

Symphony of the Canyons at Pipe Spring

The National Park Service is pleased to announce the Symphony of the Canyons will perform for a second year, on September 6, at Pipe Spring National Monument.

Pipe Spring National Monument Superintendent John Hiscock stated, "The partnership between the National Park Service and the Symphony worked out great for an initial performance in 2013, and we are pleased to once again host the Symphony this year. The partnership and performance supports the Park Service initiative of providing arts in the parks experiences and helps build community relations.

"We look forward to a wonderful early evening

performance in a historic setting, and, hopefully, with a beautiful sunset as a backdrop. The National Park Service extends its thanks to Symphony Executive Director Betty Colston and founder and Conductor Kortney Stirland for making this concert at Pipe Spring a reality."

Included in the evening's program will be the following selections:

- *American Frontier*—a medley of popular 19th century folk music;
- *El Capitan* – John Philip Sousa;
- *A String of Pearls, American Patrol, and Moonlight Serenade* – orchestral arrangements from the Big Band Era;
- *Buglers Holiday* (trumpets and orchestra) – Leroy Anderson

• *Napoli* – featuring D. J. Barraclough on trumpet; and,

• *Georgia on my Mind*—featuring Moccasin resident Jack Allen on trombone.

The concert will take place on Saturday, September 6, at 6 p.m. AZ time (7 p.m. UT time). The public is encouraged to arrive at approximately 5:30 p.m. and bring camp chairs for seating. No fees will be charged for this performance, and entrance to the Monument for those arriving after 5 p.m. (MST).

Pipe Spring National Monument is approximately 21 miles from Kanab, Utah, and 60 miles from St. George, Utah – just off of Arizona Hwy 389 between the two.

Grand Canyon announces interim permits for organized groups conducting rim-to-rim and extended day hiking and running

The National Park Service (NPS) will begin issuing Special Use Permits on an interim basis for organized, non-commercial rim-to-rim and extended day hiking and running in the inner canyon of Grand Canyon National Park. The inner canyon is defined as the area below Tonto Platform (Tipoff and Indian Garden) from the South Rim and below Manzanita Resthouse (Pumphouse Residence) from the North Rim. Permits will be issued to groups with activities planned for after September 15, 2014.

Rim-to-rim and extended day hiking and running, which also includes rim-to-river-to-rim and rim-to-rim-to-rim, is not new in Grand Canyon National Park but has been increasing in popularity over the last several years. The NPS estimates that up to 800 people are traveling in the inner canyon during peak weekend days in spring and fall. Of that, 400 to 600 people are hiking or running rim-to-rim in a single day. Activities take place on the Bright Angel, South and North Kaibab Trails (known as the corridor trails). These trails provide diverse recreation opportunities for hikers, backpackers, mule riders, and runners.

Increased day use on these inner canyon trails has resulted in increased user conflicts. Other issues related to inner-canyon use include abandoning or caching gear on the trails; increased litter, including human waste; crowding at restrooms and attraction sites; an overburdened waste water treatment plant; vehicle congestion and crowding at trailheads; and general concerns over trail courtesy with other visitors. Park rangers are also seeing an increase in un-prepared and injured rim-to-rim participants resulting in additional search and rescue responses, which then results in an overall delay of all search and rescue operations.

The NPS is currently revising its 1988 Backcountry Management Plan through the preparation of an environmental impact statement. Organized,

non-commercial, rim-to-rim and extended day hiking and running, are among the uses that will be addressed in the plan. The park expects to release a draft plan this fall for public review and comment. Special Use Permits will be issued for rim-to-rim and extended day hiking and running to protect park resources and the public interest until the plan is completed. Park staff will continue to monitor this activity and any associated impacts and may implement changes through the interim permit process if necessary.

Organized groups, including non-profits, conducting rim-to-rim and extended hiking and running will be required to obtain a Special Use Permit. Information about Special Use Permits for these activities, including permit applications and fees can be found on Grand Canyon National Park's website at <http://www.nps.gov/grca/parkmgmt/sup.htm>.

Generally, any group, regardless of size, which has advertised to the general public, required individuals to sign up prior to participation, or that has an organizer who has been compensated for their services, including subsidized participation, will be required to obtain a Special Use Permit. Commercial rim-to-rim day use will not be authorized. The NPS will not limit the number of permits issued; however, group size, under a permit will be limited to 30 individuals, including organizers. A permittee or their organization (club, non-profit, group, etc.) will be allowed to obtain one permit per day. Permits will include guidelines built on the *Leave No Trace* principles to help protect park resources and enhance the experience and safety of all trail users.

"With rim-to-rim and extended day hiking and running increasing in popularity, we needed to find an interim solution that would give us the tool to educate hikers and runners on best practices until we have a longer-term solution in place," stated Park Superintendent Dave Uberuaga.

Park rangers encourage all visitors planning a hike in Grand Canyon National

Park learn more about *Trail Courtesy Practices That Leave No Trace* and *How to Hike Smart*. Information about these practices can help save park resources and lives, and can be found at <http://www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/courtesy.htm> and <http://www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/hike-tips.htm>.

All inner canyon users are encouraged to participate in the planning process for Grand Canyon's Backcountry Management Plan. To follow the process click on the National Park Service's Planning, Environment, and Public Comment website at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/grca>.

For questions about Special Use Permits, please call 928-638-7707.

Grand to Grand Ultra (G2G) Founders enthusiastic about Third Edition

By Susana Young

The third Grand to Grand Ultra (G2G) will begin in just two weeks. Colin and Tess Geddes, married for 25 years, co-founded and co-direct Ultra Challenge America LLC, which provides the G2G event. Now in their mid-50s, they look and act young. They have lived in several countries over the years and bring a special international perspective to the area.

Tess directs the operations for G2G. She is revered for her role as "mother hen" to the runners—full of positive energy and motivation. She has organized and managed sports events like ultra-marathons, but she also loves to compete in them. Her ultra runs span the globe: Argentina, Egypt, France, Morocco, Chile, Libya, the Philippines, UAE and the U.S. She is also a committed race volunteer. One of her volunteer highlights was working the alpine events at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Whistler, BC, Canada.

Colin is the business director for G2G. His background includes international investment banking. He is very focused on keeping G2G planning on track, and looking at new ways to enhance the event. He is also focused on generating media interest. As a keen sportsman in his own right (he also volunteered at the 2010 Winter Olympics), Colin has been an avid supporter of Tess in her ultramarathon participations over the last 10 years.

Harry Barber, BLM Kanab Field Office Manager, says Colin and Tess are passionate about these types of events, know what they are doing and are good at it. "Colin and Tess came up with a great dream to bring an ultra marathon



Tess and Colin Geddes prepare for third annual G2G. (photo courtesy of G2G Ultra).

here. BLM needed to help determine race routes and make sure this event would not negatively impact our environment. Ultimately, it was a win-win," Barber said.

"G2G has helped awaken and deepen the excitement we have about outdoor adventure in Kane County," Commissioner Dirk Clayson says. He further states, "The endurance factors of G2G have introduced us to many world-class athletes, and helped many of us to wake up some of the inner athlete that is in us all. We really appreciate that Colin and Tess have offered to sponsor local entries. This gives our local community a special connection to the event."

Matt Brown is pleased with the exposure Kanab gets in trail-running magazines and websites, "...which exposes a good number of runners to the beauty and hospitality of our area each year." Brown says G2G "...has brought to my attention the talents of many local folks who have given much of their time and effort to make G2G happen."

"We look forward to once again welcoming participants from all over the world to the Grand to Grand Ultra, the most spectacular and ambitious endurance event in North America today," Colin says. "Not only has G2G brought new people to the Kanab area, but friendships and connections have been made within the community."

Tess and Colin have fallen in love with Kanab and the vast beauty that surrounds it. Earlier this year when they were in Kanab to prepare for G2G (running camp, etc.), they decided to purchase a home here. While their home base is in London, they look forward to spending a good amount of time here each year.

They hope to see many locals at the "cheering station"—a first this year—to applaud the runners as they come through Angel Canyon at Best Friends. Look for more information about that in the coming weeks.

Southern Utah Clinic Expands Speciality Services in Kanab



From left to right - Herman Garreaud, PA-C; Jonathan Bowman, MD; Darin Ott, DO; Mark Overas, PA-C

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Orthopedics, part of the Southern Utah Clinic

system of care, are now seeing patients regularly at the Kanab Family Medicine location. The providers from both specialties are excited to bring their state-of-the-art medical services to the community.

To schedule an appointment, call

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Meet our New Provider – Reggie Gillins, NP



Kanab Family Medicine welcomes Reggie Gillins, NP to our staff. A native of Minersville, UT, Reggie attended SUU and Graceland University in Missouri where he received his nursing degrees. We look forward to Reggie sharing his general practice and emergency medicine experience with our community.

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