



### A Toss of the Coin Determines Winner of Fourth Town Council Seat

September 23, 2014

At the Primary Election held August 26th, residents voted to fill four open seats on the Gila Bend Town Council. The winning candidates were Chuck Turner with 130 votes, Tommy Lee Sikes with 111 votes and Clyde Kreeger, also with 111 votes. Two candidates, Daniel Birchfield and Jesus Rubalcave, both received 105 votes each, resulting in a tie for the one remaining open seat.

According to Arizona Statutes, to break a tie between candidates, a winner shall be "determine(d) by lot and in the presence of the candidates which candidate shall be declared elected". The method chosen by the Town Council to determine the winner was by the toss of a coin. Judge JB Getzwiller was chosen to toss the coin at 5:00pm, on September 23rd prior to the Work Session/Council Meeting. One coin was chosen from the three \$1 coins provided by Town Clerk Beverly Turner, who also read the rules relating to the coin toss. It was determined prior to the toss that Candidate Birchfield would be "heads" and Candidate Rubalcava would be "tails".

All eyes watched as Judge J.B. Getzwiller flipped the coin high and then as it settled on the floor...TAILS! Congratulations to Jesus Rubalcava as the fourth elected Council Member.

This is the first time in Gila Bend's history that a winner of a council seat has been determined by the toss of a coin. In 2009, Carefree broke a tie for a Council seat by drawing cards and every Arizonan knows that Show Low, Arizona received its name by the drawing of a card. (C.E. Cooley drew a deuce of clubs, beating out Marion Clark who, as loser of the draw, had to leave the newly named settlement of Show Low.) Gila Bend joins the ranks of the few cities/towns who have determined a winner "by lot".



(L-R: Watching the coin in the air; waiting for the results of the toss; Council Members Ron Henry and Fernando Fernandez)

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### Pitch-In For Gila Bend

October 25, 2014



The **Annual Pitch-In for Gila Bend Community Clean-Up** is set for **Saturday, October 25th beginning at 8:00am to 2:00pm**. Show your community pride by participating in this annual event that includes a free lunch, prizes and a T-Shirt designed by a Gila Bend student. **Participants will meet at the Community Center by 8:00am, EXCEPT for Crew Leaders, who should arrive by 7:30am to meet.**

Crew Leaders are still needed, so if you are interested in being a Crew Leader, call (928) 683-6502 for more information or register online by entering Zip Code "85337" at <http://makeadifferenceday.com>. Registration can be done at the Community Center, 202 N. Euclid, on the day of the event from 8:00 – 8:30am. Clean-up will be done by teams in designated areas until 12:00 noon when teams head back for lunch and prizes from 12:00 noon – 2:00pm. Other refreshments will also be provided during the cleanup.

Grab your friends and come make a difference! **Don't forget to bring your hat and gloves!**



(L-R: Town Clerk Beverly Turner provides instructions to Judge Getzwiller and members of the Town Council; preparing to toss the coin; Chuck Turner and Mayor Steve Holt; Council Members Buddy Turner and Tommy Lee Sikes)



**Wishing you a Safe & Happy Halloween**  
**From Mayor, Council, Management & Staff**

## October Community Calendar



- 10/02 - /03 – Farmers Market: Care 1st Resource Center
- **10/14 – Council Meeting: 6:00 - Media Center**
- 10/18 – Youth Tackle Football ends
- **10/25 – Pitch-In for Gila Bend Community Clean-UP**
- **10/28 – Council Meeting: 6:00 - Media Center**
- **10/30 – Fright Night - Community Park: 6pm - 9pm**
- 11/15 – Gila Bend Grand Prix/Sonoran Desert Fest



## Clerks Corner

October 2014



### November 4th – General Election

On Tuesday, August 26th, Gila Bend held their Primary Election where residents voted to fill four (4) open Council seats. Residents also voted on the Home Rule Option, which passed, allowing Gila Bend residents to continue to choose what they feel is best for Gila Bend.

Vice Mayor Chuck Turner and Council Member Tommy Lee Sikes will continue serving on the Council and the newly elected council members Clyde Kreeger and Jesus Rubalcava to be officially seated in November.

## About Your Town Employees

October 2014



Teresa Smith attended the Southwest Executive Leadership Program in Tucson this past month on a full scholarship awarded her by the Arizona Building Officials. Each year, the Arizona Building Officials award partial scholarships to a very small number of people. This is the first time a full scholarship has been awarded. The leadership program focuses on the complexities, challenges, and rewards of leadership as a public servant. At the graduation ceremony, Teresa received a certificate in Advanced Leadership through the Eller College of Management/University of Arizona. Way to go, Teresa! Congratulations on your accomplishment!

Teresa is the Counter Service Coordinator in the Building Safety Division of the Planning and Economic Development Department of the Town of Gila Bend. She began working for the Town on October 8th of 2007. This month she will be celebrating seven years of employment with the Town.

## Parks & Recreation

October 2014



On Saturday, October 18th, the **Youth Tackle Football** program for youths between the ages of 11 – 14 years will end for this year. The Youth Tackle Football program **will play their last games on Saturday, October 18th** at the **Community Park beginning at 10:00am and at McMahon Field beginning at 12:00 noon.**



Dress up the kids and put your costumes on because it is that time of year when goblins and ghosts rule! This year the **Annual Fright Night** will be held at **Community Park on Thursday, October 30th from 6:00 – 9:00pm.** Carve your best pumpkin at home and bring it along for the Pumpkin Carving Contest (three categories). Planned activities include a hayride to the Pumpkin Patch, food booths, costume contests (four age groups with three categories each), dunking booth, inflatables, haunted house, cake walk and more! Don't be a scaredy cat....creep on down to the park on **October 30th** and have a ghoulishly good time!

**Gila Bend Grand Prix Racing** is coming back to town on **Saturday, November 15th.** The Grand Prix will be held in conjunction with the **Sonoran Desert Fest.** Grand Prix races will include unclassified bikes, Pee Wee racing, Big Bikes, ATV's, UTV's, Mini's and Trikes. A 20-mile (approximate) loop trail ride is planned from 3:00 – 5:00pm. To participate or just enjoy as a spectator, take Cemetery Road and follow the signs to the race location. Gates will open on **Friday, November 14th from 4pm – 10pm and Saturday, November 15th at 6am.** Bring the family and plan to have some fun!

Contact Parks & Recreation Director Colby Turner or Chuck Lowther at **928-683-2255** for more information on Parks & Recreation planned events and scheduled programs.

## Pit Operating Hours and Days

October 2014



Just a reminder....The Pit is open from **8:00am to 4:30pm on Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.** The pit is closed during the pit operators lunch break from 12:00 noon - 12:30pm. The Pit is **CLOSED ON TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY.**

