalition of partners including west valley cities and towns, businesses, developers, non-profit organizations and Maricopa County Parks and Recreation. The Conservancy is dedicated to protecting the unique west valley icon by seeking pragmatic solutions that enhance the economy while ensuring sustainability of the natural and cultural resources. See the attached flier and meeting agenda.

Administration

Budget Status (through September FY15 close – 1st Quarter):

- **Enhancement Fund (241) – Agency 305:**
 - Enhancement Fund reported revenues at 15% or \$107,251 over the YTD budget of \$726,877.
 - Enhancement Fund reported expenditures at <1% or \$1,171 under the YTD operating budget of \$1,036,651.
- **Lake Fund (240) – Agency 302:**
 - Lake Fund reported revenues at 27.5% or \$154,094 over the YTD budget of \$559,929.
 - Lake Fund reported operating expenditures at 10% or \$57,090 under the YTD budget \$578,597.
- **Spur Cross (225) – Agency 306:**
 - Spur Cross reported revenues at <.5% or \$56,470 under the YTD budget of \$56,590.
 - Spur Cross reported operating expenditures at 4% or \$63,552 over the YTD budget.

Finance Program:

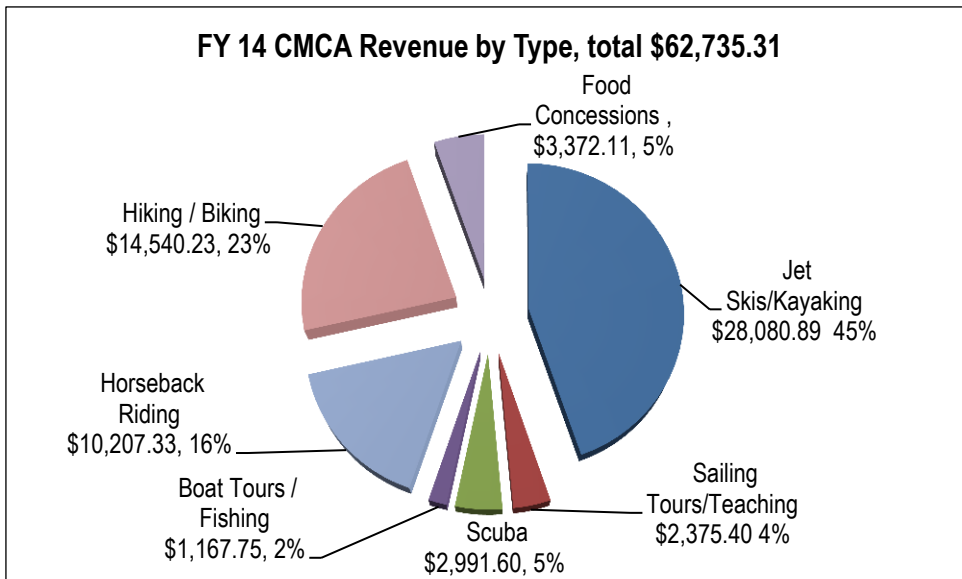
- Staff completed a 10-year history of capital projects undertaken and financed by Park funding sources.
- A considerable amount of work was done to place orders and create inventory for the Souvenir Fund. Several days were spent taking inventory at the various park locations and all fall product orders were placed.
- Considerable work was done to prepare several large Requests for Proposals including Fire Alarm repair/refresh at the DOC, Point-of-Sale/Reservation system replacement, and septic motor/pumps (Pallet Loop lift station) for Lake Pleasant.
- Completed the final test for electronic P card submittals. The process has been cut down to two days from four with the new system.

Contracts:

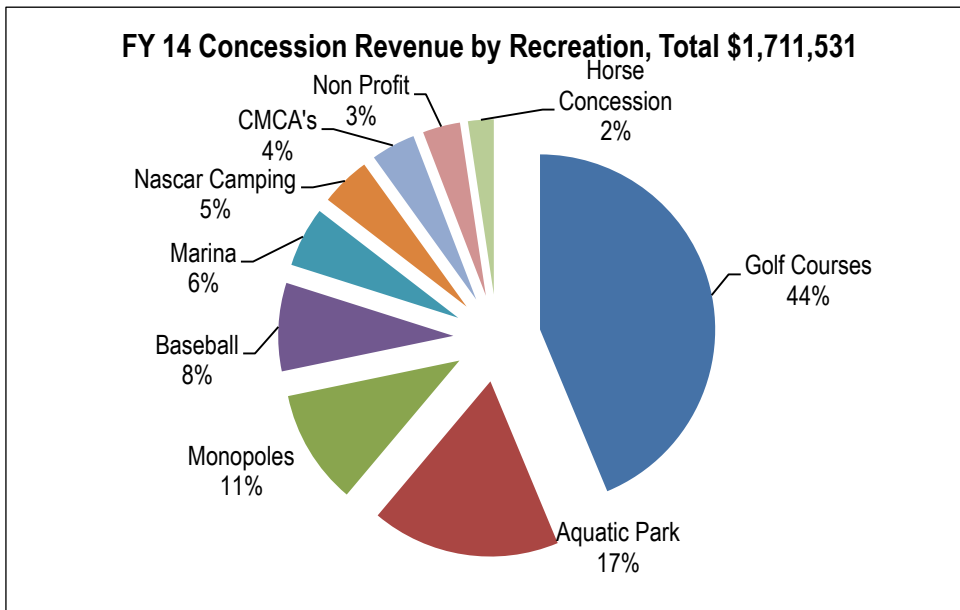
- **Lake Pleasant:** We are currently working on agreements with the County Real Estate Division and Office of Enterprise Technology for new wireless communication facilities to improve coverage of the County's public safety radio system as well as a system that serves the County's other government-related responsibilities. Upgrades to the existing system will occur at the Desert Outdoor Center and Lake Operations Building. These upgrades were among the County's Radio System Upgrade Project approved by the Board of Supervisors on June 5, 2013.
- **Estrella Mountain Regional Park:** A draft of the Use Management Agreement for the Estrella Sportsfield has been completed and comments are under review. We have received the Irrigation and Potable Water Recommendations, Phasing Report and a comprehensive Preliminary Utility Infrastructure Report that was prepared by Ritoch-Powell and Associates, representing Estrella Youth Sports. These reports will provide the necessary information to finalize the negotiations.
- **Paradise Valley:** Cell Tower - After review of the deed restriction on the property located at approximately 40th Street and Union Hills Drive, we were unable to renew the cell tower lease agreement with Crown Atlantic Company, LLC. Maricopa County Attorney's Office has determined that the cell tower use may not conform to the current use restrictions for this property.
- **Adobe Dam Regional Park:** On October 23, we issued a Request for Expressions of Interest for a Public Private Partnership for Development, Expansion, Financing and Operation of the Existing Sports Complex at Adobe Dam Regional Park. The purpose of this LOI was to identify potential partners who are interested in expansion of the existing Victory Lane Sports Park complex or developing vacant land adjacent to the existing Complex
- **Maricopa Trail:** A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Parks and MCDOT has been drafted that will identify and define the responsibilities of each party for the cost-sharing, design, construction and maintenance of trails that parallel MCDOT roadways and are located within MCDOT right-of-way. This MOU is pending MCDOT's Director's signature.
Two separate Challenge Cost Share Agreements between Parks and US Forest Service (USFS) were drafted to document the cooperation between the parties for trails crossing between the Tonto National Forest and Cave Creek and Usery Parks. They are pending USFS signatures before presentation to the Board of Supervisors.
A Non Exclusive Non-Motorized Recreation Easement between Parks and the Flood Control District is currently on the Board of Supervisor's Agenda for November 19. This easement will provide permanent rights to Parks for the Maricopa Trail at McMicken Dam in areas that do not interfere with flood control purposes.
- **Commercial Management Concessions Agreements (CMCA's):** There are a total of six (6) CMCA renewals that are pending approval with the Board of Supervisors. Two of the renewals include scuba concessions, one fishing concession, and three equestrian riding concessions. New CMCA's include two mountain biking concessions.

The County's Risk Management Department has provided new General Liability Guidelines for Concession Agreements. One of the increases may impact twelve recreation concessions at Lake Pleasant; jet ski rentals, boat rentals and scuba diving. The new General Liability raises the limits by two million dollars (\$2,000,000). This new mandate will be presented to the Concessionaires upon renewal of their CMCA. This will be a financial hardship for most of the Concessionaires. It will not be feasible for these Concessionaires to continue to provide the services, which will not only limit the recreation opportunities that we provide, but will also reduce Park revenue.

FY14 CMCA Summary:



FY14 Contract Revenue Summary:



Human Resources:

- **New Hires or Transfers:**
 - Welcome to Tippy Jackson, Interpretive Ranger at Estrella (9/2/14).
 - Congratulations to Laura Jo Boyd, Contact Station Assistant at Lake Pleasant (moving from temporary to full time) (9/15/14).
 - Congratulations to Peggy Mullen, Office Assistant Specialized at San Tan (moving from temporary to regular) (9/29/14).
- **Farewells:**
 - Farewell to George Hichborn, Park Maintenance Worker (LP).
 - Farewell to Jenna Hammond, Administrative Support Specialist (HQ).
 - Farewell to Pamela Ueckerman, Administrative Assistant (White Tank).

- **Open positions and recruitments:**
 - Administrative Staff Supervisor (Lake Pleasant) – Offer accepted – Chris Simpson.
 - Contact Station Assistant (Temporary/Lake Pleasant) – Interviews Pending.
 - Administrative Support Specialist (HQ) – Open for recruitment.
 - Administrative Assistant (White Tank) – Open for recruitment.

Information Technology:

- Time was spent in September working to ensure charges for phone and internet services are correct. Several discrepancies have been documented and we are waiting for verification of the corrections.
- In conjunction with the Finance Program, the Department is now working towards better cost accounting at the Park level. Currently, charges for telephone and internet services were paid from a main administrative fund. The new process is to break out these charges by park.
- Network issues have been plaguing the Department over the last month. We have made some headway and discovered there are some issues between the downtown server and the on-site server at our new HQ location. The problems seem to have dissipated quite a bit towards the end of the month, but we are still working to eliminate all issues.

Souvenir Fund:

- Live inventory is now completely entered into the Point of Sale (POS) system. This will allow better tracking of product and provide improved information to the Parks when placing orders and determining needs. The process is being monitored and appears to be working well.
- Product review has begun for each and every product we carry. We are removing old or slow selling products to reduce inventory and also make room to add fresh inventory, carry more specialty items or one time products that are seasonal.
- Holiday products are out and available in all nature centers. This year, we have 7 new Holiday ornaments to choose from, a few new books, and new educational toys..

Volunteer Program:

- National Public Lands day was held at Lake Pleasant on September 27th. A total of 30 committed volunteers came out to clean up the shoreline. Conservation Alliance of Central Arizona supplied trash bags, water, gloves, and drinks for the event. There were scuba divers, hikers, and kayakers all serving in the park. There were 48 bags collected plus several tires, 1 destroyed trailer, 4 pop up shades, 1 radiator, 2 piles of wood, and 5 large buckets.
- Make a Difference Day was celebrated at McDowell on October 25th. The Conservation Alliance of Central Arizona supplied the wood, nails, glue, paint, and snacks for the event. Ranger Amy assisted 10 volunteers in building 8 large Bat Houses. The houses will be strategically placed around the park to encourage growth of the bat population within the park. The volunteers were very eager to learn about bats and assist with the program.
- Desert Foothills Land Trust, Anthem Community Council, and The Maricopa Parks and Recreation Department are partnering to present a trail maintenance and educational day for the community on Saturday, December 6th. The Desert Foothills Land Trust has adopted a Maricopa Trail segment through the Adopt-a-Trail program, and will be fulfilling part of their adoption agreement through the event.
- Many of the Park Hosts are now returning for the winter season. Only Lake Pleasant is still in need of 4 more host couples or individuals for the season.
- Volunteer Hours for July and August 2014:

	Sept 2014	Oct 2014
Total Dept. Hours	3,083	6,102
Financial Savings	\$69,516	\$137,596
YTD Hours	9,094	15,197
YTD Savings	\$205,075	\$342,672
Prev. Year Month Total Hours	4,252	5,776
Prev. Year YTD Hours	11,273	17,049
Prev. Year Financial Savings	\$249,583	\$377,456

Planning and Development (Engineering) Highlights as of November 10

- **Estrella Master Plan:** Progress is on-going. A "back country" visit is scheduled for December 4th.
- **Vulture Mountain Update:** Staff is continuing to process the Hassayampa River Preserve Action Plan with The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Transfer of the Preserve Property to Parks is scheduled for January 2016.
- **System Wide:** The refurbishment of all (~75) restrooms (RRs) for all the parks began in January. Currently, a scope of work (SOW) is in process for one RR at Estrella; 5 RRs are in process at McDowell; 5 RRs have been completed and 5 more are nearly complete at White Tank; and SOWs are in process for ten RRs at Lake Pleasant. Septic pumping and necessary septic upgrades have been completed at several of the parks.
New playground equipment is on order for Estrella and Utery. The Department is also looking at "testing" specialized outdoor fitness equipment.
Staff has researched various methods of refurbishing existing ramadas throughout the park system. The first ramada to be refurbished will be at McDowell.
Work is also progressing on additional projects planned for this fiscal year, including construction of electrical hook ups for individual camp sites at Cave Creek; a water "solution" (well or water line) for San Tan; and chlorination systems for Lake Pleasant.
- **Maricopa Trail and Trail Facilities:**
 - The following trail segments are currently being worked on: 11, 12, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 33, 35 and 78.
 - The following portions of the Maricopa Trail are in the final agreement stages for perpetual easements on Flood Control Department (FCD) property:
 - Segment 11 McMicken Dam – 17 miles
 - Segment 35 White Tank 3 Dam – 2.1 miles
 - Segment 35 White Tank 3 Outfall Channel – 2 miles
 - Planning new trails in the Tonto National Forest – Cave Creek and Mesa Ranger Districts, the Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve, and on the Central Arizona Project – south of Lake Pleasant Park, El Rio, Tres Rios, and the Fort McDowell Indian community.
 - Continuing sign location and inventory
 - Installing additional signage.
- **Trades Crew:** The Trades Crew was kept busy cleaning up after storm damage throughout the system, especially at the Lake and White Tank parks. Trades made repairs to the boat ramp-vault for the east dock at the 10-lane boat ramp. Trades completed programming at the Pipeline water storage tank so that the well will now operate automatically. At the DOC, the crew continued work on HVAC upgrades and began a major fire alarm upgrade project. Emergency septic work, including cleaning 11 manholes, is continuing at the DOC.
- **Trails Crew:** The Trails Crew was kept busy inspecting and repairing storm damage throughout the system. Trail repair work is ongoing. With the help of the Arizona Conservation Corps (AZCC), the Trails Crew continues new construction and trail maintenance at the Lake.

Park Operations Report

Cave Creek Regional Park:

- The park hosted 8 interpretive programs in September with 70 participants attending which included 17 repeat attendees.
- This month the *Feeding Frenzy* was the highlighted program with 23 attendees.
- In October, the park hosted 12 interpretive programs with 217 participants attending which included 29 repeat attendees. The interpretive ranger also conducted two outreach programs.
- The highlighted programs for the month: *Night Hike* with 34 attendees, *Haunted Hike* with 31 attendees and *Feeding Frenzy* with 31 attendees.
- The Park also hosted two events in October: The *Annual Cave Creek Thriller Run* with a total of 286 participants attending and the *Halloween Howl* with 177 visitors attending.

Desert Outdoor Center:

- The Boy Scouts provided funding for Ranger Natalie to attend the Boy Scouts of America National Aquatics Taskforce Workshop in Florida on Oct 21-25. On the first day of the workshop, she was able to obtain the American Canoe Association Level 1 Stand Up Paddleboarding Instructor Certification and hopes to eventually instruct Stand Up Paddleboarding classes as part of summer aquatics camp and DOC programming. Natalie was most excited about meeting the Camp Director of another Boy Scout Aquatics Day Camp in Florida and is looking forward to discussing possible solutions for some of the difficulties Lake Pleasant Aquatic Camp has faced over the years, including cost, transportation, and non-scout participation. Also, Spirit of America presented at the workshop and Natalie would like to explore the possibility of bringing this program to AZ through partnerships with other local aquatic organizations (i.e. City of Peoria, Tempe Town Lake, AZGFD) to create a type of aquatic-based "Nature Walk."

Estrella Mountain Regional Park:

- The newly hired Estrella Park Interpretive Ranger, Tippy Jackson was busy in September creating public program lesson plans, flyers and Facebook postings to draw the public to hikes and presentations. These efforts have paid off resulting in increased program attendance from previous years.
- In October, the ranger held 15 public program/hikes with 137 people participating. Among the new program topics kicked off were *Photography 101* and *Campfire Ghost Stories*. An exciting new Kids Series program has started and is a biweekly program focusing on different desert themes each month and may include activities such as crafts, games, songs, stories, play time and even live animal encounters. The kids were excited to feed and touch the little tortoises and make their own take-home tortoise craft. The parents enjoyed photographing all the fun.
- Estrella Park experienced large monsoon storm events to include several microbursts this summer. The turf area experienced many damaged trees and flooded retention areas. The Gila River that runs through the north portion of the park was flowing strongly and has retained several small lake areas. Plants and wildlife have taken full advantage of the available water. Park visitors have enjoyed the increase in watchable wildlife opportunities.
- The heavy rains damaged many park trails, washes and park boundary fences. Each park trail suffered erosional damage. Some wash crossings had major damage. Park staff and the Trails Crew repaired the wash crossings on the Competitive Track and Coldwater Trail. Repair work will be ongoing for some time.
- The Tres Rios Golf Course experienced a significant wash blowout. Flood debris, water, mud and rocks were deposited onto the fairways. The golf course closed for a week of repairs. One dirt/rock debris peninsula has been incorporated into a desert obstacle for the golfers.
- The Turf's pump system has been running reasonably well, but continues to have breaks. The Construction Crew recommends installing air bleeder valves at various locations to prevent water slamming into turns and valves causing ruptures.
- The Construction Crew has reviewed several large water supply lines and valves to the ball field area. They have corrected many discovered old installation errors resulting in a stronger irrigation water flow to the baseball fields.
- Park staff has continued to examine the park fence line and make repairs on cuts at various locations.

- Numerous prison and community service work groups have been accomplishing much needed weeding and tree trimming throughout the park.
- Phoenix International Raceway (PIR) will hold NASCAR on November 7, 8 and 9. Pre-race camping has increased in the park with early arrivals. Many RVing race attendees will camp on park property from the end of October into mid-November to experience the race festivities.

Lake Pleasant Regional Park:

- Lake Pleasant offered 30 interpretive programs to the delight of 375 participants during the months of September and October. Highlights of the two months include: *Sunset and Full Moon Paddle*, *Desert Awareness*, *Yavapai Point Trail Hike*, and a *Closer Look at Rocks and Minerals*.
- The Lake Pleasant interpretive ranger continues to assist the Desert Outdoor Center in collaboration with Cabela's retail store to promote our "Get Wet Flat Water Kayaking" class. The course provides a free informative session at the Glendale Cabela's, seeing an average of 35-40 people per session. Folks that are interested in pursuing kayaking further can register to participate in a hands-on kayaking lesson at Lake Pleasant, reaching the maximum available attendance of 15 participants. In addition, the interpretive ranger assisted the Desert Outdoor Center and Cave Creek Parks with various programs at their locations.
- The interpretive ranger led a special kayaking tour for the Office of Management and Tourism to rave reviews.
- Lake Pleasant hosted the annual National Public Lands Day Cleanup. Approximately 100 volunteers trooped through the rough, rainy weather and contributed time and effort to cleaning up various areas around Lake Pleasant. Special thanks to the volunteer coordinator, the Lake Pleasant interpretive ranger and the maintenance team for their assistance in making the cleanup a success.
- Roughly 30 volunteers from the Jewish Family and Children's Services (JFCS) provided a volunteer cleanup day in October to remove bags full of trash from Fireman's Cove. Their efforts were greatly appreciated, as this popular area is heavily impacted with litter from the high volume of traffic received.
- The Lake Pleasant Visitor Center has tentatively been scheduled for renovation starting at the end of February/early March. We are currently in the design phase of the build. The Visitor Center will be closed on February 2, until the renovation is completed (August/September 2015).
- The new trails at Lake Pleasant are drawing a lot of interest for park visitors. The new Yavapai Point Trail is being recognized in various social media outlets and is quickly becoming a visitor favorite. The Wild Burro and Cottonwood trails have also been completed. The Trails Crew, in collaboration with the Southwest Conservation Corp, is currently working on the new Beardsley Trail to connect park visitors to the southwest portion of Lake Pleasant. The trails look remarkable and the crew has done a wonderful job.
- The 10 Lane Boat Ramp dock has been repaired and is operational once again, from the damage incurred during the July 3rd storm. Special thanks to the Arizona Game & Fish Department, Trades Crew/Engineering Team, Lake Pleasant staff, and many others, for their effort on the repairs to this project.
- Lake Pleasant is pleased to welcome Alma Izaguirre as the new Park Maintenance Worker along with the promotion of Chris Simpson to Administrative Supervisor (recently held the position of Administrative Assistant at Cave Creek Regional Park). We are very excited for the efforts these two talented team members will bring to Lake Pleasant.

McDowell Mountain Regional Park

- September wrapped up the summer night ride series with the 8th and final ride. 129 riders came out and bringing the summer total to 1,127; breaking the previous record for total riders by more than 200. The night rides held in 2014 increased the average turnout from 100 riders to 140 riders per night ride.
- Before that summer series could wrap up, the fall events began with the *Javelina Jangover* and more than 300 runners in the September heat began at 7 pm and ran all night.
- October continued the special event season with the high school mountain bike race that had teams from 31 high schools with over 200 participants.
- In October, McDowell hosted 21 volunteers to do trail work on two different areas of the park.
- The interpretive ranger continued to offer programs and build awareness of the park and the programs offered. 34 programs were offered over the 2 months and had just over 100 participants.
- Storms that swept across the valley in August and September created tremendous erosion problems on most of the 80 miles of trail and tracks in the park. Park staff, community volunteers and park hosts have

combined to put in more than 100 hours of trail work. The quick repairs have been commented on many times by the mountain bikers that frequent the park. The park has been returned to a safe and ride able condition.

- By the end of October, all 19 park hosts had returned to McDowell and are working and assisting staff or training while awaiting the clearance needed to assume their duties.

San Tan Mountain Regional Park:

- San Tan provided 23 interpretive programs with 568 program participants during September. The highlight program for the month was our *9-11 Remembrance Ceremony* which attracted 80 participants.
- The park hosted its annual *Nathan Martens Arizona Memorial Ceremony* to honor the fallen Arizona soldiers from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Roughly 70 people attended the candlelit service and enjoyed a beautiful ceremony put together by the Martens family.
- We launched two projects, Volunteer Trail Maintenance Day and Archaeological Surveys, in the month of September. The park supervisor and volunteers worked on repairing areas of trail damaged by recent storms. This monsoon storm left us with gullies, water damage, erosion and much work to be done for the upcoming year.
- The archaeological surveys were tested last year and this month we completed our first official survey. Numerous pieces of pottery, rock piles and agricultural sites were discovered and have yet to be identified.
- During October, San Tan provided 29 interpretive programs with 1,348 program participants. The highlight program for the month was *Ghost-N-Goldmine* which attracted 138 participants alone.
- A new program was created to take advantage of our Halloween celebration...the *Zombie Apocalypse Survival!* This program afforded us the opportunity to utilize a growing culture of zombie enthusiasts and teach them about true desert survival. The program was attended by over 150 participants who enjoyed a half mile survival hike, stimulating games and a zombie walk contest!
- This year's *Haunted HOWL-o-ween Bash* was a huge success! Continuing with the growing tradition, San Tan entertained over 558 people with a family fun night of events including our trick or treat trail, spook-tacular trail, haunted house, creepy critter coral, costume contest face painting, snacks, fun photos and a special visit from Liberty Wildlife.
- One Eagle Scout project was completed for the month on the Spider Trail closure. The Eagle Scout project contributed 75 volunteer hours for the month.

Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area:

- The Park hosted seven interpretive programs in September with 65 participants attending and one docent led program with four attendees. The highlighted programs for the month: *Ruins of Spur Cross* with 22 attendees and *Rock Art of Spur Cross* with 17 attendees.
- The Park hosted 14 interpretive programs in October with 78 participants attending. The highlighted program for the month: *Stargazing* with 25 visitors in attendance.
- The interpretive ranger has been overseeing and coordinating trail maintenance with volunteer groups this month to prepare for the *Cave Creek Cactus Classic Mountain Bike Race*, which will be held on November 8th. The race starts in the Town of Cave Creek to Spur Cross Trail and continues on to Cave Creek Regional Park trails and back to the Town of Cave Creek. We are anticipating 250 to 300 mountain bike racing enthusiasts to participate.

Usery Mountain Regional Park:

- Usery Mountain Regional Park offered 11 interpretive ranger programs in September totaling 428 participants and one docent lead programs totaling 113 participants.
- In October, the park offered 11 interpretive ranger programs totaling 663 participants and one docent lead programs totaling 31 participants.
- 198 ghosts joined our ghost ranger on our annual *Goofy Ghost Walk!* Families came to the park dressed as ghosts and participated in a quarter-mile hike, a costume contest, and some fun games. The ghosts were treated to snacks and funny ghost stories around a bonfire.
- Usery set up a booth at the Tonto Mesa Ranger District's Volunteer Open House. Outdoor agencies from around the Mesa area were on site handing out information on volunteer opportunities for the upcoming season.

- The park received and installed a Memorial Bench donation which was placed on Cat Peaks Trail.

White Tank Mountain Regional Park:

- Park staff and volunteers presented a total of 27 programs with 856 visitors attending and an additional 665 as part of partnerships and outreach programs. The popular program to end September was the *Super Scorpion Search*, attended by 75 participants. The interpretive ranger partnered with the City of Buckeye for an archeology hike for 50 people to the Verrado petroglyph site. The *1st Annual Halloween Party* highlighted a luminary-lighted trail. Trick-or-treaters were delighted by coyote, owl, and spade foot toad sounds thanks to sound machines on loan from Audubon Arizona.
- The Audubon Arizona Rio Salado Nature Center is partnering with White Tank Park in a 6-month pilot for program exchange. The park's interpretive ranger is assisting with Audubon's Animal Adventures Winter Break Camp and their annual Enchanted Trail event. In exchange, Audubon staff is loaning Maricopa County the use of numerous props for White Tank's Halloween Party as well as a staff commitment to assist at the park's December Outdoor Adventure Family Day. The pilot program is expected to provide mutual benefit to both organizations.
- Dutch-Oven cooking has come to White Tank Park! The interpretive ranger debuted a *Dutch Oven Cooking Demonstration and Sampler*. Her new program was a delicious success with 48 participants. Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts assisted as cooks and shared samples of a variety of dishes including pizza and chocolate cake. Volunteers Rodger and Shannon Wilson entertained with folk songs around the campfire and the Estrella interpretive ranger entertained the kids while their pizza was cooking. Due to popular demand, the savory program will be continued to be offered with many of the original participants wanting to be cooks in the future.
- The new White Tank Conservancy group that includes the Town of Buckeye, Verrado Homeowners Association, the Arizona Conservation Alliance and the Parks Department met in September. In addition to brainstorming for an October kick-off meeting, it was decided that an updated inventory of the natural and cultural resources needs to be completed first in order to best protect the mountain range. In October, the kickoff luncheon at the Verrado Golf Club showcased the project to West Valley stakeholders and participating agencies. There are five focus areas: Regional Planning, headed by Parks Director RJ Cardin, Stewardship and Volunteerism, Advocacy and Public Policy, Research Education and Training, and Tourism and Public Attraction.
- The 2014 monsoon season did not disappoint. On September 8th, four inches of rain caused flooding on the park roads at washes crossing over Olive Avenue. The park was closed for several hours until the water receded and the debris could be cleaned up. The White Tank Library closed for the day as well. The culverts at Area 7 were overwhelmed causing road damage.
- Trail and picnic area repairs in response to the heavy rain damage from September are ongoing. The Mountain Bike Association of Arizona volunteers effectively repaired unsafe areas on the Sonoran loop Competitive Track in September. Luke Air Force Base and Hands On Greater Phoenix also repaired trail damage removed invasive weeds on Waterfall Trail in September. Boy Scouts of America Troop 239 effectively repaired unsafe areas on the Sonoran Loop Competitive Track in October. The high school bike team, Estrella Wolves, who are coming out for the race in November also helped with trail maintenance.
- Maintenance staff and volunteers continue with daily work such as roadside trimming at intersections and some trail repair on lower trails. Staff also continues the aggressive schedule on the north boundary for fence repair and monitoring. Several fences were damaged at the washes on the east boundary, but all have been repaired.
- The new horseback trail riding vendor is already taking out rides and marketing aggressively for the park and their new business. The new vendors are energetic and the partnership is welcomed.
- All hosts have now returned and are already assisting with manning the entry station, the nature center and campground.

Vulture Mountain Regional Park:

- Continued planning efforts both with regards to the Hassayampa River Preserve and Bureau of Land Management lands.