

Pinal NUGGET

November 2016
Volume 10 Number 1

—FREE

DiWolf Fine
Stone
Emporium,
pages 4-5

BOYCE
THOMPSON
ARBORETUM
pages 8-9

A community publication of Copperarea.com

Photo by John Hernandez

Oracle Piano Society presents 'Voices in the Oaks Chorale' community choir

Have you heard, or heard about, our local "Voices in the Oaks Chorale" community choir? If not, here is your big opportunity to find out more about the group, in two different ways.

NUGGET

Covering the Copper Corridor Communities of Globe, Miami, Superior, Kearny, Hayden, Winkelman, Dudleyville, Aravaipa, Mammoth, San Manuel, Oracle, SaddleBrooke and Catalina.

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"We sure could use a little good news today."

— Anne Murray

Advertising Information

Please call (520) 385-2266 for more information or email Mila Besich-Lira at mila.lira19@gmail.com

The choir welcomes all singers without auditions, meeting on Thursday evenings from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. for eight weeks of practice. This is, of course, followed by a performance.

Said a representative of the choir, "We have fall and spring rehearsals and welcome all to participate."

On Sunday, Nov. 13, 3 p.m., attend a beautiful choral music performance by the "Voices in the Oaks Chorale" community choir at the Oracle Center for the Arts, 700 E. Kingston St. Oracle, AZ 85623. This will be the second performance since the choir's conception. Lead by Mary Huebner

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CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Oracle Center for the Arts will be the venue for the Voices in the Oaks Chorale.



Chorale

Continued from page 2

and accompanied by Elise Jackendoff, the group will perform American folk songs, spirituals and contemporary music.

Attendance is \$12 for general concert goers, with limited free seating for students. Tickets may be obtained from EVENTBRITE, oraclepianosociety.org or by calling 623-295-9677.



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Saturday, November 12, 2016 - Tucson Jazz Institute Ellington Band - 7:30pm. Featured on the Jerry Lewis MDA Telethon, The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, The Telluride Jazz Festival and all the major European Jazz Festivals in 2006, 2011, and 2014. Under Doug Tidaback's direction the TJI Ellington Band was named the #1 Community High School Band and 2013-2014 the 1st Place High School Band at the Essentially Ellington Competition. This led to performances at the Lincoln Center in New York in May 2010-2016. \$30 in advance, \$35 door.

Saturday, November 19, 2016 - Southern Arizona Symphony Orchestra - 7:30pm. Linus Lerner, Music Director. Gioacchino Rossini: Overture to *The Barber of Seville*. **Carl Nielsen:** Flute Concerto, guest artist **Carol Wincenc**, flute. **Ludwig van Beethoven:** Symphony No. 5. \$24 in advance, \$25 door.

Saturday, November 26, 2016 - ARTRAGEOUS! 3pm & 7:30pm. Watch a team of artists bring giant artworks to life with amazing speed right before your eyes unveiling larger than life icons and masterpieces in just moments. Have it accompanied by amazing vocals, creative choreography, high energy, live music and unforgettable audience interaction that will attract your attention and delight your senses with energy, spirit and action. A show for the entire family! \$40 in advance, \$45 door.

Friday, December 2 and Sunday December 4, 2016 - SaddleBrooke Singers Christmas Concert 7:30pm & 4pm. Your friends and neighbors, bring you this double-barreled Holiday Treat! **A Century of Holiday Favorites**, which includes a holiday song from each decade of the 20th Century. Next, a multi-traditional Choral Celebration, **A Holiday to Remember: A Musical Revue**, complete with musical instruments, dancers, and, of course, the great choral sound of the SaddleBrooke Singers! Directed by **Tanya Elias-Graff**, Musical Director. \$18 in advance, \$20 door.

Wednesday, December 7, 2016 - Have Yourself A Jazzy Little Christmas - 7:30pm. Produced by Lonely Street Productions. Cozy up to the fire and get into the spirit of the season with our jazzy tribute to the holidays. Featuring fantastic vocals and a swingin' jazz combo, you'll be sure to have a "Cool Yule" with these holiday hits! \$30 in advance, \$35 door.

Friday, December 9, 2016 - Canada del Oro Barbershop Chorus - "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas" - A Holiday Harmony Celebration-7:30pm. Three A Capella singing groups, SaddleBrooke's Canada del Oro Barbershop Chorus, the Tucson Barbershop Xperience and the entertaining and exciting and often hilarious MS CELLANEOUS quartet will be presenting a show singing many of America's favorite songs, as well as, 60 voices together singing the greatest Christmas carols ever written. \$23 in advance, \$25 door.

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Wolfgang Mueller, Geologist

BY JOHN HERNANDEZ
PINAL NUGGET

Wolfgang Mueller has been collecting minerals since the mid-1960s. He has been a geologist over 40 years and involved in lapidary work for over 20 years.

He and his wife Diana manage DiWolf Fine Stone Emporium which sells gem stones which are cut, polished, designed and fabricated by Diana and Wolfgang. The name of their company is derived from Di for Diana and Wolf for Wolfgang. They produce stone eggs, spheres, marbles and cabochons. Diana also uses the gem stones in making finished jewelry including some items made using intricate bead work.

Diana has been making jewelry since the 1980s when she worked at a jewelry factory in upstate New York. DiWolf specializes in rare, unusual, classic, obscure and hard-to-work-with stones.

DiWolf is involved in the February gem shows in Tucson. They also appear at the Pasadena Bead and Design Show in Pasadena, California and the Denver Gem and Mineral Show in Colorado.

Wolfgang was born in Yugoslavia

and came to the United States when he was nine and a half years old. His family settled in Southern California near the Los Angeles area. After high school he attended a junior college. He

flunked out of physics, which turned out to be a blessing as it led him into the field of geology. He said when it came to calculus, his “mind went totally blank.” Wolfgang received his Bachelor’s



degree from the University of California at Riverside. He then became a member of the United States Army. He served as an officer with the Army Corps of Engineers and spent one year in South Vietnam. While in Vietnam he was in charge of a rock quarry.

Upon his return to the states, he worked as a mineral dealer and worked for the American Cement Corporation. He went back to school on the G.I. Bill and got his Masters in geology. He arrived in San Manuel, Arizona in 1974. Wolfgang said that on the day he arrived there was a wildcat strike. He worked in quality control for Magma for two years. He then transferred to Magma's parent company Newmont in Danbury, Connecticut where he worked in their lab as a mineralogist for 10 years.

Wolfgang and Diana still get out and hunt minerals when they can. Wolfgang says it is a little tougher for rock hounds due to mines

closing and preventing people from entering their property due to liability issues. They are members of two mineral groups in Tucson and the Gila County Gem & Mineral Society in Globe. Some of Wolfgang's mineral specimens have been displayed in the Smithsonian reference collection, Cincinnati Museum, National Museum of Canada, San Bernardino County Museum, Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum and Bullion Plaza in Miami, Arizona. He is well known and respected in the lapidary/mineral world. He has published an article "Arizona Gemstones" in *Rocks & Minerals* magazine and has over 100 photos published in gem and mineral magazines.

He is the Curator of Minerals at the Bullion Plaza Cultural Center and Museum in Miami, Arizona. He works closely with volunteers to make sure that all the mineral specimens are labeled correctly

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SHAPING THE EGG

Lapidary artist Wolfgang Mueller shapes an egg from a mineral.



ARTISTS

Lapidary artists Diana and Wolfgang Mueller in their studio in Oracle.



GLOWING ORB

Lapidary artist Wolfgang Mueller shows the properties of one of the minerals he has shaped and polished.

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Phoenix Boys Choir to perform in Gold Canyon



The Phoenix Boys Choir brings the brightest young voices of our region together for a spectacular performance of Winter Holiday music.

The Gold Canyon Arts Council presents “The Phoenix Boys Choir - Holiday Show” on Sunday, Dec. 4, 2016 at 3 p.m. at the Gold Canyon United Methodist Church, 6640 S Kings Ranch Road, Gold Canyon, AZ 85118.

The Phoenix Boys Choir brings the brightest young voices of the region together for a spectacular performance of Winter Holiday music. Join us as these young men, along with the Masters, former choir graduates, perform the finest music in the boys choir tradition with uplifting selections which will entertain and delight audiences of all ages.

The choir has performed with the Phoenix Symphony, the Phoenix Chorale, and the Arizona Opera. They are directed by Georg Stangelberger, their Artistic Director since 1999, and former Principal Choir Director of the Vienna Boys Choir.

Purchase advance adult tickets for \$25, and students for \$5 at Canyon Rose Storage, 6405 S. Kings Ranch Rd., Gold Canyon, and at the Apache Junction Chamber of Commerce office on the Apache Trail. Also, order via PayPal on the website www.gcac1.com. Adult tickets at the door are \$30.

The Gold Canyon Arts Council, a non-profit organization, promotes the performing and visual arts through its Canyon Sounds Artist Series. The Council is supported in part by grants from the Arizona Commission on the Arts, WESTAF, the National Endowment for the Arts, local corporations, and businesses.



The display of beautiful colors from the unfamiliar trees is spectacular.

Visiting the Boyce Thompson Arboretum

BY GARY EVERY
PINAL NUGGET

I walk the Arboretum grounds and come across dozens of people with cameras. I am here at the same time as a photography class about shooting autumn foliage. It is a good place and a good time to take such a class.

Located in Superior, Arizona the Arboretum specializes in desert botany and at this particular moment the Australian plants are presenting their fall colors. The display of beautiful colors from the unfamiliar trees is spectacular. Although I am not part of the class I take plenty of photographs too. I am here for a festival of Arizona authors which will take place the next day.

Boyce Thompson Arboretum was established in Queen Creek Canyon beneath the shadow of the picturesque Picket Post Mountain in 1923. It is the oldest and largest botanical garden in Arizona. A copper magnate, Thompson owned a large mine near Superior and built his mansion – The Picket Post House. When a friend asked him how much land he owned around Picket Post House, he replied, “I

own it all as far as the eye can see, because I love it.” The Arboretum was established to study desert plants from all over the world. Visitors to the Arboretum can walk among the cardon cactus of South America, exotic plants from Mongolia, and look up the towering boojum trees from Baja California. In particular there is a really wonderful display of Australian vegetation,

including an old sheep driver’s shed. I wander through a forest of towering eucalyptus trees to reach where the Australian trees are displaying their foliage. The trail takes me past a small lake set against a dramatic backdrop of stone. The pleasant desert oasis is filled with bird life including a few small ducks. I pause to photograph a boojum tree with the full moon rising behind. The boojum is an

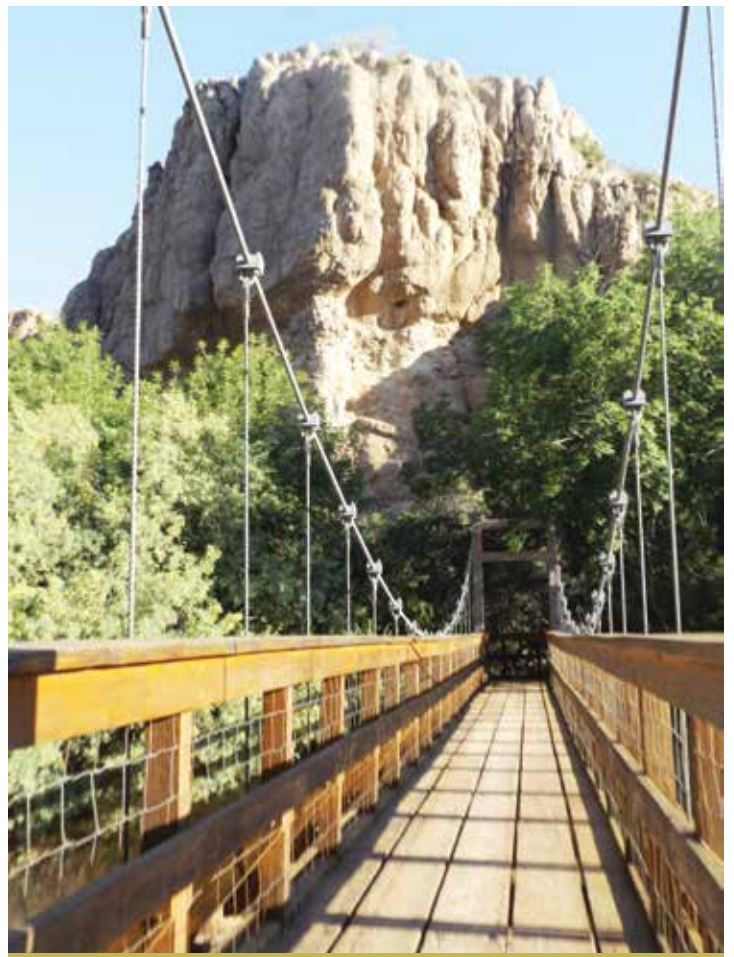
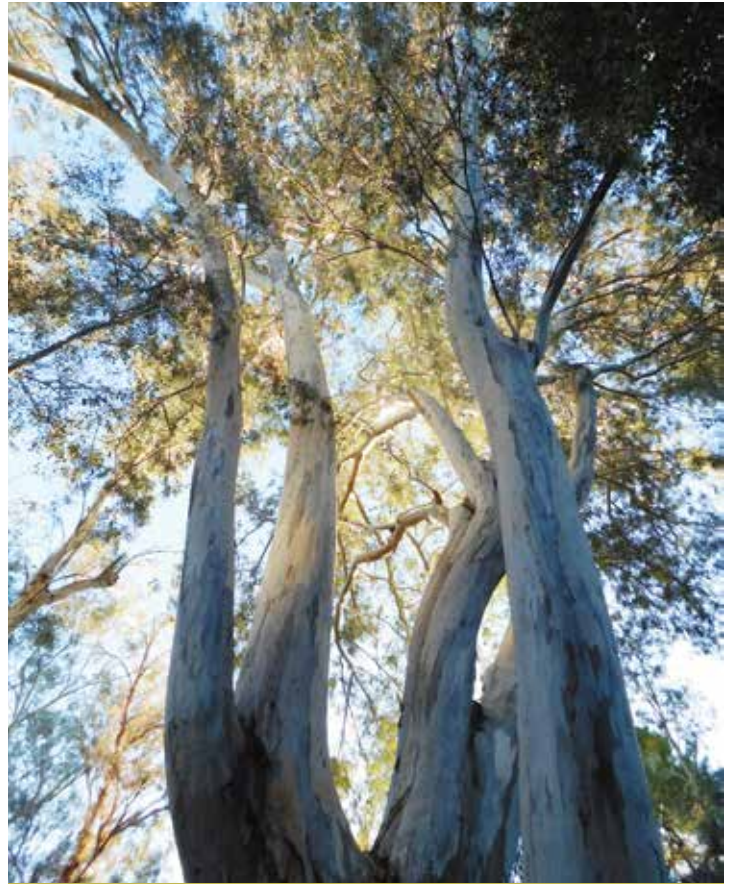
unusual plant that looks most like an upside down giant hairy white carrot, reaching sixty feet into the sky. When Godfrey Sykes named this bizarre botanical specimen in 1922 while exploring the Baja California peninsula, he was reminded of Lewis Carroll's story "The Hunting of the Snark" which contains a mythical creature called a boojum. Sykes must have felt this odd looking relative of the ocotillo should appear only in an Alice in Wonderland type of fantasy.

Past the lake, the trail takes me up the hill to the Picket Post Mansion. By most accounts, the years Boyce Thompson spent living in his mansion overlooking Queen Creek Canyon, with the distinctive Picket Post Mountains in the background, were among the happiest of his life. The mansion is quite impressive, a large stone building erected atop the highest peak hill with a wonderful view. The rock retaining walls necessary for the mansion to maintain its perch make the place resemble a medieval castle. From there the trail

wanders steeply down to Queen Creek, which flows during part of the year. Partially shaded by the high cliffs surrounding it, when the creek trickles through this part of the canyon it creates a serene sanctuary filled with butterflies and flowers. The creek is crossed by a suspension bridge which sways beneath your feet as you walk across it. The trail begins to climb up the rocky crags on the other side. Some of these rocky crags have vultures sitting atop them. Welcoming the buzzards back every year is something of a holiday at the Arboretum. Just as the swallows return every year to San Juan Capistrano so too do the turkey vultures return to Boyce Thompson Arboretum. This event is always treated like a holiday and the Arboretum hosts special events at this time. The vultures stare back at me with an intensity that makes me nervous, wondering if I have brought enough water for this desert hike.

The Arboretum is an interesting place. There are

Continued on page 13



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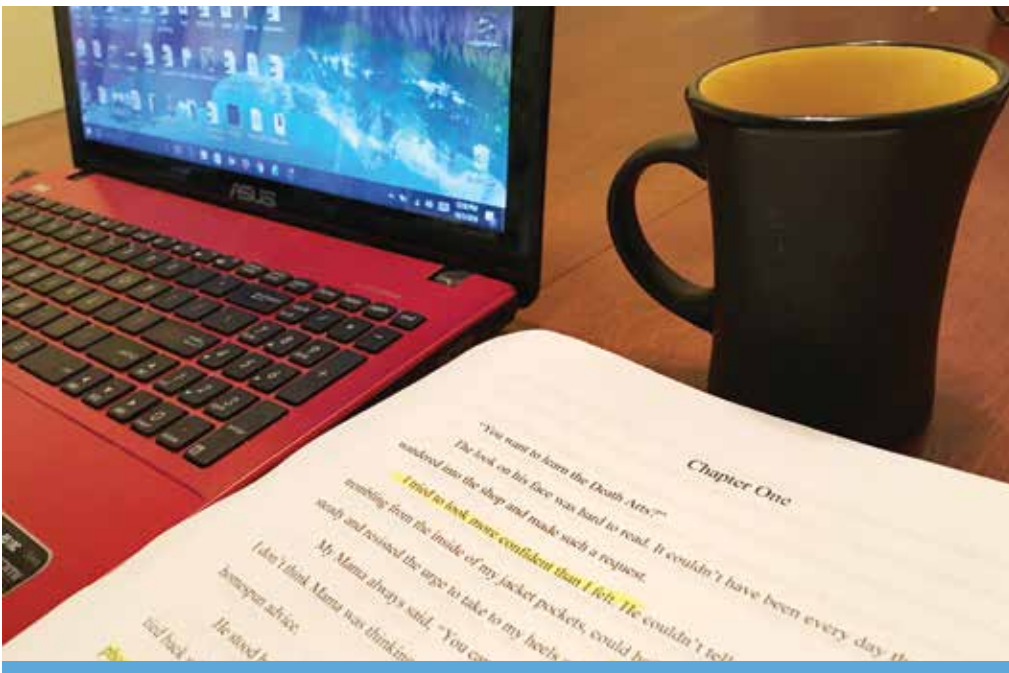
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The new age of self-publishing

BY CAT BROWN
PINAL NUGGET

Self-publishing has become a legitimate avenue towards getting traditionally published. With the indie success stories of Amanda Hocking and Hugh Howey, traditional publishing gatekeepers, who once looked down their noses at self-publishing, are now eagerly trying to pick up indie authors that have burst out into the writing scene and have become financially successful.



//

Not all indie authors care about being traditionally published—there are many indie authors who make a good living writing and are happy to stay on their own.

For those who have dreamed of being a writer, the process of publishing a book has always been daunting. The path to publishing is intimidating since most of the large publishing houses will only accept submissions from authors with agents, and finding an agent can be a soul-crushing experience. Agents and those few houses that accept manuscripts without an agent are rarely willing to risk accepting new authors without a proven record. If they do read your manuscript, it may only be a page or two. Unless these two pages scream “the next big thing,” they will most likely hit the delete key. You may not even get the courtesy of a form rejection letter.

As little as ten years ago, writers

wishing to get published had no choice but to try and make it through this process and the New York Publishing house (the Big 5) gatekeepers. Ebooks were making their first entrance into the publishing world, and those who considered themselves “serious writers” frowned upon self-publishing. Self-publishing, or indie publishing as it’s known today, was considered another form of vanity press. Those brave enough to attempt it in the early days were often looked upon with contempt by their peers.

Fast forward to 2016. All the Big 5 houses now offer their books in both print and ebook format, most of those same publishers have started their own digital first publishing houses,

and Agents and Editors are mining the Amazon best seller list looking for indie bestsellers. But not all indie authors care about being traditionally published—there are many indie authors who make a good living writing and are happy to stay on their own. They love the control self-publishing gives them. They have the final say on their book’s edits, book covers, release dates, and pricing. And there are many traditionally published authors who now augment their income with indie publishing. This new breed of authors whose books come out in both traditional and indie publishing are called “hybrid authors.”

Places like Amazon and Barnes

Continued on page 12

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Self-Publishing

Continued from page 11

and Noble have made self-publishing easier. For a percentage of your sales, the Amazon Kindle Direct Program allows you to upload your self-published book, and within forty-eight hours, it's up for sale on the Amazon Marketplace. Barnes and Noble has a similar program called Pubit. Within these programs you aren't limited to offering your book only in ebook/digital format, you can also sell a print version of your book online. Besides Amazon and Barnes and Noble you can sell your indie books on iTunes, Kobo, Googleplay, and Smashwords.

Indie publishing has become so popular that a cottage industry has sprung

around it. You can hire former Big 5 Editors to edit your books, you can buy cover art for your books from professional graphic artists, and if you are so inclined, you can even pay someone to format your books and get them ready to sell online. If you are a terrific writer and storyteller, these new services enable you to put out the same quality of books as one of the Big 5 houses. Long gone is the contempt for self-publishing. Today, indie publishing is accepted and embraced by both writers and the writing industry. *Cat Brown writes under the name of Catrina Burgess and is the author of the YA Paranormal series, The Dark Rituals.*

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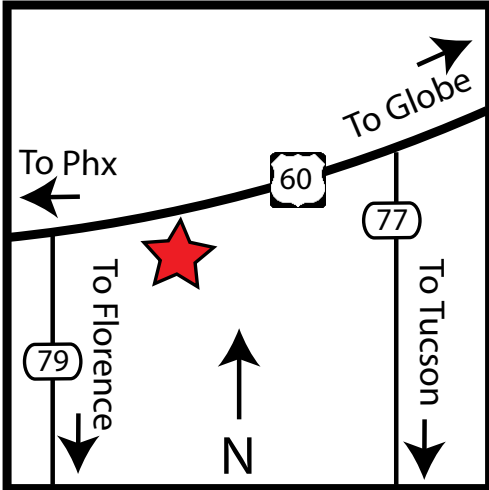
Arboretum

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moments of great bustle and activity such as the photography class or the author's forum that I am a part of. They also feature many guided naturalist walks, focusing on birds, lizards, or butterflies. There are other moments when I found myself wandering the trails alone or sitting

on a bench and just enjoying the scenery while listening to the symphony of nature; birds, wind and other melodies. I have discovered that lingering at the Arboretum is the best way to enjoy it, letting the atmosphere soak in. I often park myself on the benches near the butterfly gardens or

hang out in the shade of the pavilion where the Australian artifacts are located and watch the light slowly shift. All I can really say is visit Boyce Thompson Arboretum soon, discover what special programs are coming up in the near future and attend them. You will be glad you did.



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FINE JEWELRY

These are two examples of Diana Mueller’s fine jewelry piece with beadwork.

Lapidary

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and are displayed properly in the permanent Minerals & Geology exhibit at the museum. He has also given lectures on the local mineralogy of the Miami-Globe area at Bullion Plaza. He also gives lectures to clubs and civic groups in southern Arizona. Most recently, he gave a lecture on minerals at Oracle State Park.

If you would like to learn more about DiWolf Fine Stone Emporium or contact Wolfgang, visit www.dewolf.com, e-mail: dwm@diwolf.com or call (520) 896-3197.



POLISHED BEAUTY

The polished egg and the raw mineral.

natural gas
SAFETY
wherever you are

SOUTHWEST GAS

Natural gas lines can be buried anywhere. So it’s important to know how to recognize and respond to a natural gas leak... no matter where you are.

A leak may be present if you:

SMELL: An odor similar to rotten eggs, even if it’s faint or momentary.

HEAR: A hissing or roaring sound coming from the ground, above-ground piping, or gas appliance.

SEE: Dirt or water blowing into the air, unexplained dead or dying grass or vegetation, or standing water continuously bubbling.



- If you suspect a leak:**
- Leave the area immediately.
 - From a safe place, call **911** and Southwest Gas at **1-877-860-6020**, day or night, whether you’re a customer or not. A Southwest Gas representative will be there as soon as possible.
 - Don’t smoke or use matches or lighters.
 - Don’t turn on or off any electrical switches, thermostats, or appliance controls; or do anything that could cause a spark.
 - Don’t start or stop an engine, or use automated doors.

For more information about natural gas safety, visit swgas.com/safety or call **1-877-860-6020**.

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