

ORACLE TOWNE CRIER

FREE: Take one ... we won't stop you! Really. It's yours if you want it!

John Hernandez | Crier

A photograph of a man and a woman standing in a workshop or garage. The man on the left is wearing a green t-shirt with the text "I'M DEFINITELY UP TO SOMETHING", red pants, a yellow cap, and has his arms crossed. The woman on the right is wearing a black vest over a patterned shirt, khaki pants, a blue cap, and glasses. In the foreground, there are several cardboard boxes filled with fresh vegetables, including leafy greens and tomatoes. To the left, there is a large box for "Snow Globe" figurines. The background shows shelves with various items and a ladder.

Farm fresh veggies in Oracle
Page 7

Oracle Towne Crier

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 —David Brinkley

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OBITUARIES

Roger Einar Solie

In the early morning hours on Feb. 5, 2015, Roger Einar Solie passed away in his home in Oracle, Az. He died from complications of the flu. He was 79 years old.

Roger was born Jan. 16, 1936 in Milwaukee, Wi. He was the second child of Aynard and Gladys Solie.

Roger spent his early years in Milwaukee and moved to Ohio in the third grade where he enjoyed playing the steel guitar and riding motorcycles.

After graduation, he joined the Air Force and served for four years in

Alaska and Wisconsin.

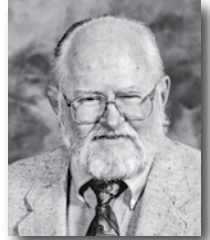
Roger moved to Arizona in 1962 where he worked as a lab tech and X-ray tech for Dr. Coy Purcell, Dr. Brickler and Dr. Reilly in Tucson. In the early 70s, he moved to Oracle and helped open Dr. Coy Purcell's office. In 1974, Roger graduated from the University of Arizona Nursing Program, one of eight male nurses. The remainder of his career, he worked as a registered nurse, which he truly enjoyed.

Roger is survived by his wife of 46 years, Betty; children, Ingrid

Van Winkle (Gary) and Eva Solie (Bobby Rodriguez); grandchildren, Justin South, Jennifer Crowe (John), Sarah Lawhon (Katy) and Desiree

Solie (Andrew); and two great-grandchildren, Cedar and Isobelle.

A memorial service will be held Feb. 13, 2015, at 11 a.m. at Living Word Chapel in Oracle.



Christa 'Oma' Delzer



Christa Delzer, 82, passed away Jan. 29, 2015 in her home surrounded by family and friends. She was born Dec. 22, 1932 in

Kallstadt, Germany. She met Wilbur "Sarge" Delzer while he was stationed in Germany and they were married on April 12, 1956. She came to the United States in 1959. In 1966 she earned her U.S. citizenship. Christa was active with the American Legion Auxiliary, knitting club, Oracle Senior Center and the Oracle Union Church.

One of her many favorite things were playing bingo.

Christa is survived by daughter Rosemarie Milam (Shane), son Ronald Wilbur (Sabrina), son David Allen, grandson David Wayne Carender and sister Johanna Eleonore Perrin (Thomas) and many nieces and nephews.

Obituaries are published free of charge in the Oracle Towne Crier. If you have an obituary you would like us to print, please email it to editor@minersunbasin.com or submit it online at www.CopperArea.com.

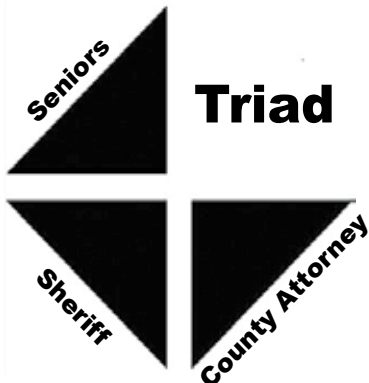
You can also request our newspaper through the mortuary or funeral home.

Oracle TRIAD Coalition

First Wednesday, 3 p.m. • Oracle Fire Department

Education • Information • Resources • Services
 Helping the Senior-Elder-Older Adult

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.



OBITUARY

Michael Collett

Michael Collett left us Jan. 22, 2015, after his big heart just gave out. "If you didn't know him, you didn't live here," is the general opinion. He was born Dec. 8, 1951, in Topeka, KS, to William and Louise Collett.



A Professional Photographer since 1979, he enjoyed watching the generations grow through life in his portraits. Often he photographed weddings of couples whose parents' weddings he had photographed. High School Seniors were always his favorite subjects, and he loved giving advice and telling jokes to make them smile.

He also exhibited his black and white street photography in several art galleries,

including Globe and Oracle.

Everyone who knew him knew his magic tricks for kids and his silly jokes and teasing. If he couldn't make someone laugh, his day was incomplete. In failing health for the last few years, he still managed to enjoy life and people, until the pain finally got stronger than he was.

Michael (not 'Mike' because "I can charge more as Michael") is survived by his wife of 24 years, artist, writer and photographer, Jenny Kilb, his sister Patty Collett of San Antonio, and her children William and Donica Ramsey, plus a few hundred friends and two beloved dogs.

He will be deeply missed. Tell someone a joke for him today.

Jenny and Patty remind you to "Walk this Way." (Igor, "Young Frankenstein")

The family is planning a service in Oracle in March and will send out notice of that information at that time.

DIAPER BAG

How to Make the Most of Money

Ever have trouble making money last all month? Unsure how to manage money, balance a checkbook, or know where to begin when it comes to saving for the future? If you answered "yes," you are struggling with Money Management issues, like most other people. Family First Pregnancy Care Center is focusing on "Improving Money Management Skills" during the month of February. Family First can help!

Special evening classes will be held Thursday evenings on Feb. 12, 19, and 26 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Family First Pregnancy Care Center office at 1575 W. American Avenue, Oracle, Ariz. The classes are open to all people who are interested in learning practical and easy techniques to better manage their money and make wiser financial decisions. Earning money is the first step toward financial success, but understanding how to manage money and making wiser choices is just as important.

Some of the topics being covered will be basics of budgeting and saving for the future. These free, practical, and informative



classes are helpful for all people.

Please call Family First at 520-896-9545 for more information and to reserve a place at these special evening classes. Space is limited, so call and sign up today.

39900 S Clubhouse Dr www.dvpac.net 520-825-2818

Saturday, January 31, 2015—Bella Donna - Stevie Nicks and Fleetwood Mac Tribute - 7:30 pm



Produced by TAD Management. Based in Southern California, the critically-acclaimed tribute show, Bella Donna, recreates Stevie Nicks in concert. The band portrays the singer and her music (solo and with Fleetwood Mac), in a stunningly accurate depiction. From the attention to detail given to the music and vocal impersonations to the authentic wardrobe and staging, Bella Donna will amaze with their ability to take their audience into a high-energy Stevie Nicks performance. When Bella Donna is on the stage, Stevie Nicks is in the House. \$25 inclusive \$30 door.

Saturday, February 7, 2015—Tumblin' Tumbleweeds 4:00 pm & 7:30 pm - Produced by Lonely Street Productions.

Relax after a long day on the trail and enjoy a show that captures the essence of Arizona and the Old West through classic Country-Western music and old-fashioned storytelling. Join our cowboy crooners as they play and sing hits from Marty Robbins, Gene Autry and the Sons of the Pioneers. Tumblin' Tumbleweeds features time-honored tunes such as "Cool Water," "El Paso," "The Last Roundup," "Don't Fence Me In," and of course, "Tumblin' Tumbleweeds." You'll feel the warmth of the campfire, smell the scent of roasted marshmallows and hear the faint howl of coyotes. \$25 inclusive \$30 door.



Sunday, February 8, 2015—Shania Twain & Tim McGraw Tribute - 7:30 pm. Produced by TAD Management.

Donna Huber and Adam D. Tucker first appeared together as separate acts in the spectacular Las Vegas Show, "American Country Superstars." TAD Management has teamed the two of them up to produce the ultimate country tribute show, paying homage to 2 true superstars, Shania Twain & Tim McGraw. This show will have you tapping your feet, dancing in the aisles and screaming at the top of your lungs for more! \$25 inclusive \$30 door.



Wednesday, February 11, 2015—Surf Rock Beach Party - 7:30 pm. Produced by Lonely Street Productions.

Join us for an indoor beach party you won't soon forget! This half concert/half party will feature your favorite summertime hits from The Beach Boys to Jimmy Buffett and everything in between. There will be surf-rock instrumentals and a steel-drum showdown between two of the nation's top steel drum artists! Put on your craziest Hawaiian shirt and join us for the Surf Rock Beach Party! \$25 inclusive \$30 door.



Monday, February 16, 2015 - University of Arizona Wind Ensemble - 7:30pm.

The University of Arizona presents Wind Ensemble, Greg Hanson Conductor and Wind Symphony. Featuring Faculty Artist **Matt Tropman**, euphonium soloist. Lincoln's Birthday Tribute will showcase a spectacular patriotic medley and a fabulous arrangement of music from Porgy and Bess with two wonderful singers! \$22 inclusive \$25 door



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Call 520-385-2266 for more information

Echo the Wolf

Park Service employees have been wandering the North Rim of the Grand Canyon searching for wolf scat. A large gray canine was spotted wandering the area and debate ensued about whether the beast was a coyote, wolf or wolf/dog hybrid. Once a scat sample was obtained it was determined that the creature was indeed a wild wolf, the first wild wolf spotted at the Grand Canyon in more than 70 years. Government extermination programs had made wolves extinct in Arizona by the 1940s.

Arizona's program for reintroducing the Mexican Gray Wolf has long been controversial. This new wolf is not part of that process. She is a volunteer who made the long migration from the Idaho/Canadian border region on her own, reintroducing herself rather than waiting for a government invitation. This new wolf is not a Mexican Gray Wolf but a Rocky Mountain Gray Wolf.

At first it was speculated that this new arrival may have been the wolf that was seen roaming the Uinta mountain range of southern Utah in late August to mid September. Wildlife biologist Brian Maxfield exchanged howls with the wolf in late September and received a radio signal that revealed the Uinta wolf to be a male. The Grand Canyon wolf is a female. The radio signal also revealed that the male wolf had travelled over 850 miles before stopping in Utah. This was good news for the Utah wolf conservation proponents who can now cite wolves residing in Utah and other wolves who are using Utah as a travel corridor.

On Nov. 2, one lucky government employee successfully

collected wolf poop along the north rim of the Grand Canyon. The sample was sent to a lab in Idaho whose DNA testing showed that this particular wolf travelled over 450 miles from the northern Rocky Mountains to reach Arizona. This wolf is wearing a radio collar so she must have been captured before but after the long migration the collar is no longer functional.

Once it was confirmed that wolves really had returned to the Grand Canyon, a world wide contest was held to name her. Ten-year-old Zachary Tanner from Milwaukie, Oregon won with his entry "Echo." Zachary chose the name Echo, "because she came back to the Grand Canyon like an echo does." The most common contest suggestion, especially among school children was "Esperanza" the Spanish word for hope or simply the name "Hope" itself because as one Flagstaff child put it, "now the ecosystem has hope." After the contest winner was announced, Maggie Howell of the Wolf Conservation Center said, "She came, she saw, she made history, and now she has a name!"

Local business woman Ellen Winchester, whose family has owned and lived at the Kaibab Lodge five miles north of the Grand Canyon North Rim for the past 10 years, said: "This is our home and business and we who live in the forest have a healthy respect for the animals. The Kaibab National Forest, The Grand Canyon North Rim and the animals that live there are a legacy for our children and our children's children. I was thrilled to hear a wolf song. I welcome Echo to the Grand Canyon, which is my backyard. There is plenty of room for all to live together safely."

Young wolves are known to be quite nomadic and will travel



EVERY MAN'S MUSINGS

By Gary Every
Special to the Crier



A Rocky Mountain Gray Wolf runs in the snow. This public domain photo can be found at <http://bit.ly/1M6jZ8g>.

considerable distances searching for a new home. Earlier this year a wolf who has come to be named "Journey" (OR -7) migrated south from Oregon and became the first wolf to live in California in almost 90 years. The possibility of established wolf populations spreading to unexpected locations has environmentalists gushing about the future.

In October 2011, five captive bred wolves were released by the Mexican government in the San Luis Mountains just south of the American border. The Mexican wolf reintroduction program has been over 20 years in the making. With multiple breeding facilities they now have over 60 captive bred wolves south of the border and plan many more releases in the near future. The American and Mexican wildlife management bureaucracies are not known for their cooperation. In fact, American officials were only alerted to the wolf release by coverage of a Mexican press conference when the Mexican government announced that they had released the wolves into the wilds of the San Luis Mountains a month or two before – a sharp contrast to the heated public debate and frequent lawsuits associated with the American wolf reintroduction program.

Aldo Leopold, author of The Sand County Almanac wrote about Arizona wolves in his seminal book of environmental literature. "In those days we never heard of passing up a chance to kill a wolf... We reached the old wolf in time to watch a fierce green fire dying in her eyes. I realized then, and have known ever since, that there was something new to me in those eyes – something known only to her and the mountain. I was young then and full of trigger itch; I thought that because fewer wolves meant more deer, that no wolves would be a hunter's paradise. But after seeing the green fire die, I sensed that neither the wolf nor the mountain agreed with such a view... Perhaps this is behind Thoreau's dictum: In wildness is the salvation of the world. Perhaps this is the hidden meaning in the howl of the wolf, long known among the mountains, but seldom perceived among men."

A beautiful female wolf named Echo returned to the Grand Canyon, the first confirmed wolf sighting at the park since 1939, but on Dec. 29 2014 a hunter near Beaver, Utah shot what he thought was a coyote but realized after the animal was dead that he had killed a radio collared gray wolf. Although many are speculating that this is the tragic end of Echo we will not know for certain until tests are conclusive. We can only hope this is not the case but regardless, this is a tragedy for those who care about wolf conservation.



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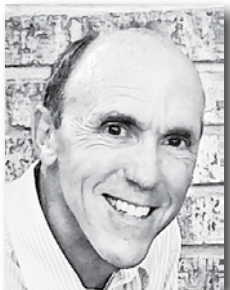
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<p>German Weekend at Oracle Inn! Feb. 13, 14 & 15 & March 13, 14 & 15</p> <p><i>Use our banquet facilities or let us cater your private parties or events</i> 305 E. American Avenue, Oracle • 520-896-3333 • www.oracleinn.com</p>		

The Benefits of Acupuncture

Acupuncture is one of the five branches of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM). Each branch consists of a healing modality which can be used in and of itself for maintaining health and, when used in conjunction with other TCM modalities, can produce the most favorable results for achieving optimal health. In our practice, we use three of the five modalities: Acupuncture, Herbal Nutrition, and Moxibustion with Cupping. We offer support and recommendations for the additional two branches: Qi Gong (meditative self-exercise) and Tui Na (Chinese bodywork similar to western chiropractic).

TCM is based on the principle that the body is made up of interconnected systems which must all be in harmony together to achieve good health and wellbeing. Acupuncture, in particular, seeks to restore the balance in the flow of energy known as “qi” or “chi” within the body. To do this, needles are inserted into specific points along the body’s energy lines that correspond to each of our 5 major organs and the supporting systems linked to

those organs: Heart and Small Intestine, Lung and Large Intestine, Stomach and Spleen, Kidney and Middle Belly, Liver and Gallbladder.



HEALTH ISSUES

By **Dr. Michael Miles**
Special to the Crier

In Traditional Chinese Medicine, diagnosis includes observing the patient and finding out about his or her background. The senses of hearing, smell and touching are used to assess the patients condition: e.g. is there redness in the face, heat in the joints, is the breath mal-odorous, does the heart beat arrhythmically, is the voice tinny or disrupted, etc. An acupuncture treatment begins with the acupuncturist interviewing the patient to learn not just about the particular health concern but also about his lifestyle, diet as well as his emotions, among other factors.

To check the health of the patient’s Qi or energy flow, the acupuncturist will feel the pulse points at the patient’s wrist and look at the patient’s tongue. The practitioner may also look at the patients eyes to determine discoloration or odd patterning in the iris. Once the interview is done, the acupuncturist will give a diagnosis and start treatment. A typical acupuncture



treatment may about 12 needles, however, it is not the number of needles used but how they are placed exactly into the acupuncture points that is believed to restore the balance of the body, the ultimate aim of traditional Chinese medicine.

Acupuncture is a calming practice, administered in a gentle, methodical manner with great sensitivity to the patient. The effects can be immediate and dramatic, and can also be expected to develop healing change in the body over time. Consider looking outside the box and expanding your horizons by exploring the well documented art and practice of Acupuncture.

Dr. Michael Miles’ Clinic is located at 15601 N. Oracle Rd. in Catalina behind Golf Cars of Arizona. You can learn more about the Catalina Clinic and Dr. Miles by visiting the website: www.catalinaclinic.com. To contact Dr. Miles or make an appointment at the clinic call 520-825-8100.

Maynard Dixon’s work featured in art talk at Oracle State Park

Artist Maynard Dixon’s love for the Southwest will be explored in an art talk at Oracle State Park on Saturday, Feb. 21, by Jacquelyn Feller who is a docent at the University of Arizona’s Museum of Art.

Feller’s docent talk will touch on Dixon’s journey as a highly-regarded artist of the American West – from his native California to Tucson where he had a winter home and studio with an unobstructed view of his beloved Catalina Mountains. The UofA Museum of Art has more than sixty Maynard Dixon drawings in its permanent collection, many of which will be showcased in the presentation. Dixon first visited Arizona in 1900; he died in Tucson at the age

of 71.

The program in the Kannally ranch house living room begins at 11 a.m. The program is free with park admission; reservations are required by calling the park office at

520-896-2425.

Included in the talk will be a discussion of two other “southwestern” artists, Lee Kannally, whose self-taught impressionistic paintings of cowboy life are on display at the ranch house, and

Ted DeGrazia, who studied at the University of Arizona and is acknowledged as the world’s most reproduced artist. Feller will also share information on exhibitions and events at the university museum.

Valentine's Day Dinnerfest

Valentine’s Day is on a Saturday, so the restaurant scene is going to be crazy. Why not avoid the hassle & enjoy a relaxed fun-filled dinner at the Oracle Community Center?

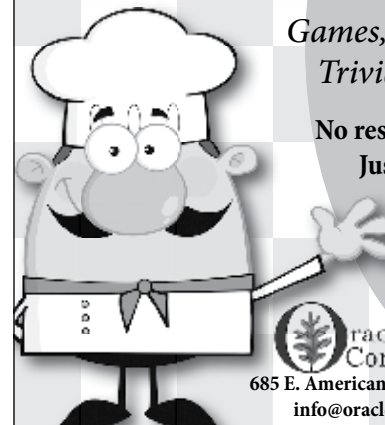
Saturday, Feb. 14 at 5 p.m.

\$10 per person

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Golden Goose needs a name, receives awards

By **John Hernandez**
San Manuel Miner

The Golden Goose thrift shop in Catalina was recently honored by the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) of Greater Tucson. They received the 2014 SHRM – Greater Tucson Celebrating Innovation in the Workplace Community Impact Award. They were selected from 300 entries. They were also the recipient of the Pima County Small Business Commission's Rural Small Business of the Year Award for 2014.

The Golden Goose is going on 12 years of service to communities in southern Arizona. In 11 years they have raised over six million dollars which has impacted the lives of local children, seniors and families in numerous communities throughout southern Arizona. One hundred percent

of profits from the thrift store are equally distributed between SaddleBrooke Community Outreach and Impact of Southern Arizona (formerly Catalina Community Services).

The Goose is now looking for help in getting a name. They are hoping that the community, donors, shoppers or helpers can come up with a name that conveys the image of the Golden Goose and is cute and memorable. Although it has not been announced yet, there will be a special prize gift for the person who names the Goose. You can fill out an entry form at the Golden Goose or enter online at www.goldengooseaz.com.

Golden Goose is located at 15970 N. Oracle Rd., Catalina. It is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, please call 520-825-9101.



Let's give this poor goose a name.

John Hernandez | Crier



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520-825-9101

15970 N. Oracle Rd., Catalina, AZ

Winner – 2014 Rural Small Business of the Year & 2014 Innovation in the Workplace/Community Impact Awards

The Golden Goose Thrift Shop is a 501(c)3 non-profit charitable organization.



Golden Goose volunteers are proud of the awards they were presented in 2014: Rural Small Business of the Year and Innovation in the Workplace/Community Impact.

John Hernandez | Crier

FarmBox Program growing in Oracle

By **John Hernandez**
Oracle Towne Crier

Fresh organic produce is now available in the Tri-Community at Sue & Jerry's Trading Post in Oracle. Participation in the FarmBox Program has been growing every month but can still use more customers to assure the program continues. The high quality organic produce boxes are pre-ordered from the Sunizona Family Farms

and delivered every other Tuesday. The boxes start at \$22 and custom orders are available.

Sunizona Farms is located in Willcox. Their produce is vegan-organic which means it is certified organic with no animal products used in fertilization or growing process. The standard box (\$22) is selected by the farm and contains between seven and nine varieties depending on growing season and availability. A large box costs \$30 and has nine to 12 varieties. You can also custom order your

box and select what produce you want from the web store. You must purchase a minimum of \$22.

The farm has 25 varieties of tomatoes grown year round in green houses, 40 varieties of micro greens and herbs, and seasonal field crops such as romaine lettuce, potatoes, winter squash, zucchini, onions, garlic, kale, egg plants, peppers, and more. Whether you are into eating healthy or just want good organic produce at affordable prices the farm box program is a good way to go. To learn more about the FarmBox program or order visit their website www.sunizonafamilyfarms.com.



Happy customers with their vegan organic farm boxes, Kirby Wright and Mary Huebner. John Hernandez | Crier



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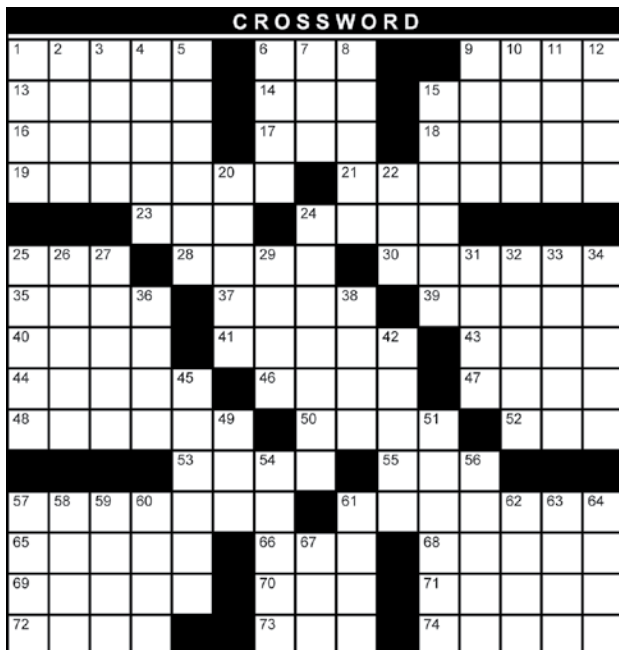
1. Range rovers
6. Effervescence
9. "Hamlet" has five of these
13. Heads-up
14. Hula necklace
15. Accustom
16. Relating to moon
17. Big coffee holder
18. Three-masted vessel formerly used in Mediterranean
19. *A top Valentine's Day seller
21. *"How do I love thee? Let me count _____"
23. It follows the note soh
24. *In the _____ for love
25. Golf's Ryder _____
28. Flexible mineral
30. *He officiates many weddings

35. Bryce Canyon state
37. Grannies
39. *Love in Paris
40. It distinguishes a father from a son in French
41. Lowest deck
43. Away from port
44. Annoyed
46. Kind of pickle
47. Calf-length skirt
48. Broadband predecessor
50. Capital of Ukraine
52. Bottom line
53. Jab
55. "____, borrow or steal"
57. Desdemona's suspicious husband
61. Properly deserved
65. Innocent
66. *It's the loneliest number?
68. Egg-shaped
69. The Dow, e.g.

70. *Barbie's beau
71. Sherpa's land
72. Subsequently or soon afterwards
73. *I love _____
74. Anoint

DOWN

1. One of two equal parts
2. Twelfth month of Jewish year
3. Known for gambling
4. A southern _____
5. "Islands in the _____," by Rogers and Parton
6. *Bring a date or a _____ one
7. Ever, to a poet
8. Spotted bean
9. Again
10. Target of Bay of Pigs invasion
11. Deuce topper
12. Seconds
15. Outdoor stone seating
20. Endangered species
22. Before skip and a jump
24. Resembling a human
25. *His aim is true?
26. Wombs
27. Winter wear
29. *It often accompanies #19 Across
31. Prayer leader in mosque
32. Fluorescent red dye
33. Elvis's "Blue _____ Shoes"
34. Distinguishing feature
36. Last piece of a loaf
38. Musical composition for one, pl.
42. A military trainee
45. 2-unit house
49. One who's active in politics
51. *Romeo and Juliet's hometown
54. Like the Addams Family
56. Established fact
57. "Put a lid _____!"
58. Hyperbolic tangent
59. What those on the lam do
60. 2 and 4, e.g.
61. *It's usually full of romantic fare on Valentine's Day
62. Broken at finish line
63. And others, for short
64. To erase or cancel
67. "New" prefix



Solution to last month's puzzle



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Valentine Romance!

Here are some little known facts about Valentine's Day: Americans send one billion Valentines cards each year, more than on any other holiday except for Christmas.

Approximately 35 million chocolate heart boxes are sold and 220 million roses are produced for that special day.

Twenty billion dollars are spent on Valentine's Day which brings it to about \$130 per person per year.

Whereas most amounts are spent on candy and flowers, 20 percent of purchases include jewelry. Apart from these findings, however, the most enduring legacy will continue to be enduring romance associated with Feb. 14.

Of special interest is the depth of emotion and passion associated with declarations of love expressed by some of our former presidents and founding fathers.

"Feb. 14 may be the date they observe and call Valentine's Day, but that is for people of ordinary luck. I happen to have a Valentine's Life, which started on March 4, 1952, and will continue as long as I have you." Those words were written by Ronald Reagan to First Lady Nancy alluding to their wedding day.

Another time, while flying on Air Force One, he marked their 31st anniversary with a stirring missive, signed "your grateful husband," that includes the following lines: "I more than love you, I'm not whole without you. You are life itself to me. When you are gone, I'm waiting for you to return so I can start living again."

In 1938 Richard Nixon, long before anyone called him "tricky," was seriously smitten with Pat Ryan, a high school teacher. We are told that he doggedly pursued Pat, even chauffeuring her to dates with other men in order to spend a little time with her. Eventually she relented, and he proposed to her on a scenic cliff and offered the engagement ring tucked into a flower-filled basket. The couple were wed in June 1940.

Harry Truman is said to have fallen in love with his wife at Sunday school when he was all of five years old. During the ensuing years, Bess kept rejecting the debt plagued farmer until shortly before he left to fight in World War I, carrying her photo in his breast pocket and gazing at it whenever he felt down.

Following the Trumans' wedding in June 1919, they kept up their flurry of letters—even after Harry suddenly became president upon Franklin Roosevelt's death in 1945. While in Potsdam discussing the administration of postwar Europe, for instance, Truman wrote the now 60-year-old First Lady, "It made me terribly homesick when I talked with you yesterday morning. It seemed as if you



HANDWRITING ROCKS!

By Skylar Khan
Special to the Crier

were just around the corner. I spent the day after the call trying to think up reasons why I should bust up the conference and go home."

And while dear Bessie composed many letters to her husband, she burned most of them, reportedly over Truman's objections and in order to safeguard her own privacy, in 1955.

Theodore Roosevelt became infatuated with the daughter of a wealthy Boston banker at the tender age of 20. He showered Alice Hathaway Lee with gifts and attention, and in October 1880, on his 22nd birthday, the pair wed. Through many missives from their courtship and marriage emerged a picture of Teddy as a syrupy romantic in thrall to his bride. The fairytale ended when Alice died after giving birth to the couple's only child on Feb. 14, 1884, the same day Roosevelt's mother succumbed to typhoid fever. Devastated by the loss of his pretty pink baby, Roosevelt wrote in his diary, "The light has gone out of my life."

Though he would later remarry, he refused to speak of Alice publicly and could not even bring himself to mention her name in his autobiography.

Woodrow Wilson, the 28th US President will forever be remembered as a bookish intellectual and adroit statesman. Not everyone knows however that he excelled at using pen and paper to express his love—of not just one, but two women. He wrote hundreds of fervent letters while courting his first wife, Ellen Louise Axson, and throughout their 29 year marriage.

"Why, my darling, I can't tell you how completely I am yours, in my every thought," he declared in one ebullient example. "I did not know myself how much I loved you until I found out that you love me too." Ellen died after a long illness in 1914, leaving Wilson, then a year into his first term as president, lost and despondent.

He perked up when he spotted Edith Bolling

Galt, a widow also nursing a broken heart, while driving through Washington, DC, in February 1915. So besotted was Wilson that a Secret Service Agent described him as behaving "like a schoolboy in his first love experience." The 58-year-old Wilson sent her eager notes that helped win her over. One invitation reads: "Please go to ride with us this evening, precious little girl, so that I can whisper something in your ear—something of my happiness and love, and accept this, in the meantime, as a piece out of my very heart, which is all yours but cannot be sent as I wish to send it by letter." The pair married the next year.

John Adams and his wife Abigail were often separated for long periods of time. They corresponded through the mail for three decades. More than a thousand of their letters, chronicling everything from family business to the ratification of the Constitution, survive. Often portrayed as a humorless and crabby man, Adams displays a playful flirtatiousness in the earliest notes he, then a country lawyer, sent his teenage cousin, including an imitation voucher addressed to "Miss Adorable" that reads: "By the same Token that the Bearer hereof sat up with you last night, I hereby order you to give him as many Kisses, and as many Hours of your Company after 9 O'Clock as he shall please to Demand and charge them

to my Account."

Long after they married in 1764, John continued to fill his notes with yearning and admiration for his bride. "You are really brave, my dear, you are an Heroine," he praised her on one occasion. "A soul, as pure, as benevolent, as virtuous and pious as yours has nothing to fear, but every Thing to hope and expect from the last of human Evils."

In return, Abigail penned some of American history's most memorable love letters, documenting the enduring intimacy she shared with her "dearest friend," as she called her husband. "With an indescribable pleasure I have seen near a score of years roll over our Heads, with an affection heightened and improved by time," she wrote in 1782. "Nor have the dreary years of absence in the smallest degree effaced from my mind the Image of the dear untitled man to whom I gave my Heart."

Abigail also counseled John on political matters in her notes, famously telling him to "remember the ladies" while drafting laws for the newly independent United States.

A more recent version of a love letter would be one that Elizabeth Taylor wrote to Richard Burton during one of their separations:

Of note in this handwriting is the small size of the personal pronoun I in comparison with

Continued on Page 10

**You've always said you wouldn't
be caught dead in that dress.**

**You'd better
tell them now.**

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HANDWRITING

Continued from Page 9

other capitalized letters. The very first capital M is

drawn with double curved strokes that represent

playfulness and a sense of humor. And the second M preceding Husband starts with a horizontal lead-in stroke, giving evidence of her frustration with the current status quo of their relationship.

The letters p in the words pure, pleasure and pride, show that she misses his presence and also that she will start an argument once he returns to her.

The overall impression of

the writing however is that it was penned by an intelligent and accomplished woman of great beauty and talent, just the way we remember her.

Judy Garland, another beloved Hollywood celebrity

wrote "For it was not into my ear you whispered, but into my heart. It was not my lips you kissed, but my soul."

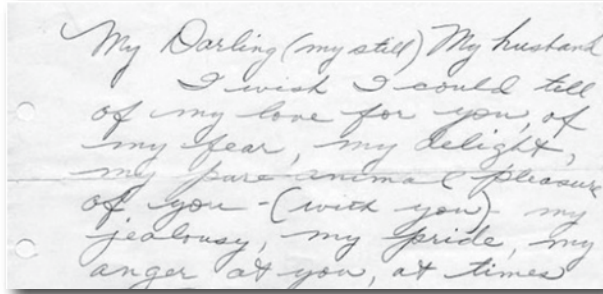
Alas, not all of us have the ability to write such eloquent declarations of love! There

is however a great variety of greeting cards available for a special Valentine.

And let us not forget to bring along red roses and heart shaped boxes of candy. "All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt," mused Charles M. Schulz, beloved creator of Peanuts.

Most restaurants offer special menus to make it a perfect day, even if we can't find the right words to say. Viva Amore!

Stories and quotes by former US Presidents have been reproduced here from the history.com site, and Elizabeth Taylor's letter from inquisitr.com.



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- Price Reduced Privacy, great views, remodeled home with newer roof, skylights, oak kitchen cabinets, front porch, deck above carport. \$83,900.
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Walking with the Light

By Anna Stich
Special to the Crier

Now this is the message that we have heard from him and proclaim to you: God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say, "We have fellowship with him," while we continue to walk in darkness, we lie and do not act in truth. But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, then we have fellowship with one another....1Jn.1:2-8

I find the world a rather dark place these days with talk of darkness in the form of terror, riots, bullying, sex trafficking, drugs and the list goes on ad nauseam. These things have been with us for ages on end but in our present society and global media I find it hard to escape from the darkness of the news. However, in the midst of this darkness I find hope and encouragement in "the light" that surrounds me and all God's children. Hence I would like to share a "light" moment with you in an otherwise dark world.

Some of my sharing may be personal or taken from a devotional that has touched and lightened my walk for the day. I pray my sharing's will be a source of encouragement and lighten your day.

The following excerpt is shared by Lawrence Armani in his article 'Pointing To God'.

"God bless our homeland Ghana" is the first line of Ghana's national anthem. Other African anthems include:

Program explores the moon at Oracle State Park on March 7

An interactive program with hands-on activities, lunar maps and displays, and a short "walk" to the moon, is set for Saturday, March 7, 2015, at Oracle State Park Center for Environmental Education starting at 7:30 p.m. and continuing with night sky viewing of the waning moon through telescopes.

The family-friendly presentation by Richard Boyer, formerly a ranger at Rocky Mountain Nat'l Park in Colorado, highlights the mystery and intrigue of Earth's only natural satellite.

Free with park admission at the gate on Mt. Lemmon Rd., in Oracle. Reservations are recommended by calling the park office at 1-520-896-2425.

Boyer will also talk about the moon's physical geography and the Apollo moon exploration space flights. A teacher and school administrator, he has also developed nature programs at John Muir National Historic Site, Point Reyes National Seashore, and Redwood national and state parks. His well-known "Bighorn Basics" program will be presented on March 8 at Oracle State Park, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Oracle State Park is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Free guided tours of the historic Kannally Ranch House are scheduled at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. both days. For a full listing of upcoming events and activities, go to www.azStateParks.org/Parks/ORAC.

"O Uganda, my God uphold thee, " "Lord, bless our nation" (South Africa), and "God of creation, direct our noble cause" (Nigeria). Using the anthems as prayers, founding fathers called on God to bless their land and its people. Many national anthems in Africa and others from around the world point to God as Creator and Provider. Other lines of anthems call for reconciliation, transformation, and hope for a people often divided along ethnic, political and social lines.

Yet today, many national leaders and citizens tend to forget God and do not live by these statements-especially when life is going well. But why wait until war, disease, storms, terrorist attacks or election violence occurs before we remember to see God? Moses warned the ancient Israelites not to forget God and not to stop following His way when life good (Deut8:11) Ecclesiastes 12:1 urges us to," remember now your Creator...before the difficult days come."

Getting close to God while we are strong and healthy prepares us to lean on Him for support and hope when those "difficult days" in life come....Lawrence Damani

Father I always need You. Forgive me for thinking I am sufficient in myself. Help me to follow You and Your ways whether life is easy or difficult. Thank you for caring for me.

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