

PD Queens' Fashion Show
Pages 4-5



James Carnes | Copper Basin News



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A community publication of Copperarea.com

CASA of Gila County celebrates National Social Workers Month

When children are in danger and families are in crisis it's often up to the social workers of the world to find the resources and support to help which is why during March, National Professional Social Work Month, CASA of Gila County applauds the social workers our volunteers interact with every day who are working hard to make a difference for families in Arizona.

"Social workers play a vital role in the child welfare system," said Emily Leverance. "They have a tough job and we are grateful for the work they do to help children. We are happy to work as part of that same team."

Court Appointed Special Advocates are not social workers but they are highly-trained volunteers who act as the eyes and ears of the court on cases of children in foster care. They visit with the children regularly and collect information that helps the court make more informed decisions. CASA advocates work closely with social workers and other members of the child's team to ensure the child has their needs met while in foster care.

There are more than 15,000 children in foster care in Arizona and many ways to get involved in making sure

those kids are cared for. If you're a social worker at heart, becoming a CASA advocate may be a great way to make a difference. Volunteers are always needed but no specific background is required. To volunteer, applicants must be 21 years or older, pass a thorough background check and complete 30 hours of pre-service training.

CASA of Gila County is grateful for all the professionals who've dedicated their careers to advocating for children. For more information on the CASA Program visit CASAofGilaCounty.org.

Obituaries are published free of charge in the Copper Basin News. If you have an obituary you would like us to print, please submit it online at copperarea.com. Click on "Customer Service". You can also request our newspaper through the funeral home.

The Copper Basin News

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"There are numerous countries in the world where the politicians have seized absolute power and muzzled the press. There is no country in the world where the press has seized absolute power and muzzled the politicians"

—David Brinkley

OBITUARY

Ramona Acedo Lopez

Ramona Acedo Lopez, 93 years old, passed away on the morning of March 4, 2018 in Tucson, Arizona.

She was born in Yuma, Az on June 30, 1924. The family moved from Yuma to Esqueda, Sonora when her mother became a widow. She grew up in Esqueda and had a wonderful childhood. She was the third child out of nine children.

She married Cornelio L. Lopez, the love of her life, in 1943 and they moved to Hayden, Arizona. They were married for 63 years.

She had five children, Cornelio (Cecilia) Lopez, Josefina (Frank) Zapata, Micaela (Dennis) Wasko, Gerri (Chacho) Bracamonte, Arturo Lopez (deceased) and Anita (Hector) Leyvas. She leaves behind numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Monchi (Ramona) loved to do arts and crafts, especially

cascarones. She was very active in the small community of Hayden. She was a devoted member of the St. Joseph's Catholic Church and a rosary leader. She was very devoted to her family, extended family, friends and neighbors. Her mission in life was to lend her hand to anyone in need by feeding and sewing for people. She was a very caring, loving and generous woman. She was loved by many and will be missed dearly.

Services will be held in Hayden, Arizona at St. Joseph's Catholic Church on Thursday, March 8, with viewing at 8:30 a.m., Rosary at 9:30 a.m. and Mass at 10 a.m. Following the service she will be laid to rest next to her husband at Mountain View Cemetery in Hayden.

Online guestbook: www.GriffithMortuary.com
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Family First Pregnancy Care Center asks, what was the difference?

An exciting thing happens in our world every 4 years, it's a time when the world sets aside differences and gets together to play games; the winter Olympics! What a thrill to watch the snowboarders fly up in the air and do the seemingly impossible. Figure skaters dance on ice, performing routines that are anything but routine, spinning 4-5 times in the air and landing with the greatest of ease! The practice and the training all the athletes have to do to get to the Olympics, all say it is worth it for the moment! A time when we see the best of our young people!

At the same time across the world at a school in Florida another young man, a 19 year old student, who was expelled from the same school, opened fire and shot as

many students as he could! He was said to be an orphan, a loner and an outcast. The local school superintendent stated this was "the worst of humanity". The Florida state governor stated "how could this happen in this country"?

How could this happen, why did this happen, and what was the difference between these two different types of young people? Could this have been stopped, can it happen again? These are some of the questions being asked, along with many more. I certainly don't pretend to have answers to them all, only some observations to ponder.

Something one of our figure skaters said after she and her brother had won a bronze medal, in an interview she stated, "We are lucky to have people to support us."

The interview went on with the proud parents talking about the hours of practice that their children had done. Parents, coaches, teammates, friends, people taking an interest in the lives of these young people, all had a part in their success! On the other hand our shooter, an orphan without parents, an outcast and a loner without friends. Why was he "unlucky" to have no one to support him?

At Family First we are here to support our young people, here to help families support their young children, here to support the teens who have no support, no family, and no friends to rally them to victory! Our young people today face pressures and challenges in our world like never before. We all have to step up and encourage, support, train and teach our young people! At the Olympics a pair of skaters dedicated their skate to the victims of the Florida shooting, maybe it's time for us all to dedicate some time to our young people, invest in the lives of our youth and help our young people to reach their dreams!

At Family First we will continue to pray to God for our children, our families, and continue to dedicate all our resources to "help mothers, youth and families". Won't you join us?

God bless,

/s/ Frank and Clare Grochocki

Resolution Copper West Plant reclamation moves into next phase; project includes demolition and removal of historic Magma smelter complex

Resolution Copper is moving into the next phase of reclamation plans for the West Plant site. The plans include removing the historic Magma smelter complex in order to make the area safe and to complete environmental improvements. This work is part of ongoing land reclamation that started in 2005 to clean up historic mining operations.

"This work demonstrates our commitment to health,

safety and the beautiful environment we all share," said Andrew Lye, project director, Resolution Copper. "We have already spent more than \$40 million on land reclamation work at this site making it better than we found it, and this project will add to that total."

To date, Resolution has rehabilitated more than 130 acres

Continued on page 9

Kearny Police Report

According to state law, there are two methods by which police may arrest suspected offenders. The suspect may be physically taken into the department and booked into jail, or the arresting officer may write a citation and release the suspect to appear in court later. All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Only criminal citations are listed. All damages are estimates.

Activity listed from Feb. 25 through March 3, Feb. 25

Police received a report of child neglect.

March 1

Theft was reported in the 300 block of Alden Rd.

March 3

Daniel Joseph Ochoa, 30, was arrested in the 300 block of Alden Rd. and was charged with driving on a suspended license. He was cited and released.

Calls not listed include: ambulance request (14), traffic stop (20), suspicious activity (3), 911 hang-up/open line (1), animal/cattle complaint (5), disturbance (3), agency assist (4), fire (1), threats/intimidation (1), trespassing (1), found property (1), welfare check (1) and citizen assist (2).

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Pioneer Days Queens/Jr. Queens

The 2018 Pioneer Days Queens Fashion Show held at the General Kearny Inn this past weekend was a huge success!

The event was hosted by Erica Flores, a 2004 graduate of Ray High School and former Junior Chamber Member. Erica has worked in television Channel 3 and CBS 5 and in the newspaper. She was so proud of the girls for taking the initiative to be involved in the first step in achieving their goals. Erica is currently working with Maricopa County online.

Megan Gillespie also spoke about not giving up on your dreams! The daughter of Samantha Misita, General

Kearny Inn, she also participated as a judge and is the owner of a clothing store, Crooked Horn Western Chic.

Another guest speaker was Motivational Speaker, Humanitarian and Entrepreneur Rachel Thomas. Rachel is a successful business woman, World Traveler, Advanced Certified Scuba Diver and Humanitarian. She is a lovely wife and mother of three beautiful children, Rebekah, David and Lily. Rachel is a bone marrow donor. She recently traveled to Puerto Rico to help restore an orphanage for children in need. Two years ago, she traveled to Haiti with a group of doctors and nurses

shortly after the hurricane. Rachel spoke about an open mindset and the importance of creating a vision board for your future and getting out of your comfort zone to continue your personal growth. Rachel has been a mentor for Veronica Bracamonte for over 13 years.

Irma Newman, Chair for our Queens Contest and Co-Chair, Anissa Newman have done an outstanding job with all the contestants this year. All Queens Contestants brought their best for the fashion show and fans are looking forward to finishing this contest out strong and appreciate the support and love from all the people!



Megan Gillespie was a guest speaker and judge for the Pioneer Days Queens' Fashion Show.

James Carnes | CBN



Copper Basin Chamber of Commerce Director Veronica Bracamonte, left, introduced the guest speaker for the fashion show event, Rachel Thomas.

James Carnes | CBN

host annual fashion show



The 2018 Pioneer Days Queens' Fashion show was hosted by Erica Flores. Pictured from left are contestants, Tahni Kame, Ariza Castillo, Erica Flores, Mia Barragan, Kaylin Pacheco and Indego Patterson.

Baseball, softball seasons start for Hayden Jr. High

By John Hernandez
Copper Area News

The Hayden Junior High Lobos softball and baseball teams traveled to Oracle for their first games of the new season on Monday, Feb. 26. The Lobo baseball team came away with an easy win over the Mt. Vista Cougars 15 to 1. The Lady Lobos softball team fell to Mt. Vista 14 to 2.

Playing softball for Hayden are: Sativa Carrasco, Felicity Boltarez, Miranda Gomez, Leticia Ahumada, Aiyanna Gonzales, Makena Arbizo, Alya Smith, Nicholette Lagunas, Mercedes Cervantez, Karissa Acuna and manager, Racquela

Continued on page 10



This year's Hayden Junior High softball team (top) and baseball team (bottom).

John Hernandez | CBN



A colorful family tradition –
decorating Hickman's eggs



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Pioneer Days is Rapidly Approaching

I have butterflies in my stomach. It's about Pioneer Days sponsored by the Copper Basin Chamber of Commerce Thursday through Sunday, March 15-18. My butterflies are not about the event going well – it has been done so many years that many people fall automatically into helpful roles. It's about whether or not the event will be for sure a great event. I'm hoping it will, and here's why.

The familiar things will be there. The carnival will open at Pioneer Park on Thursday, March 15, at 4 p.m. It will begin the next day, Friday, at the same time. And Saturday and Sunday the opening will be earlier, at 12 noon. One of the most anticipated "old" events is the Pioneer Days Parade on Saturday, the 17th, with lineup at 9 a.m. and parade start at 10 a.m. Claim your viewing spots early! The Pioneer Days Queen contestants will

be at the Pioneer Park stage on Thursday the 15th from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., and Queen and all royalty will be in the parade on Saturday.

Associated events will take place, too. A sanctioned horseshoe tournament will be at the Elks Lodge on Saturday the 17th with registration at 11 a.m. and full action at noon. The eagerly anticipated softball tournament will be at the ball field. Twelve teams have signed up, many from other towns and cities. On Saturday, March 17, a benefit steak cookout will take place at the General Kearny Inn. Certified Angus beef cooked to your specification (and with all the trimmings) is yours for only \$25 per person, with proceeds going to scholarships, books, and bookshelves for area students. Have fun and benefit others at the same time. The dinner is from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., and all steaks are roasted on a mesquite fire.

That's the "usual" stuff, but here's the new. Genaro Moreno will be performing at the Pioneer Park stage at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 15. Mariachi Caporal will take the stage on Saturday with a show from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. And these are free events!

On Saturday night, the All Class Reunion Street Dance will feature two different sets of music on Alden Road. There is an admission price for both events, but purchasing both will give you a price reduction. Butcher Jones Country Western Band (with Ray High School alumnus Pete Avelar holds the stage for four hours beginning at 5 p.m., D.J. Flair will step in before the next act, which is Conjunto Ambicion, a fine Tejano group, beginning at 9 a.m. and going clear until 2 a.m. (yes, into the next day). The street will be fenced to hold all the dancers.

Then, on Saturday, March 17,



ALONG THE GILA

By Sam Hosler
Special to Copper Area News

immediately after the parade, Desert Train Transportation will be going up and down

Continued on page 10

COPPER BASIN & SUPERIOR CHURCH DIRECTORY

Fellowship Baptist Church

Tilbury & Danbury, Kearny

Pastor Joe Palmer
520-363-5434

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
Tuesday Morning Fellowship 10 a.m.
Wednesday Dinner & Bible Study 6-7 p.m.
Friday Kids' Club 1-2:30 p.m.

Church of the Good Shepherd

Bottom of School Hill, Kearny

Rev. Michael Eaton
520-363-7283

www.thegoodshepherd.pbworks.com

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Presbyterian Church

of Superior

100 Magma Ave., Superior

520-689-2631

Worship Service Sunday: 10 a.m.
All are welcome.

Anonymous prayer box located at Save Money Market. We will pray for you!

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

11 Church Ave., Superior

Fr. Samuel Jandeh
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Kearny Church of Christ

103 Hammond Dr., Kearny

520-363-7711

Sunday Bible Study 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

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Pastor Anthony DaCunha
520-357-7353

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Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

Superior Harvest Church

Hill St. & Stone Ave., Superior

Pastor Albert M. Rodriguez
480-354-4499 H
480-329-3647 C

Sunday Morning Service 10 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 5 p.m.

Victory in Jesus

Family Life Christian Center

56 Kellner Ave., Superior

Pastors Dennis & Sandy VanGorp
520-689-2202

Sunday Prayer 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6 p.m.

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Infant Jesus of Prague Catholic Church

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520-363-7205

Daily Masses Tues 5:30 p.m.; Wed-Fri 8:30 a.m.
Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m.; Sunday Mass 9 a.m.
Sunday Religious Ed for Children, Youth
Ministry & Jr. High Youth Groups 10:15 a.m.

To be included in the weekly church listing,
call 520-363-5554 or email at
cbnsun@minersunbasin.com.

THIS 'N THAT

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Friends of the Kearny Library Seeking Members

The Friends of the Kearny Library need new members. We lost several this year and will not be able to continue without volunteers. We meet once a month on the second Monday of each month at 1:00 at the Library. We help out the Library any way we can, judge the poster contest, help out with the open house, judge the residential housing lighting contest and anything else the Library needs.

Weekly Bingo

Reminder: San Pedro Valley Lions Club in Mammoth, 115 Main St., continues to host weekly Bingo every Wednesday evening, beginning at 7 p.m. Bring a friend new to Bingo and receive a free 8-pack of Bingo sheets.



New 4-Way Stops in Kearny

The Town of Kearny Public Works Department is placing stop signs at the intersection of Fairhaven Road and Victoria Circle and at the intersection of Hartford Road and Victoria Circle. These two intersections will now be four-way stops.

Superior-Kearny Justice Court

The Superior Justice Court will be closed and temporarily moved to Kearny while the Superior office is being remodeled. The Superior office will reopen later and become the hub office for the JP district.

Submit information to CBNSUN@minersunbasin.com or call 520-363-5554. Listings are free. The Copper Basin News reserves the right to edit or refuse submissions. Submissions are due the Friday before Wednesday publication.

MARCH

10 Holy Angels Men's Conference

The Holy Angels Catholic Church in Globe invites Christian men from all denominations to gather in fellowship on Saturday, March 10, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. At High Desert Middle School auditorium in Globe we will listen to Darren Handy and Joe Cady speak of our personal gifts as they help us to understand how to use those gifts for the glory of God. Lunch will be provided. A \$20 donation is requested. Register at www.holyangelscatholicchurchglobe.org or call the church office at 928-425-3137 for information.

15 Eagle One Veteran Outreach to Visit

The Eagle One Veteran Outreach Center will be at the Superior VFW on Thursday, March 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visit them online at hohp4heroes.org. Eagle One provides veterans a place to learn about and apply for all services available to them.



15-18 Pioneer Days

Mariachis, Live Bands, DJs, Food Galore!!! Join us at this year's biggest event, our 58th Annual Pioneer Days, from Thursday, March 15 – Sunday, March 18. Pre-sale admission tickets will be available soon! Make your reservations/plans to join us for a fun-filled, exciting event you won't want to miss!!

26 Winkelman NRCD Local Work Group

Winkelman NRCD is conducting a Local Work Group meeting on March 26, 9 a.m. - noon at Central Arizona College, Aravaipa Campus, Room E102 to identify and prioritize the district's, cooperators' and agency's resource concerns. RSVP at clerk.wnrcd@gmail.com or contact Chris Postel, WNRCD clerk by calling 210-380-5770.



31 Town of Kearny Easter Egg Hunt

The Town of Kearny's Easter Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, March 31, at 9 a.m. at Hubbard Park. Volunteers are welcome to help the Easter Bunny hide eggs at 7:30 a.m.

APRIL



14 RHS Reunion Alumni Bash

Attention Ray High School Classes of the 70s: join your fellow classmates at the second annual Reunion Alumni Bash on Saturday, April 14, at the San Tan Brewery in Chandler. Cost is \$35 per person which includes dinner, one drink, 70s music and the rekindling of friendships long forgotten. For more information, check out the Facebook page: Ray High School Classes of the '70s, or email Selma Hatfield selma_hatfield@yahoo.com or Tinker Noriega teenk08@gmail.com.

ON THE AGENDA

KEARNY CLEAN UP: Kearny's free dump day is held on the second Saturday of every month at the old transfer station.

MASONS TO MEET: Ray-Winkelman Masons Lodge #24 will hold its regular meeting at 318 Fairhaven Road, Kearny, on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. All Masons are invited. The Order of the Eastern Star meets the second Thursday of each month.

HAYDEN SENIOR CENTER: The Hayden Senior Center, 520 Velasco Ave., is open every weekday, from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., to serve the needs of senior citizens and low-income families. A warm, nutritious lunch is served every day. Call 520-356-7035 for information or to check on the daily meal.

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER HOURS: The Pregnancy Care Center in Winkelman, located at Fourth and Thorne Avenues in Winkelman, is open on Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Men's workshop is held on Thursday from 5-6 p.m. You can call (520) 664-5795 for a confidential appointment.

LOBO BOOSTERS: For Lobo Booster Club membership and information, please call Michelle Gonzales at 480-888-6598.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS 12-STEP: NA meetings are held Wednesdays at 6 p.m. at Sun Life in San Manuel. Rear entrance, south facing door. Open meeting. For more information, call Horizon Health and Wellness at 520-896-9240.

KEARNY SENIOR CITIZENS: The Kearny Senior Citizens group meets every Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Constitution Hall. The group talks about trips to different places in Arizona as well as other subjects. A potluck dinner is held after the social hour on the last Wednesday of the month. New members are needed. Come down and join the group. From May through August, the group meets only on the last Wednesday of the month.

KEARNY LIBRARY HAPPENINGS: From 9:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Seniors (50 and up) meet for coffee and conversation. 10 a.m. Monday mornings are set aside for preschool kids with story hour at 10 a.m. A crochet class is held at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays for beginners or advanced to get training and new patterns. On the second Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m., the Ladies Tea Party meets to enjoy fellowship with other ladies. Bring a dish to share for potluck. For more information call 363-5861.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kearny Clean Up Volunteers

The Town of Kearny has volunteers who are able to help people in town clean their yards at no charge. Please call the Town Hall at 520-363-5547 to schedule an appointment.

RECLAMATION

Continued from page 3

of the West Plant site that includes consolidating waste from the old mine, improving storm water management and closing historic tailings and waste rock piles with native vegetation covers.

Resolution Copper is in the process of finalizing plans for the

remaining work on the West Plant property. These plans are based on multiple technical studies that have been conducted on the smelter structures in recent years. The results of these studies have confirmed that a proactive approach is required to clean contaminants

out of the soil and eliminate a safety threat to employees posed by the unstable smelter structures. Due to the threat of collapse and falling debris, restoration work is not an option.

Resolution Copper is hosting a public forum where Superior residents can get more details on the reclamation work, ask questions and provide feedback. Citizens are invited to attend this

informational meeting at 6 p.m. on March 6 at the Superior Junior/Senior High School.

About Resolution Copper
The Resolution Copper Project is operated by Resolution Copper Mining, which is a limited liability company owned 55 percent by Resolution Copper Company (a Rio Tinto PLC subsidiary) and 45 percent by BHP Copper Inc. (a BHP Billiton PLC subsidiary).



Public Notice

PINAL COUNTY AIR QUALITY CONTROL DISTRICT

The District hereby gives notice that it proposes to approve the following permit(s) or permit revision(s). Each list includes the following, in order: the proposed permit number, company name, company address, facility location, facility type and the air contaminants to be emitted or potentially emitted (Volatile Organic Compounds will be abbreviated as V.O.C.; Hazardous Air Pollutants are abbreviated as the HAPS; Benzene, Toluene, Ethyl Benzene, and Xylene are abbreviated as BTEX); Permit No. V20675.000 Asarco LLC P.O. Box 640 Kearny, AZ 85137 Ray Operations State Hwy 177, 8 Miles N of Kearny Kearny, AZ Facility Type – Copper Mining Operations Emissions – Nitrogen Oxides, Carbon Monoxide, Sulfur Oxides, Particulate Matter, Sulfuric Acid, V.O.C.; Permit No. C31254.000 El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C. 5151 E. Broadway Blvd, Suite 1680 Tucson, AZ 85711 Tom Mix Compressor Station 20 Miles SW of Oracle Oracle, AZ Facility Type – Natural Gas Compressor Station Emissions – Nitrogen Oxides, Carbon Monoxide, V.O.C., Sulfur Dioxide, HAPS (Formaldehyde), Particulate Matter Under A.R.S. § 49-480, any person who may be adversely affected by the permit may file a written objection to the issuance of the permit and may request (in writing) a public hearing. Objections, comments or a request for a hearing are due during the public comment period, which ends upon the latter of thirty (30) days from the first publication of this notice, or close of business on the date of any hearing that may be held. Send objections/comments/requests to Pinal County Air Quality Control District, P. O. Box 987, Florence, AZ 85132 or deliver to 31 N. Pinal Street, Building F, Development Services, Florence, Arizona. The telephone number is (520) 866-6929. Any objection shall state the name and mailing address of the objector, be signed by the objector, their agent or attorney, and clearly set forth the reasons why the permit should not be issued. Grounds for objections are limited to whether the proposed permit meets the criteria for issuance prescribed in A.R.S. § 49-480 or in § 49-481. The permit package, all comments and objections will be available for public inspection and/or copying at the above address Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. excluding Holidays. PINAL COUNTY AIR QUALITY CONTROL DISTRICT MICHAEL SUNDBLOM, DIRECTOR Dates Published: March 7 & 14, 2018 End of 30-day comment Period: April 6, 2018
CBN Legal 3/7/18, 3/14/18

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Public Notice

Nominations are Open for 1 Winkelman NRCD Supervisor seat

The Winkelman Natural Resource Conservation District (NRCD) will hold a Supervisor Election on Saturday, May 5, 2018, General Kearny Inn, 301 Alden Rd, 85137, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The District is soliciting petitions for a supervisor candidate.

The election's open seat is for a new 6-year term. To be eligible, a candidate must be 18 years of age, a resident of the District, a registered voter in the State of Arizona, and have a Cooperator Agreement on file with the Winkelman Natural Resource Conservation District. A regular candidate nomination petition requires the signatures of 25 district cooperators; while, a write-in nomination petition does not require signatures. Write-in nomination petitions must be filed by March 26

Regular nomination petitions must be filed by April 25.

Please send all required forms (Nomination, Signatures & Cooperator Agreement) and proof of eligibility (Voter Registration & Drivers License IDs) to:

NRCD Manager
Arizona State Land Department
1616 W. Adams

Phoenix, AZ 85007

If you have any questions regarding the cooperator agreement, nomination petition or filing, send an email to clerk. wncrd@gmail.com or call 210-380-5770.

CBN Legal 2/28/18, 3/7/18

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LOBOS

Continued from page 6

Westrope. Coaches are Marisa Gallego, Pedro Gallego and Nimo Lorona.

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GILA

Continued from page 7

Tilbury Road from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. v A \$5 wristband will give you unlimited rides.

And, all along, the vendors will be available through all hours of the parade. This is one heck of an event. With the greater amount of publicity, I hope it will bring many people in to enjoy our part of the world.

A final note: Last week, when I was writing about the Hand Me Up Shop, I referred to the Copper Basin Health Volunteers. Their real name is the Copper Area Health Volunteers. These fine people deserve their proper name to be known.

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- 635 Webb Dr. 3 bdrm 1 bath on large corner lot. This home is beautiful! Completely remodeled with new flooring, paint, new kitchen and bath. Appliances included. Block wall. Must see! \$89,900
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AJ Lopez swims well at Junior Olympic Swim Meet

The Junior Olympic Swim Meet was held at the Cactus Pool in Scottsdale on Feb. 23-25. The meet required competitors to achieve qualifying times in a previous USA Swimming Sanctioned Meet. Ten swimmers from the Sea Lions Swim Team qualified and participated in the meet. The Sea Lions took home a total of 13 medals from the meet. AJ Lopez (14) of Hayden had the swimming performance of his life, winning 5 races in personal best times.

AJ led the medal haul for the team winning 5 out of the 6 races he swam in the 13-14 Age Group. His 1000 Freestyle time of 11:20.71 was more than a full minute faster than he had ever swam before, yet his winning time was just a

fraction of second faster than the next competitor who he passed in the final 50 yards of the race for the win. The tight margin of victory made an exciting race that kept teammates, coaches and family member excited and cheering loudly through the finish.

In preliminaries on Saturday morning AJ earned a spot in the finals in all three event he swam by placing in the top 8. In Finals on Saturday evening, his personal best times in the 100 Freestyle (55.02), 200 Backstroke (2:19.6), and 200 Butterfly (2:21.74) were good enough to beat the tough competition.

Sunday morning prelims resulted in AJ once again advancing to finals in

two events. Sunday evening in his 200 Freestyle final he achieved a his personal best time of 2:03.73 that was good enough for a 4th place finish. A short while later he bested the field in an outstanding 200 Breaststroke Final Swim with another personal best time of 2:36.16 earning his 5th Gold Medal of the meet.

Several other Sea Lions took home medals from the meet. Mason Stewart (12) of Mammoth earned 2 Silver medals (100 Breast, 200 Butterfly), Ethan Kellam (12) of San Manuel won a Gold Medal in the 1650 Freestyle, and Ben Fister (12) of San Manuel earned a Bronze (1000 Free), 2 Silvers (200 Back + 200 IM), and 2 Golds (100 IM + 200 Butterfly).

AJ and several other Sea Lions Swimmers will be participating in the Arizona Age Group State Championship Meet to be held at the Oro Valley Aquatic Center March 8-11.

Kids (ages 5-18) of any ability (even kids who cannot swim but are ready and willing to learn) are welcome to join the Sea Lions Swim Team. The Summer Team will begin practice at the Mammoth Pool practice 4:30- 6 p.m. Monday-Fridays beginning in April. The team consists of swimmers from Oracle, San Manuel, Hayden and Mammoth. Check the Sea Lion Website (sealionsswimteam.com) or contact Alex or Wendy Gort for more information at 520-896-2190.



AJ Lopez with his medals.

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Ariana Arbizo shoots her way to a fourth place finish



Arizona Elks State Hoop Shoot champion, Ariana Arbizo arrived in Las Vegas, along with her family, by chartered bus to compete against California-Hawaii, Nevada and Utah state champions in the 8 and 9 year old girls.

Arizona Elks is very proud of Ariana's accomplishments, she brought home the fourth place trophy.

She was treated to a pizza party, bowling, a breakfast of Champions and the awards dinner and, while on the bus, lots of goodies. Congratulations, Ariana!