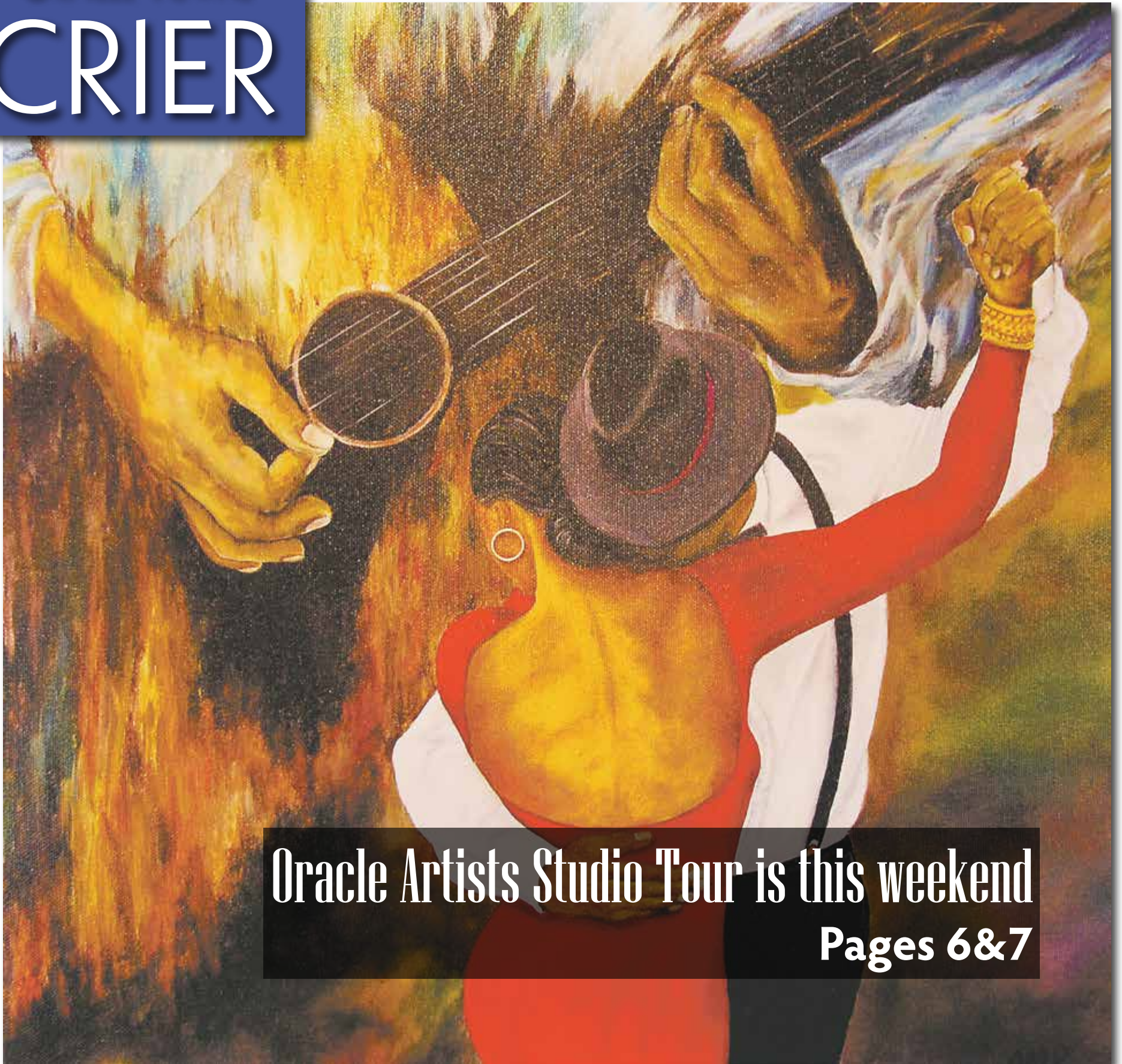


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'Strumming Me Softly' by Anna-Maria Dickinson | John Hernandez | Crier



Oracle Artists Studio Tour is this weekend
Pages 6&7

Oracle Towne Crier

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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

Advertising Information

*We have very attractive rates available.
 Please call (520) 385-2266 for more information.*

Second half property tax payments due May 1

FLORENCE - The Pinal County Treasurer's Office is reminding property owners that second half property tax payments are due no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, May 1.

Taxes will become delinquent if not paid by that time. Any taxes postmarked on May 1, will not be considered delinquent.

Taxpayers who have paid their full year taxes are not

impacted by this due date. Property owners who have taxes paid through escrow with their mortgage company will have the payment made on their behalf.

Payment options and tax bill/payment coupons are available online at: <http://1.usa.gov/1iLDyD>.

If residents have any questions, please call the Pinal County Citizen Contact Center at 520-509-3555 or 888-431-1311.

DIAPER BAG

Family First Hosts Earn While You Learn Classes

Easter has come and gone; the year is flying by while spring flowers are sprouting all around us. It is a wonderful time of new growth and fresh beginnings. It's a good time for all families to grow and learn. Our educational program at Family First is called Earn While You Learn because for every class completed, the clients earn mommy money to "purchase items in the center store". It's a wonderful way to learn how to have a happier family and get diapers, blankets, and other needed items.

We currently have 175 excellent lessons on everything from prenatal, infant and child development, toddler growth, and simple, effective discipline methods for all ages. We also have classes on practical fatherhood skills and life skills to improve money management, credit use and other life topics.

Most people want to learn how to be good parents and raise happy, healthy children. This program will help answer many questions you may have and ease your anxiety. The center staff is available to provide support and resources during the time of transition through pregnancy and child rearing time.

All classes are free and open to the public. Call 520-896-9545 to schedule an appointment for a class tailored to your individual needs. The center is located at 1575 W. American Ave. and is open

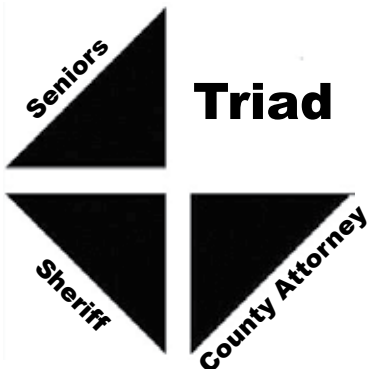
Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Come in and learn and grow with us!



It's a high five for the Easter Bunny. EB made a stop at the Family First Easter Eggstravaganza shortly before Easter to hide some eggs and goodies for local tots.

John Hernandez | Crier



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 Jim Stephens to sign up for volunteer opportunities, 520-483-8193.

OBITUARY

John Allen Reves

John Allen Reves, 56, passed away March 24, 2015 in Mesa, AZ.

He was born in Tucson and lived in Oracle, San Manuel and California. He worked at Magma Copper Company underground and at Midas Muffler in Tucson.

John was preceded in death by his son, Eric Reves.

Left behind in loving memory are his daughter, Shannan Reves of Tucson; father, Raymond Reves of Tucson; mother, Maggie Pierson (Carl Riggs) of Oracle; sisters, Margaret Sanderson of Oracle Junction, Rosetta (Paul) Tafoya of Oracle, Diana Rodriguez of Bakersfield,

CA, and Tara (Greg) Davis of Hattiesburg, MS; brothers, Tony Reves of Oracle and Kent Riggs of Grand Junction, CO; and many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Services for Mr. Reves will be held Saturday, April 11, at 10 a.m. at Living Word Chapel in Oracle. Graveside services will follow at 11:15 a.m. at the Oracle Cemetery. Everyone is asked to gather at the Oracle Community Center.



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The Texas Tenors
"Deep In The Heart of Christmas"
December 20, 2015
3pm & 7:00pm
Tickets on Sale

Friday, April 10 - 7:30 pm & Sunday, April 12 - 4:00 pm - SaddleBrooke Singers. Mamma Mia! - Jersey Boys - and Friends! - Tune in, turn on, and rock out with the SaddleBrooke Singers presentation of "Mamma Mia, Jersey Boys, and Friends." Listen to the tunes made famous by ABBA and The Four Seasons and featured in the musicals "Mamma Mia" and "Jersey Boys." You can also reminisce with us with "Blasts from the past" from that same era, including songs made famous by Ricky Nelson, Neil Diamond, Simon and Garfunkle, The Beach Boys, Peter, Paul and Mary, Tina Turner, and more! Also included will be some famous oldies such as "Johnny Angel," "It's My Party," and others. \$18 inclusive \$20 door.

Saturday, April 11, 2015 - Southern Arizona Symphony Orchestra - 7:30pm. Michael Kiefer: Psalm 22. Martinu: Rhapsody-Concerto. Hong-Mei Xiao, viola. Khachaturian: Masquerade Suite. \$24 inclusive \$26 door.

Saturday, April 25, 2015 - Strait Country, A Tribute to George Strait - 7:30pm. Starring Kevin Sterner. Kevin Sterner and Strait Country, the critically acclaimed "Tribute to the music of George Strait" is built around Kevin's vocal style, which is very similar to George Strait's. Featuring Rich Brennon on pedal steel guitar and Bill Emrie on fiddle. Rounding out the six-piece band is Steve Wendling on bass and harmony vocals, Dennis Van Vactor on keyboards and Ralph Gilmore on drums and harmony vocals. The concert showcases hit after hit from an amazing 58 Number One Hits and 83 Top Ten Hits. Join us for an exciting evening of George Strait's hits performed by a group privileged to share his music. \$22 inclusive \$25 door

Saturday, May 2, 2015 - Tucson Jazz Institute Ellington Band - 7:30pm. Congratulations! Tucson Jazz Institute Ellington Band was voted Number One at the Essentially Ellington Festival and Competition in New York. Doug Tidaback, Director, claims that students are raising the bar of this Competition year after year. Join us as we welcome our national winners back to our stage for a night to remember! \$25 inclusive \$30 door.

Wednesday, May 6, 2015 - Sons of the Pioneers - 7:30 pm. For over 75 continuous years the Sons of the Pioneers have been "America's Premiere Western Singing Group of all time" (as described by the Western Music Hall of Fame). Elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, Cowboy Hall of Fame, Western Music Hall of Fame, Texas Swing Hall of Fame and designated a National Treasure by the Smithsonian Institution, the Pioneers signature songs "Cool Water" and "Tumbling Tumbleweeds" were placed in the Grammy Hall of Fame. Founded by Roy Rogers and the gifted songwriters Bob Nolan and Tim Spencer. \$30 inclusive \$35 door.

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ORACLE CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>Assembly of God 1145 Robles Rd., Oracle</p> <p>Pastor Nathan Hogan 520-896-2408</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship 10:30 a.m. Evening Service 6 p.m. Wednesday Evening 6 p.m.</p>	<p>Oracle Church of Christ 2425 El Paseo, Oracle</p> <p>Fred Patterson 896-2452 • 896-2067</p> <p>Sunday Bible Study 10 a.m. Sunday Worship 11 a.m.</p>	<p>Living Word Chapel 3941 W. Hwy. 77, Oracle</p> <p>Pastor James Ruiz 896-2771 • www.lwcoracle.org</p> <p>Saturday Youth Service 6 p.m. (except 5th Sat) Sunday 1st Service 9 a.m. • Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Sunday 2nd Service 11 a.m. Children & Youth Classes Available for Both Services</p>
<p>Oracle Union Church 705 E. American Ave., Oracle</p> <p>Pastor Dr. Ed Nelson 520-784-1868</p> <p>Sunday Bible Study 9 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study Noon Thursday Prayer Time 11 a.m. to Noon</p>	<p>Oracle Seventh-Day Adventist Church 2150 Hwy 77, Oracle</p> <p>Pastor Rick Roy</p> <p>Saturday Sabbath School 9:30 a.m. Saturday Worship Service 11 a.m.</p>	<p>To be included in the monthly church listing, call the Crier at 520-385-2266.</p>

Grow your business! Advertise in the Crier!

Call 520-385-2266 for more information

The Benefits of Vitamin D

Vitamin D is typically considered a sun vitamin. As such, one would think that people who live in the desert would never need to worry about getting enough. It's not quite that simple.

Vitamin D is actually a hormone. It exists in a number of forms that effect its actions.

One of the most common forms is of Vitamin D is D3 (1,25 dihydroxycholecalciferol or calcitriol). It is synthesized in the skin with the help of ultraviolet light from the sun.

Most recommendations for sun exposure are for about 20 minutes a day depending on the time of year, latitude, elevation and weather. Vitamin D is not synthesized in excess amounts due to sun exposure. This is because after 20 minutes of sun the body begins breaking down as much as it makes. Some sunscreens can have an effect on the synthesis of Vitamin D. Artificial UVB (ultraviolet beta used in some tanning booths) is

also adequate to stimulate the conversion needed to make the hormone.

There are few sources of Vitamin D in our food supply. It is fat soluble and as such is found in fairly high amounts in fish liver oils, such as cod liver oil.

Artificial sources for the vitamin include multiple vitamin supplements and fortified foods, such as milk products.

Recommended daily intake of Vitamin D has ranged between 200 and 600 IUs depending on age and health. More recent estimates have placed that range above 1000 IUs per day. The older one gets, the more Vitamin D is required.

Supplements typically carry 500 IUs, but at times can be as high as 5,000 or 10,000 IU's. If higher doses are being taken, blood tests should be considered to avoid toxicity. The most reliable test currently is 25 hydroxycalciferol (25-hydroxy-vitamin D).

Prolonged overdosing of Vitamin D can result in hypercalcemia, or too much calcium in the body. The common symptoms associated with toxicity include anorexia, nausea, weakness, nervousness, excess urination, itchiness and kidney failure. Fetuses can suffer poor mental development if their pregnant mothers ingest too much D.

The most common association with Vitamin D is with bone formation. One form of Vitamin D does help to mineralize bones and prevent rickets, osteomalacia and osteoporosis by regulating the concentrations of calcium and phosphorous, with the help of calcitonin and parathyroid hormone (both from the thyroid gland).

There are many varied benefits to Vitamin D. Besides its benefits for bone disease, Vitamin D can be helpful in addressing multiple sclerosis, hardening of the arteries, gingivitis, diabetes,



HEALTH ISSUES

By Dr. Michael Miles
Special to the Crier

and seasonal-affect disease, as well as cancer.

The seasonal fluctuations of Vitamin D have even been suggested as the cause for the rise in flu cases during the winter months. During the spring, summer and fall months, the sun provides enough production of Vitamin D to enhance the immune system and fend off illness.

As you can see, Vitamin D is an extremely important nutrient and should be considered as an essential part of your existence. 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.

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Thursday: Free Pool
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our 30th ANNUAL . . .

ORACLE OAKS FESTIVAL

SATURDAY • APRIL 18, 2015

Celebrate . . .
**“HISTORICAL
 ORACLE”**



Every year, Oracle comes together to celebrate everything from our oaks and unique landscapes to our diverse personalities and passions. This year is no different, as Oracle Community Center hosts the 30th annual Oaks Festival . . .

PARADE . . .

Our annual Oaks Parade with antique cars, patriotic motorcycles, on-foot and horse entries, Kids' Decorated **Bikes** (new category this year), and other wonderful floats starts at 9:30am. **Pre-judging** is now at lineup; winners will be announced before the parade. Watch for their hand-crafted ribbons. Interested in parading? Get app forms online.

BOOTHS . . .

There will be lots of interesting booths on the midway with various arts & crafts, information and food. Visit the **OCC Photo Booth** inside with prints for sale. Costume up for the pics!

FOOD . . .

Start the day Inside the Center with a great pancake **Breakfast** (til 10:30am) then watch the parade. **Lunch** is served 11am-2pm featuring burgers, hot dogs, and burritos with beans & mac salad.

ACTIVITIES . . .

Besides eating, shopping, browsing and listening to good music, we have lots of activities all day for both adults and kids.

Check out **Informative Talks** from local speakers inside the Center starting at 3:30pm after the auction.

Horseshoe Tournament

Watch the action just to the right of the Center starting at 11am. Get app forms online.

AUTHORS . . .

Several Arizona author's will be on the OCC back patio all day. Stop by to chat with them or buy a book!

MUSIC . . .

Several musicians will be playing at our outdoor stage from 11am-5pm.

Stop by to see Ron Pandy, Matt Bruner, Roger Douglas, Ron Walker, Steve Priestle, or 'Doc' John Huntington. Stick around til 5pm and jam with them or just listen.

KIDS' STUFF

Lots of kids' activities include: Fun Van, Cake Walk, Face Painting, Inflatable Obstacle Course, Henna Tatoong, Mobile Dental Van, Vision & Hearing Screening, Firewise info & souvenirs (OFD), and Pet Rescue area.

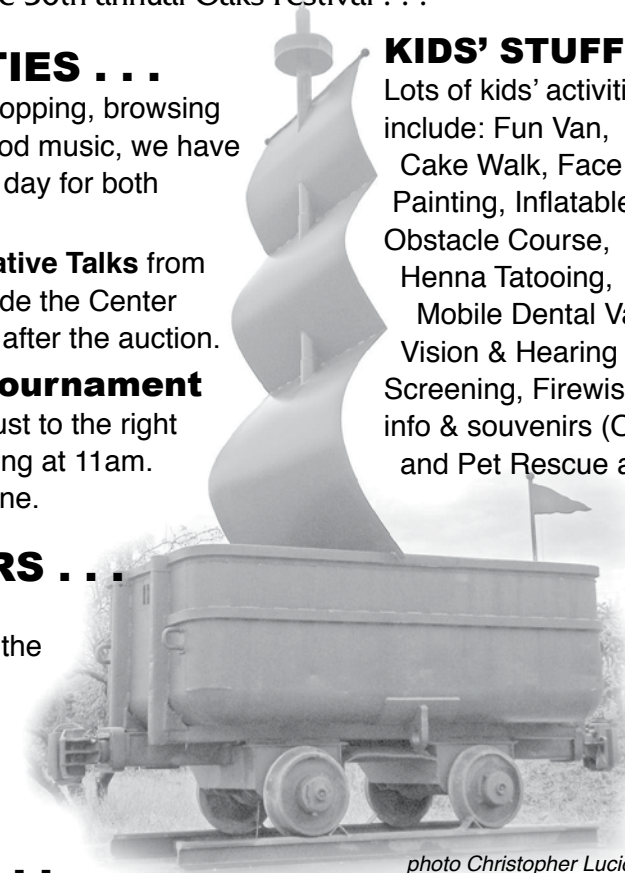


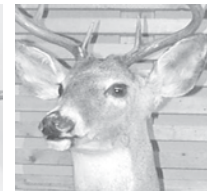
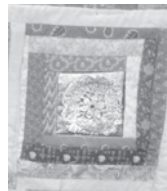
photo Christopher Lucic

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR APPLICATION FORMS, GO TO OUR NEW WEBSITE:
OracleCommunityCenter.org

BETTER THAN EVER:

*Silent
Auction*

Go to our website to see photos of some of the Silent Auction items to bid on inside the Center.



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ANNOUNCED
BETWEEN
2:30 & 3PM
AT THE CENTER**

Call us if you have anything you wish to donate at 520-954-2722. Participants must be present to win.

Annual Oracle Artist Studio Tour

Oracle - Oracle, an art center for more than 50 years, is again showing its hospitality to locals and visitors alike as the town artists and artisans welcome the public to their annual Studio Tour; this year, scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, April 11 and 12.

Stop by the Visitor and Welcome Center, 1470 American Avenue, across from the Fire Station, to pick up a self-guiding map and see examples of work by participating artists. The tour hours are between 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., both days.

Purple roadside directional signs will lead you through the oaks and hillsides to the studios and historic ranches and barns where you can see and buy work directly from the artists. You will find paintings in oil, watercolor, acrylic, encaustic and pastels, sculpture in steel, found objects and clay, functional and art pottery, custom wood furniture, landscape photographs, handmade

books and botanical papers. There is jewelry with semi-precious stones in sterling silver and vermeil, lace tapestries, quilts, decoupage

candles, fabric wall art, glass work and gourd craft.

Five artists will show at the Triangle L

Ranch: Sharon Holnback (glass and iron), Susan Daigneault (beekeepers and copper), Anna Maria Dickinson (oil painting and blocks); Karen Medley (clay and art cards) and Elvia Schwenke (bottles, boxes and jewelry).

At Sunset Vista Studio Betty Thompson and Carol Coonis will show oil paintings. Acadia Ranch Museum will feature work by Belinda Kirkpatrick (acrylic and watercolor), Glenda Neff (pottery), Laura Stiltner (bird feeders, ceramics, jewelry) and Rich Vokoun (gourd craft).

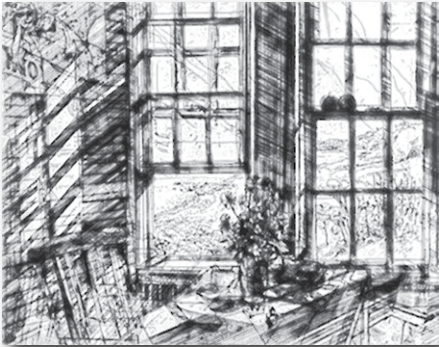
Chris Holleman's studio will show his clocks and lamps of native Arizona woods and Hunting Jessup's presentation boxes and metal sculpture. Karen Guss and Patty Guertin will show watercolor, pastel and ink work in the Guss Studio. Gloria Mork and Eileen Bonk will be at Tuesday House with wall hangings and quilts. Carolyn Blair will show her paintings and decorative pieces at her studio.

Four artists will show work at the Creighton Studio: Judith Walsh in encaustic and jewelry, Diana Creighton in oil painting, Joel Nilsson in pottery and Ned Creighton in whimsical steel sculpture. Susie Cochran will show stoneware, watercolors, beargrass baskets and more at Susie's Studio. At the Cowlin Studio, Barbara Cowlin will show water-reflection and other paintings in acrylic and Jim Cowlin will show his landscape photographs.

Rancho Linda Vista, the original art community, will have clay sculpture by Joy



'Strumming Me Softly' by Anna-Maria Dickinson



'Windswept House' by Andrew Rush

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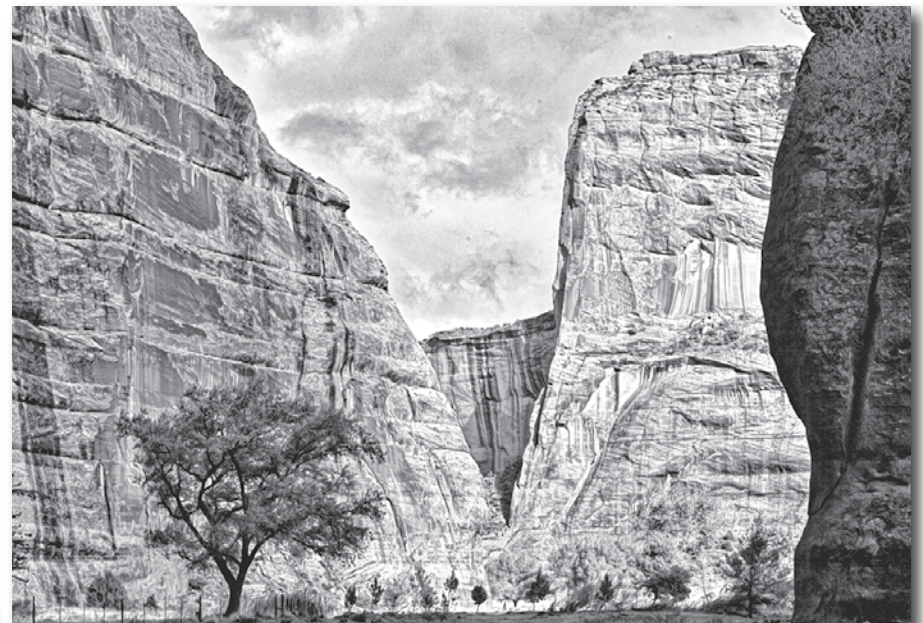
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'Canyon De Chelly' by James Cowlin

welcomes visitors April 11 and 12

Fox, intaglio printmaking by Andrew Rush and metal cutout sculpture by Gary Swimmer. Across the road, the rammed-earth home of Quentin Branch and Julie Szekely is itself a constantly evolving sculpture.

The Wilson Art Barn will showcase Jill Caid (watercolor), Pat Hardin (landscapes), Carolann Small (fabric hangings and postcards), and Vonnie West (watercolor and acrylic). Colin Budd's studio will feature his wheel-thrown porcelain and other pottery and Alicia Bristow's jewelry and acrylic art.

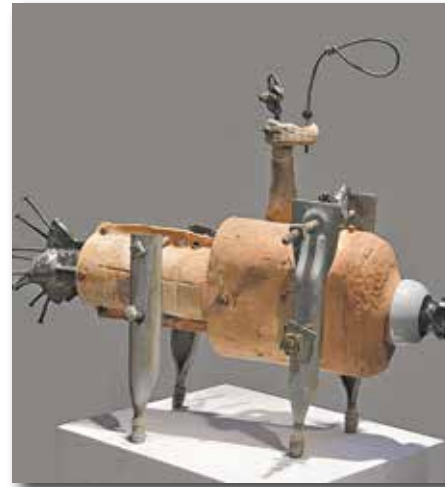
For more information, visit online at www.oraclestudiotour.com.



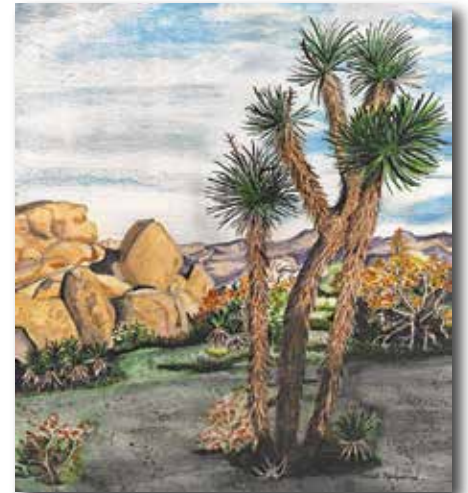
'Destiny' by Sharon Holnback



'Emory Oak Lamp' by Christopher Holleman



'Insectalator' by Joy Fox



'Joshua Tree' by Belinda Kirkpatrick



'Shave-and-A-Shine' by Diana Creighton



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CROSSWORD

Children's Stories

ACROSS

1. What a bridge does
6. Indian restaurant staple
9. Done to some pets
13. Gold unit
14. *Aladdin, for short
15. Biotic community
16. Bring upon oneself
17. Pine juice
18. Scandinavian fjord, e.g.
19. To beat seeds from grain
21. *Don't let it drive the bus!
23. Exclamation of disgust
24. Update an iPod
25. Eastern title
28. Adjutant
30. Often found on the lap
35. Sea eagles
37. As opposed to an opinion
39. It's firma
40. The Destroyer in Hinduism
41. Springtime flower

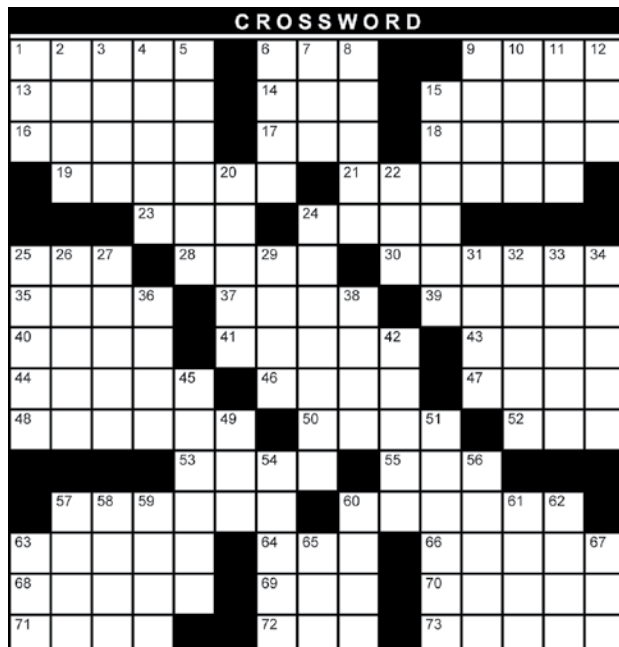
43. *Told to go away in nursery rhyme

44. Subject of wars of 1839-42 and 1856-60
46. *Ferdinand, e.g.
47. Catchall abbr.
48. Small sphere
50. Sealed with a handshake
52. Archaic "your"
53. Kind of bag
55. To nuke
57. *Friend of the man in yellow
60. *Crayon artist
63. Russian crepes
64. *"One fish ___ fish..."
66. Sag
68. Derived from gold
69. Lil Wayne's genre
70. Short musical composition
71. Rendezvous
72. Repeated to a captain
73. Revolving mechanism

DOWN

1. Navigate moguls
2. Breathe noisily
3. Gateway monument
4. Pleasant Island
5. *"_____ Nona"
6. *Mr. Incredible's son
7. Chicken ___ king
8. Sassy
9. Cosine's counterpart
10. Prince William's sport
11. Prayer end
12. Hitherto
15. Lion or tiger, e.g.
20. 9 to 5, e.g.
22. Weary traveler's welcome spot
24. Withdraw or sequester
25. *"The Tortoise and the Hare" author
26. Complain
27. Blacksmith's block
29. Apply to a surface
31. Salon service

32. Deadly snake
33. March celebrants
34. *She's so fancy
36. Author ___ Bellow
38. Mosaic piece
42. *The _____, Eloise's residence
45. Like meters and kilograms
49. Clothe
51. Pantry
54. "Four" prefix
56. _____ Novo, Benin
57. Elmer's, e.g.
58. De Valera's land
59. "Put a lid ___!"
60. It springs eternal?
61. Stumblebum
62. *Bird from "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland"
63. "Kapow!"
65. *"Make ___ for Ducklings"
67. P in mpg



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

Mt. Vista Elementary enters science projects into regional fair



Julie Formo and her first grade class with their project. John Hernandez | Crier



Mikayla Martin with her individual project. John Hernandez | Crier

By John Hernandez
Oracle Towne Crier

Mountain Vista Elementary entered their science fair top projects in the annual Southern Arizona Regional Science and Engineering Fair. There were two grand winners including Mrs. Formo's first grade class project and Mikayla Martin's seventh grade individual project.

Mikayla's big question was, "Can you turn heat energy into mechanical energy?" and the first grade big question was, "Do hummingbirds prefer a certain color of juice?" Mikayla won the third place grand award and the first grade class won the second place grand award. They received a trophy and ribbons and Mikayla also won \$50 in cash.

When you were kids, your sister pulled your hair and stole your lunch money.

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Knights of Columbus to host annual golf tourney this weekend at SaddleBrooke Ranch

The local Knights of Columbus Charity golf tournament is this Saturday at SaddleBrooke Ranch near milepost 93 on Highway 77 with sign in at 7 a.m. and play starting at 8 a.m.

"The money raised from this tournament goes to local seniors for scholarships, as well as other education projects and charities," tournament director John Wahlmeier said.

The cost is \$85 which includes a cart and lunch with many prizes and contests.

"We have prizes for the top three finishers, but we also give a prize that everybody has a chance of winning, no matter where they finish," Wahlmeier said.

It could be the team with the oldest player, or the team with the youngest, or a score that is the exact middle of the tournament or dead last according to Wahlmeier.

"We keep it a secret until the day of the tournament," he added.

There will be two hole in one contests, one sponsored by Catalina's Golf Cars of Arizona and another sponsored by Apache Gold Casino and resort.

Council 5542, which serves Mammoth, Oracle and San Manuel, also supports the community food bank and Special Olympics as well as a Cub Scout and Boy Scout troop, which has a new Eagle Scout.

For more information, contact Wahlmeier at (520) 385-4590 or (520) 610-1151 or jmfaalias@gmail.com.





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- **Custom Home** with great views, custom features throughout the home, high end stainless steel Jenn-Air 6 burner stove in gourmet kitchen. \$399,000

Spats theater 'A Nice Family Gathering'

By John Hernandez
Oracle Towne Crier

Not even problems with the lighting could dim the performance of SPATS latest theatrical presentation "A Nice Family Gathering". The play is a comedy by Phil Olson and takes place in Minnesota. It was directed by M. Van Howell and produced by Becky Greer.

The play is about a ghost dad, played well by Edwin Hartman, who has come back on a mission to tell his wife that he loved her, something he failed to do while he was alive during 41 years of marriage. Only one problem, his wife played by Julie Szekely can't see or hear him. The only one in the family that can see and hear him is his estranged son Carl played marvelously by Jim Pollack. The dysfunctional family is gathered at Mom's home for an unusual Thanksgiving dinner and as Carl and his dad try to work out their relationship the

family member's problems surface not to mention the male friend mom has invited to dinner much to dad's dislike. Will all this confusion keep ghost dad from completing his mission? It all made for a wonderful and entertaining afternoon.

I must confess this is the first SPATS performance I have attended. Considering SPATS has been around for 36 years I probably should apologize to them for missing all of their previous productions. They do a great job and this last production included good performances from everyone although for me Jim Pollack stood out playing Carl. Christine Oberth as the over emotional Jill also did a very good job. Thank you SPATS for a fun and funny afternoon and I promise, I will attend more performances!

Be sure to check the outside of the theater at 730 E. American Ave. for upcoming performances. Or give them a call at (520) 896-9496.

It's official: new sign at Oracle Park



The new sign designating Oracle State Park as an International Dark Sky Park went up this week at the entrance to the state park. Oracle State Park is one of just 20 areas in the world that have been designated International Dark Sky Parks.

John Hernandez | Copper Area News

Minding Their P's and Q's



The 2014-2015 school year is three quarters of the way done. With this benchmark comes the announcement of the third quarter "Pride of Our Pride" at Mountain Vista School. Ms. Moreno's third graders achieved this accomplishment by hanging on to 42 out of the possible 48 available paws. Congratulations for a job well done, kids! Keep up your wonderful manners in the cafeteria!



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