

Pinal **NUGGET**

February 2017
Volume 10 Number 4

FREE

**The 5 Best
Hikes Near
Superior,
pages 16-18**

**Exploring
the Aravaipa
Canyon,
pages 10-11**

**CALENDAR
OF
EVENTS**

pages 30-31

A community publication of Copperarea.com

Photo by John Eyerly



Plan a visit to the Oracle State Park

Hikes, walks, talks and stargazing are featured at Oracle State Park in February 2017. Oracle State Park is a 4,000-acre wildlife refuge with over 15 miles of trails. Oracle State Park is an International Dark Sky Park, designated in 2014 by the International Dark Sky Association.

↑ ARIZONA TRAIL

The Oracle State Park and the Arizona Trail offer a lot of opportunities for visitors to head outside to enjoy nature's beauty.

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

For a free media kit, call Mila at (520) 827-0676 or go online to: CopperArea.com and click on "Advertise With Us."

The park is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Except as noted, programs are free with park admission of \$7 per vehicle at the main gate on Mt. Lemmon Rd. in Oracle. Call the park office at (520) 896-2425 to make reservations, if needed.

Oracle State Park is located in the northern Catalina highlands, a mere 45-minute drive north of Tucson, along designated scenic corridor route 77, or 2 hours from Phoenix, via peaceful route 79.

More information can be found at bit.ly/OSPAZ.
Saturday, Feb. 11, 7:30 p.m.: Adventures with the Moon Evening Interpretive Program

Join Oracle State Park volunteer, Dick Boyer, as he takes you to the moon and back through interactive family friendly activities and displays. At the end of the program, sit around the upper patio fire pit and enjoy s'mores under the winter sky. Free with park entrance fee. Please call for a reservation. Arrive early or stay late for telescope viewing, courtesy of the Oracle Dark Skies Committee.

Saturday, Feb. 18, 9 a.m. to noon: Arizona Trail Thru-Hike.

Join a Ranger-led Guided Hike from for 6-7 miles crossing the

park on the National Scenic Arizona Trail. A reservation is required; free with park admission.

Sunday, Feb. 19, 1 p.m.: Speaking of Ravens

Toni Kahklen-Hoffman and Bob Elder will team up to discuss Ravens and their kin. Bob will present a short introduction to Ravens, including aspects of their natural history, their intelligence, and their role in folklore. Toni, a Tlingit Indian from Southeast Alaska and a member of the Raven Moiety, will talk about ravens from a Tlingit cultural perspective and the role that ravens play in their tribal society. Please call for a reservation. Free with park admission.

Saturday, Feb. 25, 1 p.m.: Cattle and Grassland, A History of Ranching in Southeastern Arizona

Presenter, Robin Pinto, is a landscape historian at the University of Arizona. Her talk includes ecological, political and economic issues and events that influence the history of cattle and ranching. Because there are so many interrelated issues, Robin strongly encourages members of the audience to ask questions during the presentation. Reservation required. Free with

Park

Continued from page 2

park admission. Thanks to sponsorship by Friends of Oracle State Park.

Saturday, Feb. 26, 8 a.m.: Guided Bird Walk

Plan to walk the Oracle State Park and learn about the native birds with guide, Craig Anderson. Please call for a reservation. Free with park admission.

Saturday, March 4, 1 p.m.: The Photographers Eye – How to Compose Great Images

In the living room of the Kannally Ranch House, for approximately 90 minutes, with Bob Hills. Making great photographs requires both technical and artistic abilities. This class focuses on the artistic elements of photography. It will cover image composition techniques that the photo-enthusiast can do with most any camera from smartphones to DSLRs. Gaining an understanding of these techniques can help anyone improve their images. This class is targeted at beginner or novice photographers, but may be of interest to more advance amateur photo-enthusiasts as well. Reservation suggested. Free with park admission.

Sunday, March 5, 1 p.m.: Bear Necessities

Bear Necessities with interpretive docent, Richard Boyer. Would you like to know more about the black bear of Arizona? Information about bears, an appearance from the “Everywhere Bear,” and information about safety around Bears will be presented in this inter-active 30 to 40-minute program. You might even win a prize for your knowledge about the black bear! Free with park admission; reservation suggested.



For tickets and additional information call: (520) 825-2818 or visit: www.dvpac.net

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J.C. Leaverton: Mammoth Pioneer

**John Hernandez
Pinal Nugget**

J.C. Leaverton was one of the early pioneers of Mammoth. His life was a colorful part of the Copper Corridor's history.



Sunday, Mar. 5, 3 p.m.
**Signature Series
Kate Hamilton &
Ferruccio Amelotti**
Oracle Center for the Arts

J.C. Leaverton was born in Morgan County, Texas on December 23, 1867. As a young cowboy, he was a trail driver herding XIT cattle

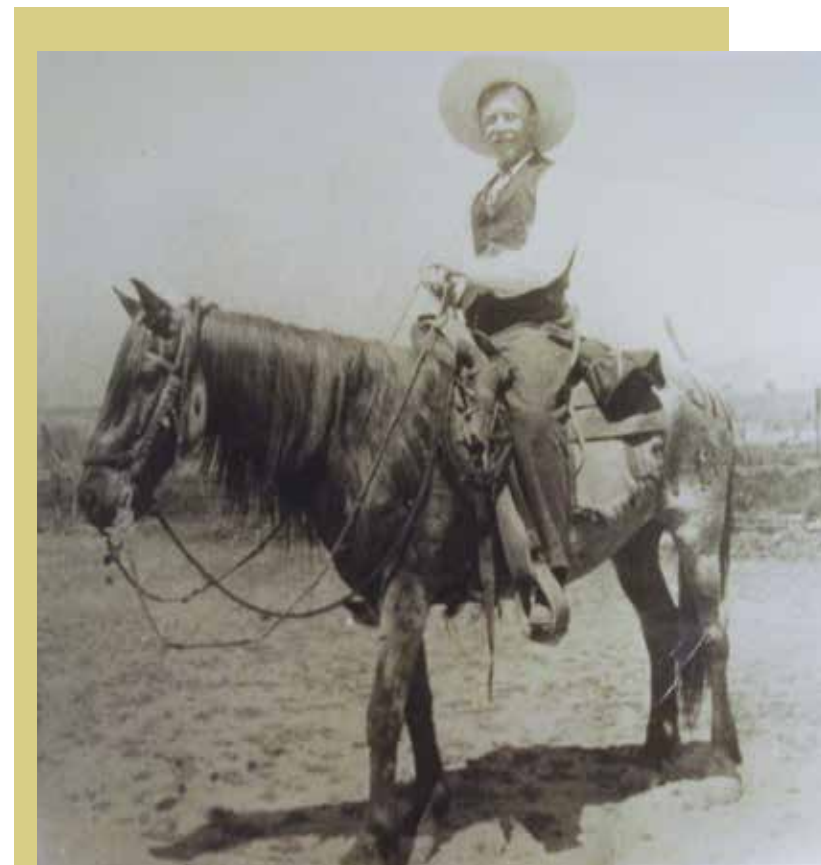
from Texas to Montana. He came to Arizona around 1890 where he began working at the Dunlap Ranch near Klondyke. Somewhere along

Saturday Mar. 18, 3 p.m.
Music to Celebrate St. Patrick with Acoustic Cadence Irish Folk Trio
Oracle Center for the Arts



Sunday, Apr. 2, 3 p.m.
**Signature Series
Dr. Stephen Cook, Piano**
Artistic Director's Concert
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Sunday, May 7
**Community Concert
Mexican Fiesta Featuring
Mariachi Genaro Moreno**
Details Coming Later



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*Tickets available online or at the door.
Signature Series Ticket Prices: \$30 advance/\$35 door
Limited free student tickets available with ID.*

↑ LAWMAN

J.C. Leaverton, c. 1898. J.C. moved to Mammoth, Arizona in 1895 and through the years served as a lawman and a team driver for E.W. Childs.

the line he picked up the nick name “Chapo” which is Spanish for “Shorty”.

He moved to the Mammoth area around 1895 where he worked at several ranches. One of these was the 7B Ranch owned by John Brown. The 7B is now the area where the mesquite bosque managed by the Nature Conservancy is located, across the San Pedro River by Mammoth. It was there that he shared a bunkhouse with the infamous Indian scout, cowboy and gunman Tom Horn. Before Tom Horn became a paid assassin in Wyoming, he worked ranches around Mammoth and in Aravaipa Canyon where he was a prospector and part owner of a mine.

Leaverton would later work for a man named Anderson who was working the tailings from the Mammoth mine stamp mill with a leaching process using cyanide to extract gold. He also worked at the stamp mill of the Mohawk mine. He became a teamster, hauling supplies by wagon from Tucson to Mammoth for E.W. Childs General Merchandise Company in Mammoth. One story he told about his days as a teamster involved him traveling the trail in a pouring rain which soaked him to the bone. He was cold and still had a ways to travel. He stopped and unloaded about 5,000 pounds of supplies to get to a bottle of whisky that helped him get through the night.

In 1913 he was hired as a deputy sheriff for Mammoth by Pinal County Sheriff Henry Hall. He would serve as a deputy under every sheriff from then on until his retirement in 1943. In 1914 he

was named one of the election officers for the Mammoth precinct. The voting place was listed as the dance hall. In 1924 he was also the town marshal in Mammoth.

Arizona passed a law in 1914 prohibiting the possession or sale of alcoholic beverages. The law took effect in January of 1915 and would last until 1933. New Mexico was a “wet” state which gave rise to bootlegging and the smuggling of liquor. Liquor was also smuggled across the Mexican border. The bootleggers and still operators kept the lawmen of Arizona busy.

Percy Leaverton, the son of J.C. told the *San Manuel Miner* some stories handed down from his dad in an article about his father printed in 1961. “In 1916 he lived at his homestead across the river from Mammoth where Copper Creek Road crosses the river road. Arizona was dry but New Mexico was wet so bootleggers ran liquor down the San Pedro Valley Road to avoid Tucson area to get the liquor to Mammoth, Winkelman and Globe areas. “Chapo” would go out at night, flag them down with his flashlight and if he found liquor, marched them off to the old wooden jail in Mammoth.

“One night a car stopped and asked one of the boys directions to Winkelman. ‘Chapo’ was without his gun but went to investigate. He saw gunny sacks filled with bottles of whiskey so he called to the house for someone to bring him his hat and outfit to him. His wife got his gun, covered it with his hat and took it out to him.

“One bootlegger said he would never be taken alive



TEAM DRIVER

J.C. Leaverton drives a team for
E.W. Childs.

but Chapo stopped him without any trouble.”

In 1918, Leaverton was in one of the posses trying to capture the Power brothers and Tom Sisson after the infamous Power shootout where three lawmen including the sheriff of Graham County were killed. It was the largest manhunt in Arizona history.

On February 23, 1920, Leaverton along with deputies Chester Magee and Eddie Thorpe busted a still on the Mesquite Ranch 10 miles east of Oracle. It was said to be a sophisticated 150 gallon still. They confiscated 10 gallons of corn whisky and three guns. No arrests were made.

In 1925, Leaverton transferred to Oracle, where he became the Pinal County deputy there. He and his wife

Elma lived in the Masonic home until 1928 when they moved into a new home. The Masonic home is the old Steward house which still stands in Oracle. The Leavertons had three sons, Wilbur, Percy and Joseph.

On December 24, 1926 it was reported in the newspapers that Leaverton had organized a search party for a hunter lost near Oracle. E.J. Wilkinson, a sergeant in the National Guard and former Captain in the Army during World War I was reported missing by his hunting partners at 7 p.m. They had been hunting deer in the Catalinas. The hunters got separated and when snow began falling they became worried about Wilkinson.

Continued on page 6

Leaverton

Continued from page 5

Around 10 p.m. the body of Wilkinson was found by the search party underneath a mesquite tree 5 miles north of Oracle about 20 feet from the Carlink Ranch road. He had died from exhaustion and exposure according to the coroner.

In 1929 Leaverton was called to Mammoth to investigate a “cutting affray” which occurred at the Bluebird Mine. One victim was severely knifed about the body and was taken to the hospital in Winkelman. No one pressed charges and witnesses could not or would not identify the assailant or assailants.

Leaverton joined a posse at Ray in 1930. The officers were attempting to arrest a hermit who had barricaded himself in a stone cabin. He held the posse off for 24 hours before surrendering. The lawmen and the hermit exchanged gunfire throughout the day and night. The hermit turned out to be Ed Mitchell a prospector wanted for cattle theft. He had been living in the cabin in the Steamboat Mountains, 12 miles north of Ray on the Howard Parks ranch. In the early morning officers were able to get close

enough to the cabin to set a fire on one side as a diversion. An officer then tossed in a tear gas bomb through one of the windows. That is when the coughing and gasping Mitchell came out the door and surrendered.

The *Arizona Daily Star* on March 6, 1931 reported: “The activities of deputies J.C. Leaverton of Oracle and Chris Clark of Mammoth have resulted in the discovery and destruction of a number of well equipped distilling outfits in the past two weeks. All were located in the Copper Creek and Aravaipa Canyon districts. No arrests were made.”

Leaverton was one of the founding members of the Oracle Historical and Archaeology Society in 1929. He was a board member along with his wife Elma and W.W. Huggett. Elizabeth Lambert Woods was President, L.C. Terry was Secretary and the Treasurer was H.L. Bowyer.

J.C. Leaverton retired as a deputy in 1943. He and his wife moved to Coolidge in 1946. Elma Leaverton passed away in 1956. J.C. Leaverton died at the age of 93 in August 1961.

“

One bootlegger
said he would
never be taken
alive but Chapo
stopped him
without any
trouble.

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Exploring Aravaipa Canyon

Enjoying the outdoors is easy to do when you live in the Copper Corridor. There are many places to visit and hike that are in close proximity.

One enjoyable hike is just off Highway 77 on the lower Aravaipa Creek, approximately 10 miles North of Mammoth.

According to BLM, which manages the Aravaipa Canyon area, the access road is usually suitable for passenger cars year round.

From Phoenix (120 miles, 2 to 2.5 hours): Take US Highway 60 to Superior. At Superior, take State Highway 177 to Winkelman. At Winkelman, take State Highway 77, 11 miles to Aravaipa Road (at Central Arizona College). Turn left and go 12 miles to the West trailhead along a paved and graded dirt road. From

the trailhead, it is a 1.5-mile hike through Nature Conservancy land to the west wilderness boundary.

From Tucson (70 miles, 1.5 to 2 hours): Take US Highway 77 through Oracle Junction to the Aravaipa Road (8 miles north of Mammoth). Turn right on Aravaipa Road and go 12 miles to the West trailhead along a paved and graded dirt road. From the trailhead, it is a 1.5-mile hike through Nature Conservancy land to the west wilderness boundary.

Stop and park just in front of the cattle guard about four-tenths of a mile and follow the trail just before the cattle guard. The trail is on the left side of the road along the barb wire fence and is very visible.

This is a relaxing walk that will take you from the cholla cactus to

Continued on page 12

Photos by John Byerly

↓ ARAVAIPA CREEK

Red rock cliffs contrast beautifully with the turquoise/aquamarine creek and its shimmering light reflections.



LUSH VEGETATION ↑

For most of the year, Aravaipa Canyon showcases its wide variety of lush, vibrant greenery. It feels like a true paradise.



ARAVAIPA CREEK ↑

Aravaipa Creek's 17-mile reach flows all year round, which is a rare commodity in this part of the world. It also supports the best remaining population of native desert fish.

↓ FLASH FLOOD DAMAGE

After heavy torrential downpours, Aravaipa is subject to flash floods, ripping trees out by the roots and shooting them downstream. On January 21st of this year, water was measured to be flowing at over 2,000 cubic feet per second. Water levels may have been over 10 feet deep in some parts of the canyon.





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Aravaipa

Continued from page 10

the Aravaipa Creek with tall picturesque trees. Walking in the fall or winter, you will be able to hear the rustling of the leaves as they crunch beneath your feet.

The sky above may have a few hawks soaring around along with other colorful birds chirping. It's a perfect place for a picnic.

A permit is required to visit Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness.

The fee is \$5 per person per day. Canyon use is limited to 50 people per day, 30 from the West end and 20 from the East end. This system helps to reduce the potential impacts to the environment caused by human use and allows visitors to enjoy the canyon's solitude.

For more information, please visit the BLM website at: <https://on.doi.gov/2l5LoQY>.



← PAW PRINTS

Coati, a member of the raccoon family, footprints in the river bank. The mud banks along the canyon are riddled with footprints from coati, javelina, deer, and bobcats. The canyon is also home to mountain lions, black bears and over 220 species of birds.

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Visiting the Copper Corridor by air

Mila Besich-Lira
Pinal Nugget

You won't find any commercial airliners landing at one of the four regional airports in the Copper Corridor, but those who have private planes, helicopter or wish to charter a flight to the area will find an airport close to the Copper Corridor community of their choice.

The airports in Kearny (E67) and San Manuel (E77) provide many resources to pilots. Both airports have hangers and fuel available. Both of these airports have won awards from the Governor's Office on Transportation. Additionally, the San Manuel airport now boasts lights for night landings.

The San Carlos (P13) airport is located in San Carlos near Globe. This airport

also features many amenities to pilots and their passengers.

The municipal airport in Superior (E81) off of US 60 does not have any amenities but small aircraft can land on the gravel runway. This runway is often used for pilots practicing their flight skills. If you need any type of assistance to plan your flight into Superior please contact the Superior Town Hall at 520-689-5752.



FLIGHT

Pilots have four airports in the Copper Corridor where they can land their planes. Photo by Jennifer Carnes

“We breathe life into cold steel and call it – ‘RAILROAD.’”

~ L.S. “Jake” Jacobson



The Copper Basin Railway People



A NOTE FROM THE PUBLISHER:

Jake Jacobson was chosen as North America's "Railroad Man of the Year" in 1994, the Copper Basin "Citizen of Year" in 1998 and one of the "Century's Great Railroaders" in 2000.

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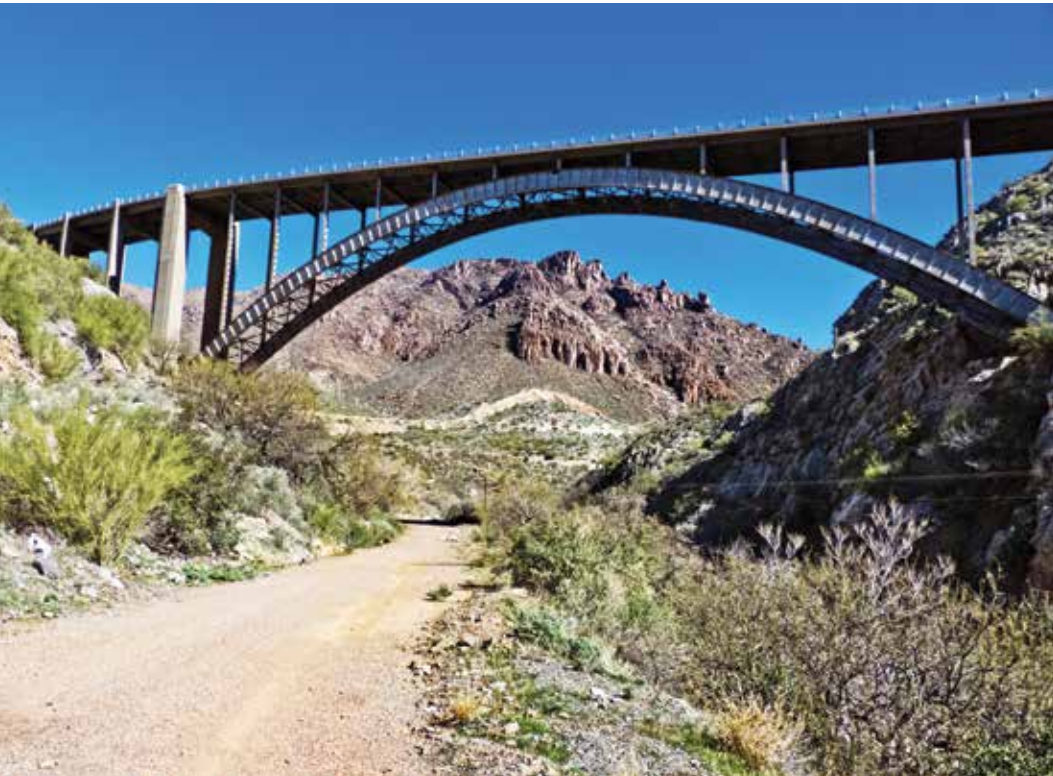
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Exploring Superior The Five Best Hikes

Sirena Dufault
Pinal Nugget

The mountains and canyons that surround Superior have many places to explore for people of all skill levels.

Here are five of the best hikes in the area.

LOST Canyon Segment
4.5 miles roundtrip, 550 feet of elevation gain

The Legends of Superior Trails (LOST) Canyon segment follows the old route of US 60 to the Claypool Tunnel. The hike starts out by following Queen Creek, crossing it on an old bridge before going underneath the current US 60 highway bridge. Just as you pass the water tank, look for inscriptions made on the rocks by the inmates who built the highway. The trail then switchbacks up the side of the canyon, gaining elevation and then traversing toward the Claypool Tunnel.

The tunnel was blasted out of solid rock and was an engineering marvel when it was constructed in 1922. There are great views of rock formations and Picketpost Mountain in the distance.

Trailhead access is off of Highway 177 at the intersection of Ray Road/Magma Avenue and Heiner Drive. There is a parking area in front of a gate that prohibits vehicle traffic that is posted no trespassing. Hiking, biking and equestrian access is permitted, walk around the gate to access the Canyon segment of the LOST.

Boyce Thompson Arboretum
1.5 – 2 miles, 100 feet elevation gain



LOST BRIDGE

The LOST Canyon Segment follows the old route of U.S. Hwy. 60 under the new highway bridge. Photo by Angela Romain



ARBORETUM

Fall is a wonderful time to visit the Boyce Thompson Arboretum with all the leaves changing colors. Photo by Angela Romain



GUIDED HIKE

Visitors to the Boyce Thompson Arboretum have the opportunity to join guided hikes. Photo by Sirena Dufault

The Arboretum is a wonderful place to learn about the world's deserts and has a series of trails that take you through the different exhibits. The Main Trail loop is a mile and a half long, adding the High Trail turns it into a two-mile loop. You'll pass by the rose garden, many different types of cacti and fantastic Boojum trees before arriving at Ayer Lake. The lake is a hotspot



The Arizona Trail (AZT) stretches 800 miles from Mexico to Utah but you don't have to do the whole thing to enjoy it!



← HIKERS

Hikers on the Arizona Trail near Picketpost Mountain. Photo by Sirena Dufault

↑ ARNETT CANYON

Turnoff for Arnett Canyon on the Arizona Trail. This hike has minimal changes in elevation. Photo by Sirena Dufault

for birding and the trail ascends to a lookout.

You'll pass the mansion of Boyce Thompson, who founded the town of Superior and the Arboretum, and then descend through fantastic rock pillars to the riparian area and seasonally running waters of Queen Creek. Here, you can continue on the Main Trail through the herb garden and eucalyptus groves or take the suspension bridge across the creek to the High Trail, which contours above Queen Creek for a great view of the Arboretum.

Boyce Thompson Arboretum is

located three miles west of Superior on Highway 60 and guided interpretive hikes of the loop are held at 11 a.m. daily, free with admission (\$12.50 for adults, \$5 for ages 5 to 12; children under age five are admitted free.)

Picketpost Trailhead is the access for the Arizona Trail, Arnett Canyon and Picketpost Mountain Summit hikes. It is located four miles west of Superior and nine miles east of Florence Junction. The turnoff is marked with a sign for the trailhead as well as the Arizona National Scenic Trail. turn south on FR 231 and take it 0.4 miles to FR 310 and turn left. Follow FR 310 0.6 miles to the trailhead parking. Visit AZTrail.org for more information on the Arizona Trail including directions to each of the 43 passages of the trail. Picketpost Trailhead is in the Reavis Canyon Passage.

Arizona National Scenic Trail
6 miles roundtrip, 500 feet of elevation gain

The Arizona Trail (AZT) stretches 800 miles from Mexico to Utah but you don't have to do the whole thing to enjoy it! The portion of the trail near Picketpost is a great spot for hikers, bikers, equestrians and runners of

all skill levels. Hike past the Arizona Trail sign heading south as the wide, well-marked path winds through the foothills of Picketpost Mountain. The Superstition Mountains are visible to the north, including the spire of Weavers Needle. The trail gently climbs to a saddle three miles from the trailhead that makes a great spot to turn around for a dayhike. No matter how long a journey you take, whether it's one mile, ten miles or more - you'll get a taste of what makes the Arizona Trail a state treasure. You might even meet someone that is doing the entire trail! This is a fantastic place to see wildflowers in February and March.

Arnett Canyon
Length of hike varies, minimal elevation gain

To reach Arnett Canyon, take the Arizona Trail south from Picketpost Trailhead for less than a quarter of a mile until you see a brown sign with arrows pointing to the Arizona Trail and Picketpost Mountain. The trail for Arnett Canyon is behind the sign and ascends a short distance before descending to the bed of Arnett Creek a half-mile from the turnoff. The creek



Hiking Superior

Continued from page 17

has towering walls, lush cottonwoods and sycamores and seasonally running water. Follow the trail in the creekbed and enjoy the canyon for as long as you'd like and return the way you came to the trailhead. Fall colors make the creek even more beautiful in November and December.

Picketpost Mountain Summit *4.4 miles roundtrip, 1900 feet of elevation gain*

This is more than just a hike; it's an adventure that requires stamina, route finding skills and scrambling up sections of rock and boulders. Hike south for a half of a mile on the Arizona Trail until you see a sign that points to the turnoff to the summit on the left. The route is marked by

cairns, small stacks of rocks that help guide hikers up the ridge and to the scramble up the rocks.

The route stays on the left side of the deep gully and some spots will require you to use both your hands and feet to get up the rocks. Once you reach the flat top of the mountain, take the path a quarter of a mile to the summit. At the summit, sign in at the red mailbox, relax on a wrought-iron bench and enjoy spectacular views of the Superstitions, the town of Superior beneath the cliffs of Apache Leap and views south all the way to the Catalina Mountains near Tucson.

For more details on this hike and many more, visit HikeArizona.com.



SUMMIT

Hike to the top of Picketpost Mountain and you will gain a view of the Copper Corridor that few have experienced.

Photo by Sirena Dufault



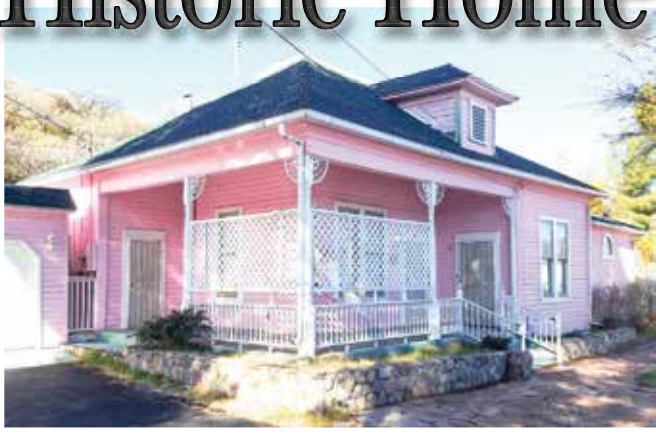
MARKER

This marks the spot on the Arizona Trail for the Picketpost Trailhead. Photo by Sirena Dufault



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The area offers
limitless possibilities
for recreation and
outdoor activities.

← KEARNY LAKE

Bird watchers were in for a treat this winter when three pelicans landed in the Kearny Lake following a storm. Recently, an American Bald Eagle was spotted near the lake.

Small towns **big possibilities**

Nestled at the heart of the Copper Corridor and at the southern end of the famed Copper Triangle are the Copper Basin communities of Kearny, Hayden and Winkelman. Though small, they offer much to visitors who want to get away from the big cities.

The Copper Basin communities are located in the beautiful upland Sonoran Desert with saguaro cactus blanketing the mountainsides and have much to offer those looking for recreation and outdoor activities.

Within an hour's drive of both the Phoenix and Tucson areas, the Copper Basin offers a range of commercial businesses including gas stations, restaurants, a grocery store, convenience stores, a motel, a hardware store, auto parts stores and many others.

The area also offers limitless possibilities for recreation and outdoor activities.

Fishermen will appreciate the

challenges of the Gila River, which flows through Kearny and Winkelman, and hunters will find the surrounding areas has a variety of large and small game and birds (quail, dove, deer and javelina). The Gila River is such a gentle flowing river, kayakers and tube riders enjoy floating down its peaceful surface.

Kearny Lake is the premier recreation center of the Copper Basin. This 11 acre surface area lake is located in a 92-acre pristine natural area adjacent to the town. The park contains a campground with 12 developed sites and a restroom facility.

The campsites are suitable for motor homes, campers or tents, and picnic armadas are all in very close proximity

to the lake. There is no charge for camping and the site is handicapped accessible.

Kearny has also developed an Off-Highway Vehicle Park in the foothills of the Pinal Mountains. Named the Mescal Mt. O.H.V. area, the park includes 12 campsites with armadas, picnic tables and fire pits, and potable water with restroom facilities.

The area provides a spectacular view of the valley below and is surrounded by giant saguaros. There are numerous marked trails for riding or hiking through the untouched desert.

Download the information sheet at <http://bit.ly/mescalmtn>.

Continued on page 22

LOST DUTCHMAN DAY'S



RODEO



FEBRUARY 24TH, 25TH, 26TH - RODEO BEGINS AT 1:30 EACH DAY - GATES OPEN AT 11:00

OTHER EVENTS

BEER AND BRAT PARTY

* FEBRUARY 23RD - 12:00 PM TO 8:00 PM AT THE ELKS LODGE

RODEO PARADE

* FEBRUARY 25TH - 9:00 AM DOWNTOWN APACHE JUNCTION

BLM MUSTANG PROGRAM

* FEBRUARY 24TH, 25TH, 26TH AT RODEO GROUNDS

RODEO DANCE * 21 AND UP

* FEBRUARY 25TH - 7:00 PM TO 11:00 PM AT THE ELKS LODGE

VENDORS AND CARNIVAL

* FEBRUARY 24TH, 25TH, 26TH AT RODEO GROUNDS

MUTTON BUSTING

* FEBRUARY 26TH AT RODEO GROUNDS



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT LOSTDUTCHMANDAYS.ORG OR FIND US ON FACEBOOK

The Banner Goldfield
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LOST

Dutchman Days Parade



"Legends of the Superstitions"



Saturday, February 25th, 2017 - 9:00am

Contact the Apache Junction Chamber of Commerce at events@ajchamber.com or 480-982-3141 for more information on how to submit a parade entry.



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↑ KAYAK

The Winkelman Flats area is a great place to launch kayaks or tubes on the Gila.

Copper Basin

Continued from page 20

The Winkelman Flats Park is the gem of the Copper Basin. Once a thriving neighborhood in the small town, it was destroyed in 1993 by a flood. All housing was removed and the land was subsequently turned into a recreational area where today there are facilities for camping and picnicking on the banks of the Gila River. Also available are a softball field, roping arena, children's playground and lots of beautiful scenery. The area is able to accommodate large groups of people but reservations are requested. Visit the Town Hall at 206 N. Giffin St. or call 520-356-7854 for more information.

Other accommodations available include Breezeway MH and RV Park located off Highway 177 just north of Kearny and the Rio Vista RV Park located just off Tilbury Road in Kearny. In Winkelman, there is the Palo Verde RV Park, located at milepost 133 on Hwy. 77. Call 520-356-7930 for more information.

If roughing it is not your

thing, the General Kearny Inn in located at 301 Alden Road in Kearny offers rooms with an outdoor courtyard and ramada. Visit GeneralKearnyInn.com or call 520-363-5505.

Other outdoor activities includes Kearny Golf Course, a Par 70, 18-hole course with very reasonable rates. Cart rental is available and tee times are not required. Tournaments are also scheduled on a regular basis. Call 520-363-7441 for more information.

The Town of Hayden offers a beautiful golf course, baseball and softball facilities, RV locations and picnic areas, all located at Hastings Park. The nine-hole Hayden Golf Club in Hayden, Arizona is a public golf course. Hayden Golf Club measures 2,915 yards from the longest tees. The course features two sets of tees for different skill levels. Tournaments are also regularly scheduled. Call the town for more information at 520-356-7801. Or drop by the Town Hall located at 520 Velasco Ave.

Canyon Sounds presents Everything Fitz

“Everything Fitz”, the Fitzgerald family band from Canada, features high-energy fiddling and percussive step dancing. With roots in the old-time fiddle tradition and Ottawa Valley step dancing, their unique stage show combines a variety of musical styles from traditional jigs, reels, bluegrass, Celtic, gospel, jazz, swing, and special choreographed routines. And on Friday, March 10, they will bring it all to Gold Canyon.

The Fitzgerald siblings, Julie, Kerry, and Tom, are Canadian Grand Master Fiddle Champions and Ontario Open Step Dance Champions. They provide 3-part harmonies with solo improvisations on fiddle, mandolin, and guitar. These spirited musicians and the rest of the family always captivate an audience. Performing in theaters, festivals, and exhibitions, they receive glowing reviews from promoters and fans across Canada and

the United States.

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 at gcac1.com. Adult tickets at the door are \$30. Call 480-983-2171 for more information.

The performance will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 10, at the Gold Canyon United Methodist Church, 6640 S. Kings Ranch Rd., Gold Canyon.

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 by grants from ACA, WESTAF, the National Endowment for the Arts, local corporations, and businesses.



MUSIC & DANCE

Everything Fitz will perform in Gold Canyon on March 10.



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Guided birdwalks at the Arboretum

Winter months can be surprisingly colorful around Pinal County – aloes blooming orange at Boyce Thompson Arboretum lured hummingbirds; and where winter migrant bird reports at the popular state park ranged from Ruby-crowned Kinglet to Yellow-rumped Warbler, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Red-naped Sapsucker and White-crowned Sparrow.

Learn more about birds of BTA on a guided walk - Lisa Murphy leads Friday 8:30 a.m. walks twice-a-month (Feb. 17), and Saturday-Sunday walks continue Feb. 18 with Kathe Anderson, Feb. 26 with Cathy Wise, Steven Prager and Charlie Babbitt – and March 4 with Cynthia Donald and Pete Moulton leading the walk.

Lisa Murphy's Friday walks are a new addition to the BTA event calendar; an avid birder for two decades, Lisa has worked with birds through the U S Fish and Wildlife Service, the Forest Service, and now specializes in avian care at the Phoenix Zoo.

Daily Tours of the Main Trail

Arizona State Parks volunteers narrate Arboretum history and point out colorful plants, birds, and seasonal changes on guided walking tours every day of this month, and continuing through April, at 11 a.m. Meet in the visitor center breezeway; tours are free to BTA annual

members, also free if you have an Arizona State Parks pass, and for non-members tours are included with daily admission.

February - March Events

Feb. 18 Bird Walk guided by Kathe Anderson 8:30 a.m.
Feb. 18 Plants of the Bible Lands guided walk with Dave Oberpriller at 1:30 p.m.

Feb. 19 Sunday Tree Tour with Jeff Payne 1:30 p.m.
Feb. 25 Geology Walk 1:30 p.m.

Feb. 26 Bird Walk guided by Cathy Wise, Steven Prager & Charlie Babbitt 8:30 a.m.

Feb. 26 Edible & Medicinal Desert Plants Walk guided by Kathy & Tom 1:30 p.m.

March 4 Bird Walk guided by Cynthia & Pete 8:30 a.m.

March 4 Thunder Gourd craft class (\$57.50 - \$67.50)
March 5 History Walk at 10 a.m.

March 5 Basic Gourd Art craft class for Beginners (\$42.50 - \$52.50)

Just one hour's drive east of Phoenix or 90 minutes north of Tucson – it's no wonder the Arboretum has



BRIGHT PLUMAGE 

This photo of a Northern Cardinal was taken at the Boyce Thompson Arboretum in January 2017 by Brendon Grice.

repeatedly been voted “Best Day Trip” in polls of Arizona residents.

The Arboretum is located at Highway 60 Milepost #223 near the historic copper mining town of Superior, about one hour’s drive due east of Phoenix on the Superstition Freeway.

Arriving from Tucson? Take Oracle Road North to Highway 79, continue through and past the town of Florence to the junction where Highway 79 meets

Highway 60, then turn right and drive another 12 miles East on Highway 60 to our front gate. As of January 1, 2017, admission is \$12.50 for adults, \$5 for ages 5 to 12; children under age five are admitted free.

Confirm event dates and times and read more at cals.arizona.edu/bta or connect with thousands of fans and see new photos posted daily at facebook.com/btarboretum.

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TWO BEDROOM, 1 BATH

309 McNab Carport with new concrete driveway, covered patio, shed, stove, frig & washer. \$30,000
123 Ave. A Enlarged remodeled kitchen, new tile, new carpet & covered patio. Stove, frig, dishwasher & microwave. \$42,500 **SALE PENDING**
126 Webb Upgrades galore: dual pane windows, A/C and evaporative cooling, block garage, 2 car carport, full covered patio with concrete walks, ceramic floors, handicap accessible bathroom, remodeled kitchen with abundance of cabinets & all appliances. \$68,500

MAMMOTH:

86265 Barrows Beautiful views from this home on 3.54 acres with private well, front & back covered patios, AZ room and A/C. Metal roof is 1 year old. Workshop, paved driveway & all appliances stay. \$135,000
201 River Dr. Beautiful views, .69 acre corner lot, totally chain link fenced, 3 bed, 1 3/4 bath mobile home with large front covered patio, 2 car garage and workshop. \$43,500

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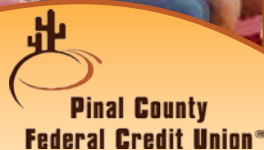
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Golf benefit for Queen Valley FD

The Queen Valley Fire Auxiliary is hosting its 28th annual golf tournament on Saturday, March 11, at the Queen Valley Golf Course. The format will be a four person scramble open to all teams: men, women and mixed. Teams will be flighted by handicap. Entry fees are \$35 each for members and \$50 each for non-members (cart fees are \$17 a cart). The entry fee includes morning coffee & rolls, green fees, specialty holes, lunch, team prizes and door prizes. There will also be a silent auction at the luncheon.

Businesses or individuals can donate to the event by Sponsoring a Tee Box Sign for

a \$25 minimum contribution. These signs can be personalized with your name, pet's picture, name of your business, in memory of a loved one, for your children/grandchildren or a club.

Entry forms and Sponsor a Tee Box forms can be picked up at the Queen Valley Pro Shop or by calling Tournament Chairperson, Toni at 541-677-9830. Deadline for these forms is March 4.

The Queen Valley Golf Course is located at the center of the village of Queen Creek. East of Phoenix on U.S. Hwy. 60-Superstition Freeway to Queen Valley Road and turn



GOLF

Queen Valley's Golf Course is an oasis in the desert and plays host to many tournaments.

left. From Tucson, take Hwy. 77 north to Hwy. 79. Take Hwy. 79 through the town of Florence until it ends at U.S. Hwy. 60, then head east to Queen Valley Road and turn left.

All proceeds from the tournament benefit the Queen Valley Fire Department and are tax deductible. These Fire

Fighters and EMTs not only serve the community but they also respond to accidents on nearby highways and in the mountains and desert areas.

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For more information, visit queenvalleyfire.org.



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calendar of events

Spring 2017

We wanted to share a few of the local events with our Pinal Nugget readers.

COPPER DUST STAMPEDE

10

Friday, March 10, through Sunday, March 12, beginning at 9 a.m. Copper Dust Stampede Rodeo at the Gila County Fairgrounds, Hwy. 60 towards Show Low, 10 minutes from Globe. Enjoy professional rodeo action with bucking bulls, saddle bronc riding, barrel racing and more. The weekend action starts Friday night at the Gila County fairgrounds...and don't forget the rodeo dance Saturday night. globemiamichamber.org



PIONEER DAYS

16

March 16-19, annual Pioneer Days in Kearny. This year's theme is Heroes and Villains. Parade on Saturday at 10 a.m. Carnival. Fantastic food. Entertainment throughout the weekend. There will be the usual merchandise vendors with handbags, t-shirts and toys the children love and on Saturday there will be information booths lined up along the Little League area of Pioneer Park. facebook.com/copperbasin.chamber



APACHE LEAP MINING FEST

17

March 17-19, Main St., Superior, Annual Apache Leap Mining Festival. Entertainment throughout the event, Chihuahua races, roping competition, food and retail vendors, crafts market, art walk, beer garden, Saturday night street dance and concert, speakers, lots of "hands on" things to do for all ages. Mining competition with a \$2,000 purse! Family oriented and ALL FREE except carnival and vendors. superiorarizonachamber.org



ATV JAMBOREE

23

Thursday, March 23, through Sunday, March 26. ATV Monster Jamboree. Hit the road on your ATV and side by side, with special trail rides planned in the beautiful Tonto National Forest surrounding Globe. globemiamichamber.org



GLOBE MIAMI HOME TOUR

8

April 8-9, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 33rd Annual Historic Home and Building Tour, E. Sycamore St. & S. Broad St., Globe, AZ 85501. Enjoy the territorial architecture of Globe as you are driven in style to each stop where a host will regale you with stories of the early days, point out architectural details and give a history of the building owners. Tours leave from the train depot in downtown Globe. globemiamichamber.org



ORACLE ARTIST STUDIO TOUR

8

April 8-9, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; More than 40 artists and artisans, working in nearly every medium, are showing and selling their original art in working studios, eclectic galleries and shared venues. The Visitors Center at 1470 W. American Ave., Oracle, provides a convenient first stop for visitors, with displays of works by participating artists, a full self-guiding tour map, and refreshments. oraclestudiotour.com



ORACLE OAKS FEST

22

On Saturday, April 22, Oracle Oaks Festival and Oracle Spring Run Car Show. The Oracle Community Center, once again, hosts the Oaks Festival. Start the day with breakfast at the Oracle Community Center, then cheer along at the festival parade and Oracle Spring Run Car Show (sponsored by the Oracle Historical Society). oraclecommunitycenter.org or oraclehistoricalsociety.org



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