

July 4th Event A Success

7,000 to 10,000 people watch fireworks in area of high school

By Christina Fuoco-Karasinski
The News

Between 7,000 and 10,000 people viewed the City of Apache Junction's fireworks display on the high school's Davis Field or from surrounding areas, according to City Councilwoman Robin Barker.

Chrystal Sawyer, C.P.R.P, recreation coordinator II, City of Apache Junction's Parks and Recreation Department, called the event a success.

"The City of Apache Junction Parks and Recreation would like to say thanks to everyone who helped make this year's Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration one of the best ever," Sawyer said.

"We would like to thank Allied Waste. Without their funding, it is likely that we wouldn't be having this wonderful community event. Another thank you to the following local supporters: Frontier Ace Hardware, Mediacom Communications, Apache Junction Little League, County Supervi-



The crowd at Apache Junction High School watches the annual fireworks display on July 4.

sor Bryan Martyn and P&R Commissioner Tess Nesser. Not to mention the numerous agencies who allowed us to place donation bins at their places of businesses, community members, and the community residents who came out & participated at our event."

Allied Waste donated \$20,000 to the event. Councilman Chip Wilson told the

City Council Tuesday, July 6, that the fundraising has begun for next year's event. So far, collectors gathered \$1,700 at the event, he said.

Sawyer also wished to thank the Apache Junction Unified School District, the Apache Junction Police Department, Apache Junction Fire District, and Apache Junction Park Rangers for their help in securing the event and providing a safe environment to the citizens of Apache Junction.

The Apache Junction High School Booster Club and other nonprofits provided food and games. While the band the Cover-Ups, featuring Mayor John Insalaco, kept the crowd entertained. Other events included the skate competition, the free sand volleyball tournament, open swim at the pool, free wacky pool activities, the free watermelon, the free kid contests, and the free inflatable games for the kids.

"We had a great turnout and we hope to see everyone again in the future," Sawyer said.

The winners of the 2010 AJPR/UBF Locals Only

Skate Competition were:

- **8 years and younger:** First Place, Braden Stelma; Second Place, Dylan Wampler and Third Place, Kyle Carter.

- **9-11 Year Olds:** First Place, Cam Seddick; Second Place, Ethan Zimmerman and Third Place, Drake Hendrix.

- **12-14 Year Olds:** First Place, Dashawn Jordan; Second Place, Joey Cattabiani and Third Place, Chance Menendez.

- **15-17 Year Olds:** First Place, Adrian Hernandez; Second Place, Andrew Crawford and Third Place, Michael Heiser.

- **Girls Division:** First Place, Jessyka Bailey; Second Place, Kierra Delco and Third Place, Anna Gonzalez.

- **18 and Older:** First Place, Adam Arunski; Second Place, Dustin Cutlip and Third, Place Mike Tyler.

- **Best Trick Winner:** Dustin Cutlip

Winners of other events include:

- **Sand Volleyball Tournament:** First Place winners AJ Spikers; Second Place La Familia.

- **Float Decorating Contest:** Apache Junction Parks and Recreation offered a Bike and Wagon Float Decorating Contest during 4th of July festivities. Patriots of all ages came out to show their pride for America, by decorating their favorite bike or wagon. The winners in the three different categories are:

- **Most Patriotic:** First Place, Kaylee Kallas; Second Place, Jesse Heck and Third Place, Stephanie Snyder.

- **Most Creative:** First Place, Lilyauna West; Second Place Kaela Busse.

- **Best Overall:** First Place, Harley St. John; Second Place Adalyne Heck.

- **Best Overall Group:** Kylie and Olivia Taylor.

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