

# Oracle Towne Crier

"Almost all the news, part of the time."

## Santa makes annual stop at Oracle Fire Station



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Volume 3, Number 8 December 2013 **FREE**

## Oracle Towne Crier

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Published the second week of each month. Business office is located at 139 8th Ave, P.O. Box 60, San Manuel, AZ 85631. Subscription rates paid in advance: \$9.00 per year or \$5.00 for 6 months U.S. Change of address should be sent to the publishers at P.O. Box 60, San Manuel, AZ 85631.

Member: Arizona Newspaper Association,  
 National Newspaper Association.

Telephone

San Manuel Office: (520) 385-2266  
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## Obituary

### Lee William McCutchen

February 3, 1923 - December 2, 2013

Lee William McCutchen, age 90, passed away suddenly Dec. 2, 2013 at his home in Oracle, Arizona.

Lee was born in Dayton, Ohio on Feb. 3, 1923 to Harry Matthew McCutchen and his wife Bessie E. Lee McCutchen.

He lived most of his childhood in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He graduated from Blake High School in June 1942. He attended Ripon College in Wisconsin until he enlisted in the Army in World War II. In 1945 he entered the University of Minnesota from which he received a Bachelor's Degree in psychology. Lee studied languages the University of Arizona.

Lee was severely injured on May 30, 1944 in Italy. His left leg was amputated very high and he had eight major surgeries throughout his body. He was awarded the Purple Heart as well as Bronze Star for "heroic achievement, courage and devotion to duty."

Before the war, Lee was an accomplished figure skater and enjoyed playing tennis. Despite the way his injuries altered his life, Lee refused to call himself handicapped. He enjoyed hiking and exploring Indian ruins even on crutches. He traveled widely in North and South America and lived several years in Mexico. In 1953 he got a pilot's license and bought a small plane for his travels. He continued to improve on the radio skills he acquired in the Army attaining the



Lee William McCutchen

highest amateur license possible for a "ham" radio operator. He established radio contacts with 100 countries, administered tests and taught promising new operators.

In February 1949 Lee married Janice Hoover. They had one son before they divorced.

Lee is survived by his son, Lee J, a grandson Kyle L and a great-granddaughter Sydney R McCutchen. He is also survived by a sister, Arline Noll, as well as nieces and nephews. Lee maintained weekly contact with two special friends Connee Sager and Phillip Sanchez.

Lee had the good fortune of acquiring an extended family in Oracle - the Gutierrez family - who cared for him 24 hours a day at his home with kindness and patience. He was included in Gutierrez family holidays and treated as family. They undoubtedly extended his life with their love.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2013 at Vistoso Funeral Home 2285 East Rancho Vistoso Blvd, Oro Valley, AZ 85755. (This obituary may also be viewed at [www.vistosofuneralhome.com](http://www.vistosofuneralhome.com))

Lee was a charter member of a Tohono Chul Park in Tucson. In lieu of flowers, a donation to that park would support one of Lee's favorite projects.

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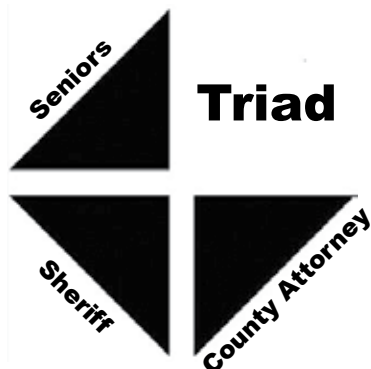
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# Oracle TRIAD Coalition

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TRIAD is a cooperative project composed of seniors, Pinal County Attorney's Office, Pinal County Sheriff's Department, Pinal-Gila Council for Senior Citizens, and other community partners who are dedicated to preventing the victimization of seniors, improving their quality of life and reducing consequences associated with abuse and misuse of prescription medications and alcohol. Community members are welcome. Call to sign up for volunteer opportunities.





# Health Issues: Exploring the many meanings of 'sugar'

By Dr. Michael Miles  
Special to the Crier

Over time the term "sugar" has taken on a meaning of its own. It is most often understood to mean "table sugar," which is sucrose. This is the "sugar" that is found in candy and cakes and most processed foods. Sucrose is actually a combination of two sugars; glucose and fructose. Glucose is the sugar most commonly used as fuel the cells in our bodies. It is a molecule that has six carbon atoms arranged in a circle.

In nature these sugars come packaged in food. They are part of a whole system of nutrients bound in each food source. They are essential for life.

Within this system of nutrients exists substances that help process the sugars so that they can be used as energy for the body.

Notably, food contains vitamins and minerals that act as keys for turning on the enzymes that break down the food into their individual components including sugar. The enzymes themselves are likewise found in the food.

As important as enzymes and vitamins and minerals are, food also contains fiber. Fiber binds the sugar so that it gets released slowly and methodically in order to provide an even supply of fuel to produce the energy necessary for each cell to function. This is one of the reasons that it is a good idea not to overcook foods to the point where the fiber is destroyed.

This is the point where the food turns soft and limp.

The amount of fiber found in foods determines its basic designation. Sugar-providing foods with thick amounts of fibers are sometimes called complex carbohydrates. Sugar-providing foods with little amounts of fiber are

called simple carbohydrates.

The American Diabetes Association uses a scale for designating how rapidly the sugar is released from foods. It is called the Glycemic Index. The higher the Glycemic Index, the quicker the sugars get into the body. Table

Sugar, Page 10

## Diaper Bag – News from the Family First Pregnancy Care Center

Having recently paused for the Thanksgiving holiday, we want to express our deep gratitude to all the people who have donated canned and dry food for the food bank in November. A special thanks to our volunteers who faithfully work in both centers. We also thank those who helped make 2013 our busiest and most successful year with your time, donations, and prayers. Merry Christmas to all and Blessings in the New Year!

Did you know you can reduce your Arizona tax liability by making an end of the year donation to Family First which qualifies for the Arizona Charitable Organization Tax Credit up to \$200 for individuals and \$400 for a married couple filing jointly. Your gift must be received before Dec. 31 to qualify. Changes in the law this year: YOU DO NOT HAVE TO ITEMIZE. You can use EZ form to receive your credit!

New volunteers are always welcome, if you are interested this would be a great time to get

started. On Saturday, Jan. 11, 2014, we are having a Volunteer Workshop from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lunch will be provided and a presentation from the Pinal County Attorney's office on Teen Dating Abuse/bullying. If you care about people and want to help, this would be a great way to start the New Year.

Our center activities continue Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays in Oracle from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Story Time for moms and tots is every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. Material assistance is available by taking a class. Our new curriculums for improving better parenting skills for fathers and for parents with toddlers are proving very helpful.

For further information on our services or to sign up for the workshop, call us at 520-896-9545 or check us out at [www.familyfirstpcc.org](http://www.familyfirstpcc.org).



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**Friday, December 6—7:30pm & Sunday, December 8—4:00pm SaddleBrooke Singers Christmas Gifts – Directed by Linda Griffin.** This year's SaddleBrooke Singers will make you relive some of your own favorite Christmases. The list of songs include traditional Christmas and Hanukah numbers as well as more contemporary songs that have become season standards. \$18 inclusive \$20 door



**Wednesday, December 11—7:30pm**  
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**Sunday, December 15—3:00pm & 7:30pm**  
**The Oak Ridge Boys—The Boys Are Back For Christmas..** The Oak Ridge Boys present a live Christmas show combining classic hits and holiday favorites which is sure to spice up your holiday season. The Oaks have one of the most distinctive and recognizable sounds in the music industry. Their four-part harmonies and upbeat songs have spawned dozens of country hits and numerous awards. \$60 inclusive \$65 door



**Saturday, December 21—4:00pm & 7:30pm**  
**"The Spirit of Christmas" Sponsored by Ken Blanchard of Edward Jones. Presented by Tucson Dance Academy.** Tucson Dance Academy, along with the Booth family, returns to SaddleBrooke with their fabulous performance of The Spirit of Christmas. From last year's sold out performance showcasing the little ones and their daddy's performing "Santa Baby" to "Mr. Grinch," the audience was on the edge of their seats. Join us as we remember Christmas with child-like joy as we welcome Tucson Dance Academy with two performances. \$25 inclusive, \$30 door, \$18 children



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## Santa visits the Oracle Fire Station



Oracle boys and girls had Santa's ear Saturday, Dec. 7, at the Oracle Fire Station and all took time to tell him all their Christmas wishes. Don't worry if you missed him. The man in red will be seen at locations throughout the Tri-Community in these days leading up to Dec. 25 and his big night. (John Hernandez photo)

## Correction



In last month's *Oracle Towne Crier*, we misidentified the Oracle Run's overall men's winner Brian Hall. He is pictured above. The *Crier* regrets the error. (John Hernandez photo)



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# Graphology: Minding one's P's and Q's

By Skylar Khan  
Special to the Crier

Research into the origin of the phrase Minding one's P's and Q's revealed some interesting theories.

One is that when print type was set by hand in olden days, these two lower case letters which are mirror images of each other easily got mixed up. The expression thus was coined to remind type setters not to switch them by mistake.

Another suggestion is that it originated as a way of keeping tally of customers' drinks in British pubs and taverns. Marks under column P (for pint) or Q (for quart) were

made on the pub's blackboard. Both drinker and bartender had to mind their P's and Q's: the first to make sure he was not paying for another's drinks and the latter to be sure that all drinks were paid for.

Today however, Minding ones P's and Q's most commonly refers to good manners and etiquette.

Graphologically speaking, these two letters can reveal very interesting details about a writer's personality.

The letter p stands for physical action. It lets us know how well we accommodate our body's need for action and/or tension release.



№ 1. Copybook cursive lower case p.

№ 2. The writer's physical activities are in balance with his/her level of energy. Performance is not limited to physical aspects alone, but manifests itself in mental activity as well. The retraced p-stem is indicative of perfectionism.

№ 3. Because of recent surgery, this writer has been unable to resume her daily three mile walks. Lack of physical activity has resulted in restlessness and frustration, as seen in the looped upstroke of the letter p. This style of writing the letter p is often seen

in, but not restricted to, athletes who are prevented from participating in training sessions due to penalties or injuries.

№ 4. If there is a "backward" way of writing a p, this one may serve as a classic example! Emphasis is on the unusual. The lady is both creative and aggressive. Yet, these two traits can be an asset in her career as sales associate.

№ 5. This writer actively seeks an argument. Notice the inappropriately high upper extenders of the letter p. The first p indicates that she enjoys debating factual subjects. The second p's

upper extender is looped. Her imagination comes into play during discussion, thereby altering facts. Don't start an argument with this individual. You cannot win.

№ 6. Here is another example of an unusual p in the word "put." The letter p with its upper and lower loops is barely legible and the writing's overall appearance is one of restlessness and argumentativeness. Once she starts talking, she will not tolerate interruption. However, lack of pen pressure has a softening effect on her behavior.

P's and Q's, Page 7

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Psalm 1:2

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Wednesday night services postponed through the summer months.  
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Second Service 11 a.m.

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### Oracle Union Church

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Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study noon  
Thursday Prayer Time 11-noon

Pastor: Dr. Ed Nelson

### Oracle Church of Christ

2425 El Paseo  
896-2452 896-2067  
Sunday

Bible Study • 10 am  
Worship • 11 am

### Oracle Seventh-Day Adventist Church

2150 Hwy. 77, Oracle

Saturday:  
Sabbath School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service 11 a.m.

Pastor John Roybal

### First Baptist Church

American Way, Oracle  
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Pastor Ray Lott

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While this firm maintains joint responsibility, most cases are referred to other attorneys for principal responsibility.

# P's and Q's

Continued from Page 6

ior. Her careless omission of the letter u in put further indicates deficient mental discipline and negligible work habits.

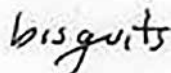
№ 7. This atypical and ornate p represents the writer's dissatisfaction with status quo. The person has unrealistic expectations about reality and she is frustrated by her inability to establish and maintain intimate relationships.

The mirror image of p is the letter q which stands for altruism. The letter Q is the only letter of the alphabet that is not directed to one's self or the past. It is directed toward the future and other people. Not many words in the English language include the letter q and therefore fewer samples are available for comparison.

1 

2 

3 

4 

№ 1. Copybook cursive letter q.

№ 2. Unassuming simplification of letter formation indicates an efficient mind. The downstroke is straight and very short. The writer prefers short term goals to lengthy projects. She likes to work alone. Personality type is sincere and modest.

№ 3. This particular q is

shaped copybook-like. Of special interest however is the overlapping stroke on top of the letter which looks like a tiny roof. A cover-stroke or over-score is indicative of a writer's desire to be protective. This particular specimen was penned by a professional accountant. The protectiveness may be aimed at her business, herself or her family.

№ 4. A rather unusual and disjointed q gives evidence of a creative mind. The writer lifts the pen and, by economizing movement and preserving rhythm, he crosses the downstroke. The writer hopes to detach himself from materialistic interests and physical activity.

Some of the handwriting samples presented herein are quite unusual. They are unique to each individual writer.

Discovery of unusual letter formations make a handwriting analyst's heart beat a little faster. Whenever we think that there could not possibly be new variations of these letters, a different exemplar pops up. There seems to be no limit to the output of creativity of expression as part of the human experience.

Minding one's p's and q's during the holiday season simply means: Remember your manners and be polite. Happy New Year!

For more information, visit [www.HandwritingAuthority.com](http://www.HandwritingAuthority.com).

# A passion for pies



Sarah Meade Hardin, the pie lady of Oracle, flogs her wares at a farmers market in Oracle. (John Hernandez photo)

By John Hernandez  
*Oracle Towne Crier*

Sarah Meade Hardin is known as the "Pie Lady of Oracle". She has been baking as long as she can remember. She said her dad "put her on the assembly line" when she was six or seven with her siblings baking apple pies in Bartlesville, Okla. Her family had apple trees in the backyard and they had to make sure the apples were not wasted once they were ripe. She enjoyed baking and trying new recipes when she

Pies, Page 11

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# Ask Evaline: What is the Mining History of the Oracle Ridge Mine opening next year?

## Part I: First claims to 1910.

By Evaline Auerbach

*Special to the Crier*

After 134 years, a group of historic claims in the Old Hat district up the north slope of the Santa Catalinas (up Mt. Lemmon Rd.) is about to make its way into existence as a “real” mine, with profitable ore. Oracle Mining Corp. (<http://oraclemining-corp.com/>), a Vancouver, Canada-based company with “a focus on uncovering overlooked and undervalued projects,” has, for the last couple of years, been developing a group of historical mining claims at the site previously known as the “Apache Camp” or “Control” mine. In 2014, the newly-named Oracle Ridge Mine on Mt. Lemmon Rd. above Oracle and San Manuel, will become a working mine, sending its ore down Black Hills Road and Reddington Rd. to San Manuel, where it will be picked up by the buyers and processors of the ore (still to be announced.)

Following the intervening successes of first the Mammoth mines and then the San Manuel Mine, this will be a historical reversal: Those mines have “petered out” while the new mine comes to life in the area where many had prospected and claimed, only to prove mostly unprofitable mines. Most who staked claims or even improved their claims and qualified for patents, sold out cheaply or gave up and turned to ranching in this Old Hat district.

### Daily bonds claims

In December of 1906 William H. Daily, a former school teacher from Illinois, bonded the whole group of claims in the Apache district --- those belonging to me, to Leatherwood, to Steve Ramsdale, and to Geesaman. Will Daily was a nephew of Judge William H. Barnes, who got him to come to Tucson and study mining at the University of Arizona [He is not to be confused with the Dailey who, with his family, lived and ranched in Oracle]

Daily sent Frederick Swinney, the mining engineer, out to make a report. He bonded my claims for \$35,000 and paid me \$600 right then to do the assessment work and to secure an option on the property until April 1, 1907. I agreed to locate on the 1st of January, all vacant ground between the Stratton and Leatherwood claims on the south and the Geesaman and Hartman claims on the north. The last-named claims were those belonging to Francis M. Hartman, an Ohio lawyer who had come to Tucson in 1902 as the attorney for the Southern Pacific in Arizona and New Mexico. I was to file on all this ground in return for the sum of \$1,000. This was my introduction to Will Daily, and his introduction into the Santa Catalinas. Since that time, with the addition of the Ramsdale properties to the claims that I located for him, Daily has become one of the big holders in this district. That \$1,600 was all I got from Daily at the time.

“When the option was up on April 1, 1907, Leatherwood, Geesaman, and I bonded [our original claims] to Epes Randolph, the big railroad man. Mr. Randolph, a native of Virginia had come to Arizona in 1895 as superintendent of the Southern Pacific. [By the time he optioned the claims, he had become] the president of three lines --- the Southern Pacific of Mexico, the Gila Valley, Globe & Northern Railroad, and the Phoenix & Salt River Valley Railroad. He had interested the Chicago Development Company in our properties, and sent a mining engineer out to make an examination. The Chicago Development Company did considerable work on all three properties, but most on Geesaman’s. I received \$150 a month for nearly two years. Then a big payment was due me, but about that time Randolph and the Chicago people had some misunderstanding and they threw up



**This map was made by the Oracle Mining Company specifically for the Oracle Historical Society, showing the Two Portals for the Newly named Oracle Ridge Mine, owned by the Oracle Mining Company. This map also shows how to get to the sites from Oracle and San Manuel. Ore will be trucked to San Manuel to be picked up by buyers. Workers will drive up the Mt. Lemmon Road or the Black Hills Road and leave their vehicles at a parking spot near the junction of those roads, where they will be bussed to the mine portals to work. Note that the historical name of the mines group together was “Apache Camp” and the road from that mine to Summerhaven was the “Control Road” so that the Mine also became known as the “Control Mine” as it served as the spot where traffic was controlled: up to Summerhaven in the morning and down toward Oracle in the afternoon. At the time of the establishment of this mine and road, there was no traffic up the road from the Tucson area. That came later than the establishment of the mine in about 1912. The Crier thanks the Oracle Mine for making this map. It is available in the files of the Oracle Historical Society, as is a large version of the map.**

the bond [about 1909].

### Stratton opts out again; Others sell to Copper Queen

In August of 1910, Leatherwood, Reid, and Geesaman bonded to B. Hattick of Tombstone. I could not come to terms with him and so stayed out. Hattick in turn sold out to the Copper Queen Consolidated Mining Company, which was working the big mines at Bisbee.

### Copper Queen Steps in

Copper Queen sent in an engineer to inspect those claims for development. From August 1910 through July 1912, Eugene Sawyer wrote frequent letters to his mother in Maine, giving us a picture of the area, the weather, others in Oracle, and the development of “Apache Camp” as Copper Queen called the group of claims.

As Stratton summarizes: “The Copper Queen people came up

# Mine

## Continued from Page 9

and went to work sinking test holes with diamond drills and making a survey for a railroad from the San Pedro to the mines. When they had satisfied themselves as to the value of their holdings, they secured patents to the claims and then closed down. I guess they figured they had another mine salted away for the time when their ore gave out in the Bisbee district. They left Leatherwood in charge as caretaker. It was said that

when they shut down they had three million dollars' worth of ore in sight. At any rate, their superintendent told me that they had enough ore in sight to pay for the building of a railroad to the property."

However, Stratton's claims were once again in doubt and he brought a lawsuit against Copper Queen when they purchased the Geesaman and Leatherwood properties.

Thus, just after Arizona has become a state, the Geesaman and Leatherwood "Apache Camp" (also known as the "Control Mine") claims were

in the hands of the Copper Queen Mining company with Leatherwood ensconced as Caretaker and Stratton in Florence where the family had moved there in 1895, where his older daughter was a teacher, his younger daughter Edith could attend grammar school and son Elmer could begin school.

He had sold out his failed ranch and some of his mining claims were in contention. But in Florence, he could pursue his business career as cattle buyer and keep his hand in following likely mines - Flor-

ence being a central place for all that. Beside that, he continued a political career as one of the few Republicans in Pinal County, beginning a term as County Treasurer. He had been Pinal County's first Republican County Supervisor in 1892, commuting from his Pima County ranch. He

dictated his memoirs to Edith in 1925 in California and died soon afterwards. Edith Stratton Kitt became associated with the Arizona Pioneer's Historical Society which became the Arizona Historical Society. The memoirs were edited by a University of Arizona Historian and pub-

lished by the APHS in 1968 as Pioneering in Arizona: NEXT MONTH: From 1910-1912, Eugene Sawyer, of Copper Queen, develops a mine at "Apache Camp"/ "Control" mines. Just over 100 years later it is finally to become Oracle Ridge Mine, expected to open in 2014.

# Sugar

## Continued from Page 3

sugar has the highest Glycemic Index of 100 because it has no accompanying components to control its release into the system. From there the index goes down to reflect a more even release of sugar. The progression to more healthful sources of sugar (fuel) will go something like this: table sugar to sweets (candy, cakes, ice cream) to other processed foods to fruit juice to dried fruit to fruit itself, then to vegetables (the best packaging of sugar).

The concern with getting too much sugar into the body too quickly is that over time it disrupts sugar metabolism all together. This happens by either by running down the pancreas, thus reducing insulin production, or by altering each cell's ability to use insulin.

Insulin is needed to open the doors of each cell to allow the sugar (fuel) inside to be burned for energy.

So, we see that sugar can refer to the fundamental fuel for the body packaged in food and it can refer to it's unnatural, naked state ("refined sugar") marketed as a taste enhancer and added in unreasonable amounts to most processed foods.

In unreasonable amounts, sucrose (table sugar) can contribute to diabetes, cardiovascular disease, yeast infections, cancer, addictions, and otherwise generally stress the body's defenses. In reasonable amounts, a little extra sugar here and there is a treat and can be an enhancement to life, as celebrated in "sugar plums dancing in our heads."



## Raw sugar, table sugar, syrup – how does it affect us?



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- 3bd/2ba home on very private 2.5 ac lot, home borders National Forest, private well. \$265,000.
- 3 bdrm, 2 ba home on 1.25 ac, top of the hill views, huge garage. \$179,900
- Completely remodeled home on 1.33 ac useable lot, observatory for star gazers. \$219,000.
- Mountain views 4 bed, 2 1/2 bath, 2,404 sq. ft. plus a 1,244 sq. ft. basement, 34 x 27 detached garage on 6.85 ac. \$449,900.
- 3 bdrm, 2 bath, slump block home with breakfast bar, fireplace, large fenced backyard and great views in Oracle Village Estates. \$119,000.

## Oracle-Land

- Hard to find, 13 acre parcel with amazing views bordering National Forest, water and electric at the property line with several great home sites to choose from. Owner will finance with 25% down.
- Horse Property! Build your home or put a manufactured home on this great 3.34 ac parcel. \$105,000.
- 4 lots, custom home area, submit offers. 2 at \$32,000, \$45,000 or \$75,000.
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- Premium lot with boulders, 1.04 acres of outstanding views, beautiful sunrises and sunsets. \$65,000.
- One acre with boulders, trees and views, new access off Linda Vista, boulders, views, trees. \$84,000
- 1.36 ac. custom home lot with view, boulders, oaks and more. \$100,000.
- 4 view lots, nice views, custom home area, boulders and trees, owner may carry. \$82,000.
- Great lot in center of Oracle. Ready to build on, utilities at lot line. \$25,000.
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- 1.76 AC, large trees, shared well, fenced, septic, electric to property. \$25,000.
- 3bd, 2ba Oak wood kitchen cabinets, dual pane windows, m etal roof, well insulated, covered porch, private well, barn/storage, 40 plus trees, horse property. 2 ac. fenced. \$109,500.
- Great lot for MH or site built homes, located 10 mi. from Oracle Jct, 3.34 acres, very affordable with electric at lot line. horses allowed. \$29,900
- PRICED REDUCED! Hilltop views, open floor plan, custom kitchen cabinets, wood floors, fireplace, bay windows, 5 bedrm, 2ba, fenced yard, 2 car carport, covered porch. \$119,900.
- 3 bdrm home with updated kitchen, laundry room, covered porches, fenced yard, new electric June 2012. \$58,500.
- 2 view lots, city water, sewer, paved roads, make an offer on both lots, and owner will make you a deal. \$9,000 each.
- Beautiful views of the Galurio Mountains, lots of vegetation & large Saguaro. \$10,000.
- Great mountain views from this 3.75 ac. south of Mammoth. \$47,000.
- 4 ac in the Redington area, Mesquite trees, views, private well & septic. \$59,000.
- 8.84 ac, can be split, has two building sites, saguaro and view. \$99,000
- Secluded area with great views, being sold as is for value of 1.3 acres. \$39,000.
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## Pies

Continued from Page 7

was young. She found some recipes she liked and continues to bake her “completely homemade pies”.

Sarah prefers to use locally grown fruit for her pies. She has been able to buy apples from a grower in Catalina. Sarah also uses the freshest and best ingredients she can find. She uses real maple syrup in her pecan pies instead of corn syrup. “My pumpkin pie is different from other pumpkin pies,” she said. Her favorite pie of choice is rhubarb.

Sarah sells her pies at the Highway 77 Farmers Market in Catalina on Fridays. She also has been at the Oracle Sunset Farmers Market on Wednesday evenings. She was selling pies this summer to raise money to attend the Rocky Mountain Fiddler Camp in Colorado, which she attends frequently. She is fiddler, likes bluegrass music and sometimes plays at The Glow. Sarah baked pies that were used

at the Fiddler Camp for donations which went to the camp’s scholarship fund. Her pies brought in

\$400.

Sarah said that Oracle folks can order her pies and get them anytime still

warm. To contact the Pie Lady of Oracle call 520-896-2774 or 520-360-2774.



Sarah Meade Hardin’s pies look very tasty indeed. (John Hernandez photo)

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# Volunteers get choir ready for coming Christmas show



By John Hernandez  
Copper Area News

A group of volunteers have been working with students at Mountain Vista School to develop a choir which will perform at Mt. Vista School on December 19.

The students are volunteering to join the choir and perform for parents, family and friends. The choir is being directed by Madeleine Fiorino.

Madeleine is a former professional opera singer. She is originally from Canada. At age 15, she received a scholarship from the prestigious

Julliard School of Music in New York. She has performed on Broadway and directed numerous children and adult choirs. She now lives in SaddleBrooke.

Another volunteer from SaddleBrooke helping out with the choir is Peggy Knowles. She is a retired computer programmer and has always volunteered for schools, helping with the arts. Peggy says she was "heartbroken" when she heard that Mountain Vista did not have an art or music program this year.

"SaddleBrooke has always supported the

schools," she said. We volunteer for the love of children and because it is a pleasure working with the kids."

The choir has about 30 members from grades three through eight. Most of them will be singing but a few will accompany the choir on drums and bells. The Mountain Vista Christmas Show will begin the evening of Dec. 19 at 6 p.m. Students in grades K – 6 will perform at the amphitheater. They will be dressed as carolers and sing for their parents.

Several of the classrooms will be open for children to make ornaments, listen to stories or color. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served by the PTO. The entertainment will then move to the cafeteria at 7 p.m. where the choir will then sing Christmas favorites in French, Spanish and English.

It should be an enjoyable holiday evening.

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Madeleine Fiorino (far left) is pictured with the Mountain Vista School Choir. (John Hernandez photo)



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Where: Mtn. Vista School Amphitheater and Cafeteria

When: December 19, 6 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Cost: Free