



# The Roadrunner

News you can use from around the Desert Hills Fire District

November 2014

## FIRST PANCAKE BREAKFAST RECORD BREAKER

*By Hal Ries*

*DHFD Auxiliary Chairman*

WOW!! Everyone survived the summer and we're excited to once again "ramp up" our activities with the Desert Hills Fire Department Auxiliary. Shirley and I returned just in time to help with the first Pancake breakfast of the season held on Saturday October 4th.

The morning was just right, the weather was perfect and the Auxiliary was ready for our community to share the first of six breakfasts (remaining breakfasts scheduled the first Saturday every month through April), and two spaghetti dinners (November 15th and March 21st

As usual the pancakes and sausage were great, hot off the grill. Our wonderful kitchen volunteers/members led by the best biscuit and gravy maker in the world delivered an endless supply of hot and tasty biscuits and gravy. Gallons of coffee and juice were consumed while folks conversed over the tables and got reacquainted.

While most our winter friends have not yet returned, we had a tremendous day serving 296 neighbors and friends from around our community. Last year we served 186 people at the October breakfast. Because of the continued turnout received from the community, our Auxiliary is able to financially support our local fire department with much needed equipment.

The breakfast was a complete success due to the hard work of a number of dedicated people that included: seven Auxiliary members, four community volunteers, and eight members from our great FIRE DEPARTMENT.

## COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS BASKETS

As the holidays are quickly approaching, the Auxiliary will be looking to help members of our community with Christmas baskets.

Collection boxes will be located throughout the community for donations of non-perishable food and toys. Toys need to be wrapped and identified for a boy or girl. The appropriate age of the child for the toy should also be included.

The collection boxes will be available starting November 1st to December 15th at the following locations: Desert Hills Mini Mart and Post Office, Hilltop Grocery, Janice's Beauty Salon, Havasu Gardens club house, Prospectors Rv Park club house, Desert Hills Fire Department, Lakeridge Estates club house, and Canterbury Estates club house.

The Auxiliary will be assembling the baskets on December 18th and 19th at the Desert Hills Fire Department.



Jeremy Woodard  
Owner

phone: 928.854.FAST  
(3278)

fax 928.854.3282



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***THE FIRE DEPARTMENT WELCOMES  
 FALL AND FIRE SAFETY***

**By Firefighter Alecia Wertz**

The Fire Department welcomed the cooler weather this October! Not only did we meet fall last month, but October was our Fire Safety Month. Our Chief and Administrator have been working with State Farm Insurance to apply for a grant that will supply us with smoke and carbon monoxide detectors for our community. These detectors will be for your standard home and also for mobile and motor homes! If approved for this grant, it will be a great asset to our community.

Speaking of smoke detectors, please don't forget to change the batteries in your smoke detectors once a year, and replace any detectors that are over ten years old. If you need any assistance with maintaining your smoke detectors, please contact the Desert Hills Fire Department and we would be more than happy to assist you!

Along with October being Fire Safety Month, we as a department attended Home Depots SafetyFair which was geared towards teaching children and the community about safety. At the Safety Fair we brought E-21 and the community got to climb in our engine and check out our equipment. We got the chance to explain to the public what some of our equipment is used for, and we passed out plastic fire hats and stickers to the children. We also brought a little fire engine wagon that the children were able to ride in while one of the fire fighters pulled them around. All in all, it was a great time to interact with the public and teach them about safety.

We also had the organization Mile Marker Therapy come to our department with a group of their students. DHFD gave them a tour of the fire department. The children got to see one of our fire-fighters put his fire gear and air pack on. Each of the children got to spray water out of a fire hose, and we taught them what to do if they were to ever catch fire; STOP, DROP, and ROLL! The children were taught what number to call (9-1-1!) in case of an emergency, or a fire. We have done a great deal contributing to Fire Safety Month and we will continue to do so!

October was also Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and our department was supporting the cause by wearing pink duty shirts! So if you were wondering why our firefighters were wearing pink, now you know! We were able to sport these shirts on some calls last month as well. Our department ran quite a few medical calls in October, along with a head on collision in front of Lowes that involved seven patients, and a couple car fires. We even had some mutual aid calls as well, which is where we send one of our engines to assist Lake Havasu City Fire.

To wrap up last month's happenings, we would like to thank everyone who came to Octobers Pancake Breakfast. As well as to those who made it a success! We would also like to encourage our community to stay safe, and stay healthy. Wear your seat belt, wash your hands, exercise, make sure you make it to your doctor appointments and stay compliant with any medications you may have. We wish the best for everyone in our community, thank you!

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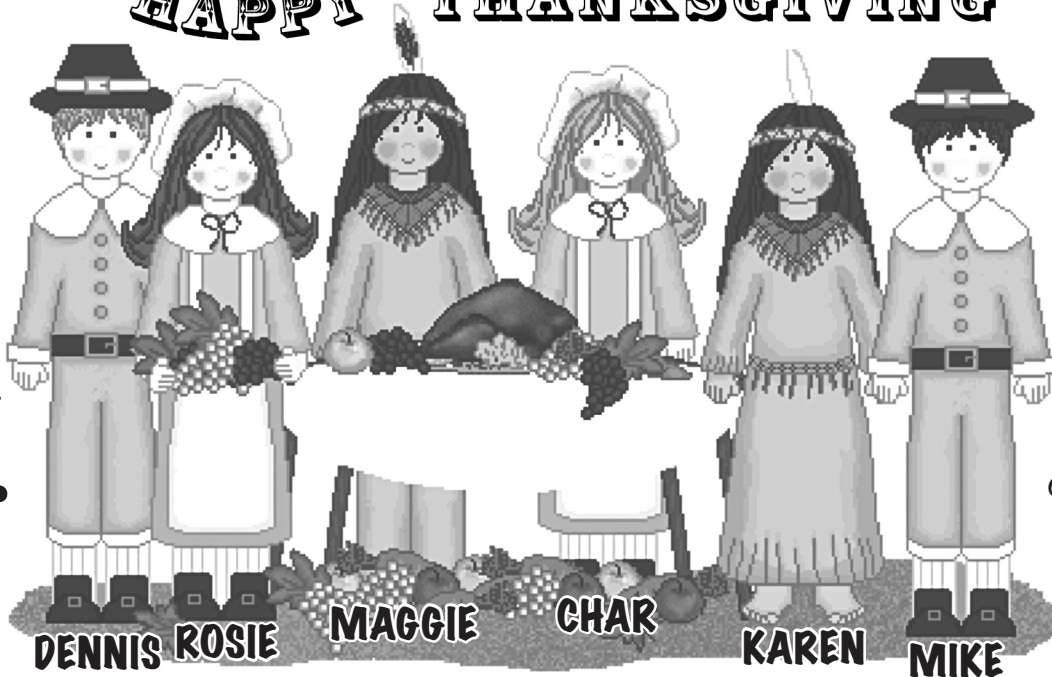
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## MOVE OVER, IT'S THE LAW

### By Captain Bryant Stanec

In light of a recent "Close Call" our Desert Hills Firefighters experienced last month on I-40, we would like to remind everyone to **Move Over or Pull Over** when you see Flashing Emergency Lights.

Our Firefighters were on scene of a single vehicle accident when a semi-truck driver plowed through our scene at a high rate of speed, striking a passenger vehicle causing a second accident. Luckily no firefighters were injured, but it was a "close call" and reminder of how dangerous our job is.

Arizona's "Move Over" law requires motorists to move over one lane — or slow down if it is not safe to change lanes — when driving by any vehicle with flashing lights pulled to the side of a road or highway.

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Arizona's "Move Over" law applies to all vehicles with flashing lights pulled over on any freeway, multilane highway or city road or street. It aims to protect everyone who uses our roads and highways and everyone who works on or next to them.

Drivers who are cited for violating the law could be required to pay a fine ranging from \$150 to \$650 depending upon jurisdiction. Arizona Revised Statute 28-775 (e)

### Did you know...

*-1 Tow Truck Driver is killed every 6 Days.*

*-23 Highway Workers are killed every month.*

*- 1 Law Enforcement Officer is killed every month.*

*-5 Firefighters are killed every year.*

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Interested in helping support the Desert Hills Fire Department Auxiliary with their many activities?

Enjoy volunteering?

Love to have a good time while helping those in your community?

Have a couple free days a month?

The Auxiliary would love to have you join and attend our monthly meetings and fund raising efforts. New ideas and volunteers are always welcome.

**The Auxiliary meets the third Tuesday of every month from October to March in the Si Mock building at the Desert Hills Fire Department.**

The Auxiliary is looking forward to a very successful 2014-2015 season. Welcome back to all our winter visitors and friends. You are instrumental in the Auxiliary's success along with our very dedicated community support. Any questions? Don't hesitate to call or email me.

Hal Ries

928-764-2321

Halr23@hotmail.com



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# VOTE

November 4, 2014



**Char Beltran**  
(CHARLOTTE)



**Judy Moore**  
(JUDITH)

## Desert Hills Fire District Board of Directors

Desert Hills District voters cast your vote in the  
SiMock Building behind the fire department

Office: (928) 764-5263 Fax: (928) 764-4066  
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### MY HAPPY PLACE

#### By Danielle Kentch

My name is Danielle Kentch and I was born and raised in the quaint outskirts of Lake Havasu City. I lived in the same bedroom, in the same house for 17 years of my life. Once I graduated high school, I can easily say I was anxious to leave, I didn't even wait to turn 18! Not only did I want to get out of Desert Hills, but I wanted to get away from Arizona. I wanted to find the furthest, most culturally shocking place on the map, so I moved to Hawai'i. Now, I could write for pages about how wonderful it is to live where everyone dreams, and few can afford to vacation, or about the love I have found for the islands and its people. However, the purpose of this article is not to tease you with the cultural experiences you're missing out on in the Aloha State. My hopes of writing this is to convey the appreciation and admiration I have acquired for Lake Havasu, and more specifically, Desert Hills, since moving away.

First of all, don't let anyone fool you, NOTHING beats an Arizona sunset! I have witnessed a couple breathtaking sunsets from the shores of Hawai'i, and there is certainly a mysterious beauty in watching the sun slip away behind the horizon of the ocean. However, none of them compare to the mesmerizing purples, pinks, and oranges in the skies of an Az sunset. Our mountain range gives them a unique backdrop and magical quality than cannot be duplicated anywhere else in the world, not even Hawai'i.

Another one of my favorite things about this area is how peaceful it is. And let me tell you, I have experienced "peaceful" in many different contexts in my short 20 years. I've lain in a field of grass in an isolated city in Missouri, watching the fireflies dance above our heads and listening to the horses neigh in the distance. I have felt the entrancing power of a crackling camp fire on a cool night, where the stars are so visible and awe-stricking, it makes you feel insignificant and yet part of the universe's grand design at the same time. I have sat on what felt like the edge of the world, with my toes in the soft sand, staring off across the vast ocean, watching the waves roll in and out, questioning and confirming my purpose in this life. I have hiked to the top of many tall mountains and looked down on the world I submerge myself in, giving it new meaning and beauty. But none of these peaceful moments in my life compare to being gently rocked to sleep in our boat at (what was once) the Sandbar while listening to the bullfrogs croaking and the crickets chirping. Or sitting on my mother's front porch, right on the edge of the wildlife refuge, relishing in the beauty and quiet of the area, aside, of course, from the occasional bore fight or donkey heehawing.

I can remember as a small child and young

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See you soon!

teen complaining about living so far away from the city and never having anything to do “alllllll the way out here.” As I’ve grown, however, I have really started to appreciate the solitude we are blessed with on the outskirts of Lake Havasu. I am not the only one who comes out here to escape the pressures and stress of every day life. I have childhood friends who want nothing more than to make the trip out to my mother’s front porch when I come home from the islands to visit. Those who used to complain about driving “all the way out here” jump at the opportunity to come unwind in this peaceful neighborhood. It warms my heart how comfortable everyone is here, as a result of not only my mother’s welcoming arms, but also the relaxing effect this place tends to have on anyone who ventures past Lake Havasu’s city limits.



Not only do my friends love to hang out here, reminiscing about old times, but this place is beautiful enough for my cousin’s fiancé to want to get married on our front porch, with the wildlife refuge as a backdrop! To get an outsider’s perspective who didn’t grow up out here really made me realize what a unique place this is. The fact that it is worthy of being someone’s wedding photo backdrop really says something about the beauty of this area.

But enough about my personal feelings encompassed by Desert Hills, I’m sure you don’t need me to tell you how beautiful it is here. My point is that even though my new home is in Hawai’i, which is quite literally paradise, Desert Hills will always hold a special place in my heart. The more time that passes and the further I venture away from my childhood home, the more my fondness for it grows, and the more I appreciate all the little things I used to not only take for granted, but despise.

So next time your kid or grandchild complains about being “alllllll the way out here,” show them my story. It’s very true that the grass isn’t always greener on the other side. *While it is nice Hawai’i actually has grass, and luscious green grass at that,* this place, here in Desert Hills, is and always will be, **my happy place.**

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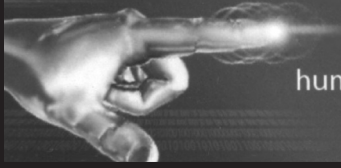
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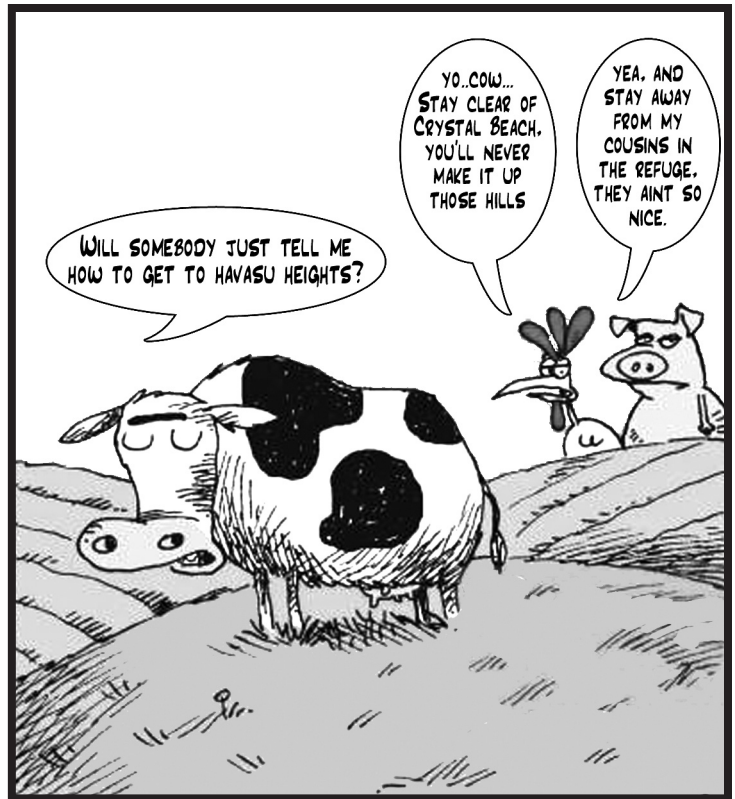
Lake Havasu City, AZ

## **DESERT HILLS FIRE DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWS**

Our first meeting for this season of the Desert Hills Fire District Community Association was held on October 7. A good crowd of firefighters, Fire Chief Weber and residents of the district were in attendance.

Speaker Peter Pakes spoke on the necessity of voting for the school bond issue on the ballot in November. He talked of the much needed repairs needed for the schools, such as, restrooms, concession stands, repairs to the football fields, more seating and many more items.

Mike Eingenbrodt, Director of The Interagency, also spoke to the crowd. He spoke of the different programs they have for anyone in need. Programs such as the food bank, battered women's home, home for needy veterans and the many other programs the agency offers. He also said he would like the Desert Hills area to bring the food bank back to the Desert Hills District. We are currently working with Mr. Eingenbrodt to try and make that happen.



Mr Eingenbrodt also shared his success in directing the opening of Havasu's first Culinary school. The school will be located at the old Sky Box Restaurant on S. Palo Verde. He indicated his excitement and desire to see Havasu advancing in the Culinary industry especially since our community caters to tourism. This opportunity for our college kids is a big step for Havasu.

The next meeting of the Community Association will be held at 7 P.M. on

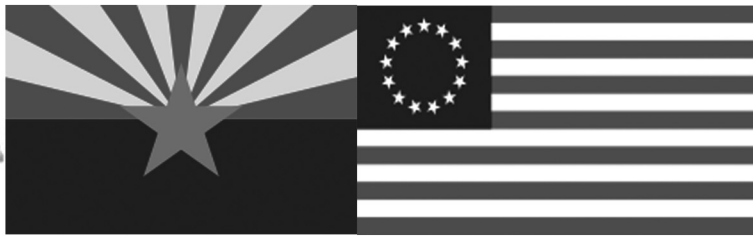
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November 4th in the Fire department bay due to being election day and voters will be in the SiMock room. Guest speaker will be Bennett Bratley from Mohave County Economic Development.

All residents, business owners and property owners, in the Desert Hills Fire District; Desert Hills, Crystal Breach, Havasu Heights, are members of the Desert Hills Fire District Community Association.

**ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE MEETINGS**  
We'd sure like to see you November 4th.

## *GRANT NEWS*

The October Desert Hills Fire District Board meeting included approval to purchase new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) units. The department spent two months inspecting three different brands of SCBA units. The firefighters are very excited to finally confirm the order of 20 Avon Deltair SCBA units with spare 45 minute tanks. The fire department expects delivery in about 6 weeks. We will announce their arrival in the Roadrunner, you are always welcome to come check them out.

**DESERT HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT  
AUXILIARY**

-2014-2015 SCHEDULE-

**SATURDAYS AT 8:00-10:30 A.M.**

PANCAKE OR SAUSAGE GRAVY & BISCUIT  
BREAKFAST

October 4, 2014  
November 1, 2014  
December 6, 2014  
January 3, 2015  
February 7, 2015  
March 7, 2015  
April 4, 2015

**SATURDAYS AT 4:00-7:00 P.M.**

SPAGHETTI DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

November 15, 2014  
March 21, 2015

SILENT AUCTION BIDDING BEGINS AT 2:00 P.M.

**DESERT HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT  
AUXILIARY**

Pancake  
Breakfast



Biscuits and Gravy TOO!

**Saturday November 1st**

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# Spaghetti Dinner



# \$5

**Saturday  
November 15<sup>th</sup>**

at the **Desert Hills Fire Department**, Station #1  
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4pm to 7pm

Dinner includes spaghetti with red sauce,  
salad, drink, garlic toast and dessert

**ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE DESERT HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT**