Volume 7 Number 8

Arts & Entertainment Along the Copper Corridor

Stances, Footwork and Movement III

fter a student has learned the mechanics of stances and footwork, they are then prepared to use that knowledge to engage an attacker by moving to neutralize any immediate threat. Initially, the movement is rather rudimentary. A side step or a step back that allows the force of the attack to dissipate, will often give the defender enough time to respond. During this phase of training, the ability to recognize and develop proper timing is essential. What do we mean by timing? Timing is a skill that includes making a judgment about the

NUGGET

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speed, direction and intention or intensity of any attack. A student who no longer doubts the quality of their stance or footwork can move with a sense of certainty and can rely on that during any physical engagement. Not being concerned about what the lower body is doing, frees the upper body to counter the threat.

As skill and confidence increase, the student will begin to practice, for want of a better word, blending. Blending is a skill that uses a well timed movement to intercept a force "vector" or the attacks' directed path and "ride" it briefly. By helping the attacker to continue his intended aggression until the force of it is almost spent, you're able to now redirect the opponents' vector, to a new one – a direction of your own making. Obviously, highly skilled individuals can move with increased speed and assertiveness. Entering into the attack before it matures, turning with the attack to weaken its' force, redirecting and extending the attack can all allow for a swift counter measure to end the threat. This ability to move with ease and proper timing is the most difficult of all the training requirement skills. It can also be the most satisfying and the most fun.

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Mr. Weber is the chief instructor at the Aikido Academy of Self-Defense located at 16134 N. Oracle Rd., in Catalina. He has more than 45 years of experience in the Martial Arts and has achieved skills in a variety of disciplines. He also teaches Tai-Chi on Saturday from 9 to 10 a.m. Please call (520)



SELF-DEFENSE

By Steve Weber Special to the Nugget

825-8500 for information regarding these and other programs. If you wish, check out the website at www. AikidoAcademyOfArizona.com.



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How to Tan Your Baby

his radical sounding data comes from a 1931 US Dept of Labor pamphlet entitled "Sunlight for Babies".

The pamphlet states, "Every mother who wishes her baby to have robust health should give him regular sun baths from early infancy until he is old enough to play in the sun himself."

It goes on to say that, "If a nursing mother gets plenty of sunshine her milk will help protect her baby from rickets."

This sounds crazy after our 40 plus years of sun-avoidance propaganda. However, recent research shows they were on to something big.

Most know Vitamin D is the "sunshine vitamin", and is made when cholesterol in the oil in our skin interacts with UV light, mainly UVB rays. The Vitamin D produced in this natural manner is water soluble and moves freely through the body. It is also tied to sulfur, which is then oxidized by the light, making a "sulfate" form.

It turns out the cholesterol sulfate created is vital for heart health. If it is not created by sun on skin, LDL cholesterol must enter arterial plaque and attempt to make it there.

More findings show sulfate deficiency reduces the brains ability to eliminate heavy metals and other toxins.



SELF-HEALING

By John Huntington Special to the Nugget

To make matters worse, aluminum (found in most sunscreens) disrupts the pineal gland to further this process, reducing melatonin and allowing a greater heavy metal load with resulting neurological problems.

With the three A's of Autism, Asthma, and Auto-immunity affecting our children in every greater amounts, it is time to reconsider our "run from the sun" promotions.

Dr. Huntington practices Chiropractic, Biomedical Acupuncture and Physiotherapy in Oracle, Az. 520-896-9844 huntingtonchiro@hotmail. com.



Thursday, May 22, 2014 — 7:30pm Man In Black Starring Robert Shaw



Robert Shaw with a live band comprised of top-notch talent playing your favorite Cash hits, this concert brings to life the authentic Cash sound that's been described as "steady like a train, sharp like a razor." Highlighting tunes from the early days of "Folsom Prison Blues" and "I Walk the Line" on through the decades, including "Ring of Fire," "A Boy Named Sue" and "Ghost Riders in the Sky" this is a must-see performance.

\$25 inclusive \$30 door

Saturday, June 14, 2014 - Time In A Bottle - 7:30pm

Time In A Bottle is a stirring show paying tribute to the great American singer-songwriters of the 1970's. The music of major superstars such as Jim Croce and Van Morrison are combined with some of the great songs written by artists like Dan Fogelberg and Gordon Lightfoot and the show is topped off with an incredible tribute to Carole King & James Taylor! Produced by TAD Management. Buy all 4 Summer Series and get a discount! Package Price: \$80 Individual: \$25 Door \$30



Saturday, July 19, 2014 - The Magic of Motown - 7:30pm Produced by TAD Management, this show is part of the summer series. Buy all 4 Summer Series shows and get a discount! Package Price: \$80 Individual: \$25 inclusive Door: \$30



Saturday, August 23, 2014 - The Sedaka Legacy - 7:30pm The Sedaka Legacy is a memorable hit filled tribute to the timeless music of Neil Sedaka performed by The Piano Man, **Terry Davies,** and his remarkable band. Neil is one of the most prolific American songwriters in pop music history. Terry brings

over 25 Sedaka classics to life in this passionate tribute to this

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Saturday, September 13, 2014—7:30pm Unforgettable Too—Natalie Cole Tribute. Produced by TAD Management, this show is part of the summer series.

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Wednesday, October 1, 2014 - REMEMBERING THE LADIES - 7:30pm

A show like no other, REMEMBERING THE LADIES, pays tribute to a host of Legendary Ladies of Show Business through song in a wide variety of musical styles, stories, engaging videos and an occasional impression (Marlene Dietrich, Lucy.) Starring British singer-entertainer-comedienne, Toni Morrell, this show combines elements of cabaret and theater within a concert performance, accompanied by full-screen video imagery. Musical support



ranges from a one-man electronic orchestra with tracks to a medium-size live orchestra ensemble. Directed by celebrity television producer Karen G. Cadle, (Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous). Votel "Best Solo Show in California"

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When Geronimo robbed



Geronimo. Photo can be found at: http://bit.ly/TMIqkJ.

By John Hernandez Pinal Nugget

The name Geronimo struck terror among the populace in Arizona and Mexico. Most people associated the name with the Apache warrior and leader who fought against the Americans and Mexicans until his final surrender in 1886. There were some other Geronimos that made life hard for the law abiding citizens along the Arizona/Mexico border. Geronimo was a Spanish form of the name Jerome. Mexican mothers sometimes named their sons after St. Jerome. In the southwest there were a few Mexican bandits known as Geronimo. One of these bandits became well known and feared on both sides of the border between Arizona and Sonora. He was known by a number of aliases but Geronimo Miranda was the most used and was often shortened to just Geronimo by some lawmen and newspapers.

Geronimo was a member of the Jack Taylor gang. Jack Taylor was a minor outlaw who had some experience in train robbing. He had been a blacksmith in Willcox and before that a freighter operating on the Willcox to Globe road. His gang was made up of Manuel Robles, Fred Federico, Nieves Deron, and Miranda. They operated in Arizona Territory and Sonora Mexico from 1884 to 1888 as a gang of highwaymen robbing travelers, stagecoaches, businesses and trains. The gang and Geronimo Miranda received notoriety following a train robbery in Mexico in 1888

On May 11, 1888 at 10 p.m. a southbound train belonging to the Sonora Railway had just slowed to a stop at the station in Agua Zarca, Sonora about 14 miles south of Nogales, when four to six masked robbers attacked it. The bandits fired into the cab of the engine killing the fireman named Forbes. The engineer jumped through a cab window and dove under the engine. The robbers then fired a volley into the express car wounding Ike Hay a Wells Fargo messenger (guard). The conductor, Louis Atkinson, was shot as he was stepping down from the baggage car. He would die later from his wounds. A passenger W.H. French was also shot. Three of the robbers held the passengers and two custom guards at gunpoint while the others carried off the express box. The train robbers then mounted their horses and rode off. Eight Mexican customs line guards arrived shortly after and began pursuing the robbers.

The train headed north to Nogales where a posse was formed and brought back to Agua Zarca where they picked up the trail. While tracking the bandits, they came upon the express box. It had been broken into and the money and papers taken from it. The robbers only found \$130 in Mexican pesos. They had been expecting a large payroll to be on the train but it had left on a train the previous day and delivered to a bank in Guaymas. Several posses were reported to be in pursuit including Mexican Rurales and American lawmen. The Sonora Railway offered a \$1,000 reward for their capture.

The posses ended up losing the trail. The Taylor gang headed to Nogales on the American side of the border where Taylor had a house. The gang spent the night there. The next morning the gang left. After leaving town they split up except for Taylor who remained at his house. That would be a mistake. Taylor had dropped his hat at the train station as the gang was riding away. The hat was brought to Nogales where a Mexican who ran a business cleaning hats identified it as belonging to Taylor. Taylor was arrested and during questioning confessed and gave up the names of the other gang members saying they were the ones that shot everyone. He also implicated another American, Conrad Rohling who was involved in planning the robbery but did not participate in it. Taylor was probably cooperating with authorities to gain some leniency with Mexican authorities later on because the punishment in Mexico for the crime of train robbery in which someone was killed was the death sentence.

Taylor and Rohling were turned over to Mexican authorities in June and sent to Hermosillo to await their trial. Rohling was given a sentence of 10 years hard labor in the salt mines. Taylor was executed by firing squad in Guaymas on Dec. 9, 1889.

The other members of the gang after leaving Nogales split up, Manuel Robles and Nieves Deron going towards Tombstone and Federico and Geronimo into Mexico. Cochise County Sheriff John Slaughter received information that a brother of Robles was seen leaving the town of Contention with an unusually large load of provisions and heading into the Whetstone Mountains. Slaughter, Deputy Burt Alvord, and a Mexican informant headed into the mountains guided by the well known tracker and scout Cesario Lucero.

Lucero was one of Slaughter's deputies and had the reputation of being a trusted guide and a man "known for his gameness in a fight". Being a Mexican and bilingual Lucero could go into places to gather information where Anglos couldn't or wouldn't go. He tracked bad men on both sides of the border and helped lawmen bring them in. He had cultivated a number of informants and contacts among the Mexican population in southeastern Arizona and Sonora. He had also made many enemies as many Mexicans, especially those on the wrong side of the law viewed him as a traitor for helping the "gringo" lawmen track down fellow Mexicans. In 1883-84 he received



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the Bisbee Stage

some notoriety when he tracked and trailed "Big Dan" Dowd the leader of the Bisbee Bandits into Mexico.

The Bisbee Bandits robbed the Goldwater-Castaneda Store in Bisbee killing three men and a pregnant woman in what became known as the Bisbee Massacre. Lucero guided Deputy Sheriff Daniels of Graham County nearly 300 miles into Mexico. They entered the Sierra Madre Mountains and captured Dowd at Corralitos, Chihuahua. Dowd and his gang of four were tried, convicted and all hanged in Bisbee. The newspapers reported that 500 tickets of admission to the jail yard to witness the hangings were issued by Sheriff Ward. A sixth man, John Heath was given a life sentence but was lynched by Bisbee vigilantes before he could be moved to prison.

Lucero knew the men they were trailing. Deron, Federico and Geronimo had once worked on some of the ranches around the Willcox area, Guadalupe Robles the brother of Manuel was a wood cutter hauling wood to the mine and mill in Contention. He had not been a part of the train robbery but was helping out his brother. He was known to camp in Frenchy's Canyon near B.J. McGrew's ranch about 25 miles from Tombstone. Lucero's informant came along to show them where the camp was. Just before daylight Lucero spotted the campsite. The posse halted their horses about 80 yards from the camp. They took off their boots to approach the robbers as silently as they could. They took cover on a hill overlooking the sleeping bandits and took aim at the men still under their covers next to a small fire.

Sheriff Slaughter yelled out to the bandits "hands up"! The bandits raised their hands all filled with pistols and firing from both sides began. Guadalupe was hit and killed with the first volley. Nieves Deron ran up a hill shooting as he ran. One of his shots took off a piece of John Slaughter's right ear lobe. Deron was hit by gunfire and knocked down. Manuel Robles ran down the canyon pursued by Alvord and Slaughter. A blast from Slaughter's shotgun knocked down Robles but he got up and ran again. Another shotgun blast clipped Robles again knocking him down but he got up and continued down the canyon. Alvord ran after Robles but could not keep up with him in his stocking feet. He finally gave up and went back to the campsite.

The posse followed a blood trail down the canyon for two miles looking for Robles but could not find him. Slaughter felt that Robles was wounded badly and would not last long. The wounded Deron was placed on a horse and taken to Fairbank. He died later from his wounds. The body of Guadalupe Robles was sent to Tombstone. Newspapers reported that two trackers had been placed on Robles' trail and he would be found soon.

Manuel Robles although badly wounded was able to meet up with his two companions Federico and Miranda. They hid out for a while to let Robles' wounds heal. Robles had recognized Cesario Lucero during the shootout in the Whetstone Mountains. He swore revenge against him for the loss of his brother.

just over the border in Mexico near the town of Palomenas on the San Pedro River. He had gone there to inquire about going into the business of purchasing and selling mescal. Mescal is a distilled alcoholic beverage made from the heart of the maguey cactus. The ranch grew maguey cactus and a distillery was located there. Lucero camped at the ranch and one morning he went to the creek located about 200 yards from the main ranch house to wash up. After washing himself he began to walk back towards the house. He had gone a few steps when he was struck by two bullets and knocked to the ground.

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In early August, Cesario Lucero had gone to the Mescal Ranch The sound of the two rifle shots was heard at the ranch. Some Continued on page 11 Our gates are open 7 days a week 7AM to 7PM Pay online Rent or Pay 24/7 Video **Surveillance**

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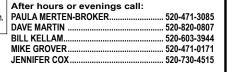
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Iraveling pache Irail

n a beautiful sunny day I embark upon the Apache Trail intending to join a friend for a kayaking adventure. I was looking forward to the scenic drive along the narrow twisting road. I headed east out of Phoenix and in Apache Junction I turned onto the Apache Trail. The road begins by winding through the foothills of the Superstition Mountains. Alongside the road are several charming businesses trying to capitalize on the fame of the Lost Dutchman Gold Mine before the road slowly climbs the desert ridges, quickly becoming more precarious as it twists and winds.

The road is beautiful here, rolling between saguaros and wildly sculpted mountains. After one particularly steep and curvy section we crest a hill and gain our first view of Canyon Lake. Canyon

Lake is a beautiful and unexpected flat blue expanse of water stretching across a desert landscape. This desert landscape would still be beautiful without the lake but having all that precious water nestled between the picturesque cliffs and surrounded by saguaros makes it special indeed.

Canyon Lake exists because Mormon Flat Dam holds back the Salt River and creates the lake. In her book Don't Let the Sun Step Over You, Eva Tulene Watt describes her father helping to build that dam. As a child, she and her family moved from camp to camp, as her father and other family members worked on building the Apache Trail. Eva Tulene Watt is a member of the White Mountain Apache tribe and not many people realize that The Apache Trail wears that name because it

Moonlight Madness at the

Goose June 20, 4-7 p.m.

was built using mainly Apache labor.

The Tulene family adventure began at the town of Roosevelt. In 1911, imported Italian stonemasons finished Roosevelt Dam, creating the world's highest masonry dam. The town was built and businesses were established to service the construction crews necessary to build the dam and construct the road. Roosevelt was built knowing that one day the entire town would be flooded beneath the lake it was creating but for a time the town was flanked with wickiups holding the families of Apache workers and their families.

Ms. Watt's father and brother accepted jobs on the Apache Trail while other Apache men declined stating, "That road goes a long ways. It's gonna take us too far from home.' We followed that road, Apache Trail, for about two years. It goes all the way from Roosevelt to Apache Junction. The road was real narrow – it's real rough too – so they were making it bigger and smoother (Author's note - The Apache Trail is still real narrow and rough). It's hard work! It's not by machine, just pick and shovel, that's all they used to make that road. And



By Gary Every Special to the Nugget

dynamite too, they used a lot of dynamite. When the workers made the road as far as one mile, we moved the camp and went to the next one. That's how we used to do."

The road crew boss had a Model T Ford that he used to drive to Roosevelt or Globe and fill everybody's grocery lists. As much as possible Ms. Watt's mother fed the family by harvesting whatever wild foods were available such as mesquite beans,

Continued on page 7



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GETTING LOST IN THE COPPER CORRIDOR



Can you guess where in the Copper Corridor this photo was taken? If you guessed Oracle, then you would be right. Buildings in this condition can be found throughout the Copper Corridor. This adobe building is located on Mt. Lemmon Rd. near the intersection of Dodge St. north of the Acadia Ranch Museum operated by the Oracle Historical Society. This building was a house used by a number of families over the years. It is believed to have been built in the 1920s or early 1930s. It is not known who originally built the home. There is beauty in the deterioration of the adobe home. Over the next couple of months, the *Nugget* will take our readers on a journey through the Copper Corridor, helping you to 'Get Lost.'

John Hernandez | Pinal Nugget

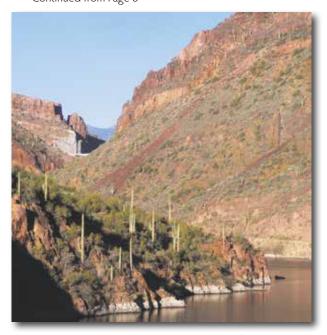
APACHE TRAIL

Continued from Page 6

mescal (nadal), prickly pear (hosh nteele'), saguaro fruit and bits of thistle (ko' dahosh) which she claimed tastes like asparagus. Saturdays and Sundays were days off for the road crew and the Apaches would gather in the shade of the cottonwood trees and play cards. Ms. Watt's mother made extra money selling a venison and potato stew. Her mother sold out every weekend but laughed, "What am I gonna do with this money I got? There's no stores, there's no place where I can buy something."

One of the more infamous spots along the Apache Trail is Fish Creek

Continued on page 10



Apache Lake

Gary Every | Pinal Nugget



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Death of a cowman along the San Pedro

By John Hernandez Pinal Nugget

The lower San Pedro Valley that stretches from a point about 15 miles north of Benson to the Gila River near Winkelman has an interesting history. The fertile valley along the San Pedro River was the home to pre-historic Indian tribes before Mexican and American settlers began to homestead in the area after the Civil War. Redington would be settled in 1876. It wasn't easy for the people that established ranches in the area. The Apaches were still a threat in the area until the late 1880s. Then there were cattle rustlers, bandits, outlaws, smugglers and feuding cowboys to contend with.

The Carlink Ranch near Redington is the oldest ranch in the area still owned and worked by the same family. It was established by William Henry Bayless in 1884. Bayless was from Kansas and his partner Jehiel W. Berkalew from New York. They set up the Bayless & Berkalew Company. In the 1880s, times were hard for ranchers especially during periods of drought. Bayless & Berkalew began buying up ranches at sale prices and sometimes just for back taxes from the ranchers that were leaving the area. Before they were done they would own over 200,000 acres with their land stretching from Redington up to the Oracle area.

The Redington and Carlink Ranch area has seen its share of history, some of it violent. It was there that Lem Redfield was arrested at his ranch and taken to Florence where he was lynched by vigilantes. He was accused of participating in the Riverside stagecoach robbery. The Earps made an arrest at the ranch of a suspect in the Tombstone to Benson stagecoach robbery that would be part of the Earp - Clanton feud. The Power brothers stopped at Redington while being pursued by the law after killing three lawmen in Graham County in what is known in history as the Power Shootout. Gunfights between drunken cowboys and ranchers fighting over cattle were not unusual. The Redington area was once considered one of the wildest and lawless areas in Pima County. The Galiuro and Rincon mountains were a haven for outlaws hiding from the law. One violent confrontation would involve employees of the Bayless & Berkalew Company.

William "Riley" Bennett was from California originally. He moved to Arizona and the San Pedro Valley in the late 1880s. In 1890 he filed a land claim to homestead near Redington. He became the foreman of the Bayless Ranch in 1892. A newspaper article in the Arizona Weekly Citizen in 1893 said that he had joined an expedition led by Captain Dick to hunt for the Apache Kid. Other members of the hunting party included Wallapai Clark, Billy Atchley, Tom Moore and Somboya. There was a \$5,000 reward on the Kid which they hoped to collect. The expedition was formed in Mammoth. The group broke up shortly after it was organized. The Apache Kid was never captured.

In 1900, Bennett became the postmaster for the Redington

Continued on page 9



















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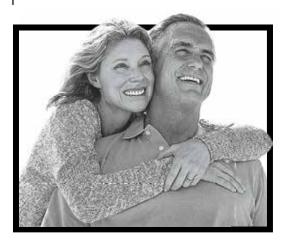
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COWMAN

Continued from Page 8

Post Office. That year it was reported in the Weekly Citizen that Bennett had brought the news from the San Pedro that two cattlemen had shot each other to death fighting over cattle brands. He said it was a serious situation as now there was bad feeling among the cowboys employed by both of the dead ranchers. Monsoons in August of 1901 caused the San Pedro River to flood its banks. The newspaper Arizona Republican reported on August 15: "Riley Bennett's house, better known as the Reddington Post Office was entirely washed away by the late flood. This was one of the finest houses on the lower San Pedro." It was also reported that three people had been killed in the flooding near Benson.

Bennett was a Pima County Deputy Sheriff under Sheriff Nabor Pacheco. The Republican candidate Pacheco was elected in 1904. He was the first Hispanic Sheriff in Pima County and the first native born Tucsonan to hold the position. Bennett continued to be the foreman for the Bayless & Berkalew outfit and the postmaster at the Redington Post Office while a deputy.

On Dec. 10, 1908, Riley Bennett was at the Bayless & Berkalew Ranch when he began arguing with two of the workers (described as cowpunchers by the newspapers) Ramon Mendoza and his son Ramon, Jr. What happened next was a matter of conjecture. The first story told was that the Mendozas were arguing with Bennett over money that they owed him. The argument became more heated and Bennett and the older Mendoza began fighting. Mendoza pulled a knife and began stabbing Bennett. In the mean time the younger Mendoza got a gun and shot Bennett in the hip. One newspaper said he snuck around behind Bennett and shot him. It was also reported by some mexican witnesses at the ranch that Bennett had gotten off two shots before falling seriously wounded. One shot grazed the elder Mendoza's chin and the other one grazed the son's abdomen.

Continued on page 10



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A tractor rumbles down the road on the Carlink Ranch in Redington. The ranch is owned by the Smallhouse family.



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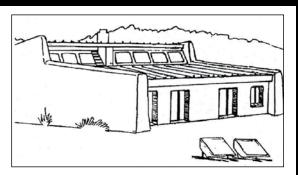
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COWMAN

Continued from Page 9

Ramon Mendoza, Sr. told the sheriff that they had argued over the amount of money that he and his son owed Bennett. Mendoza said that Bennett drew his pistol and fired twice, one shot hitting him in the chin. He said his son then drew his gun and shot Bennett. Sheriff Pacheco escorted the Mendozas to Tucson where they were placed in the county jail. Bennett died on Dec. 15. Charles Bayless, the son of William drove the undertaker from Tucson and picked up Bennett's body. It would later be shipped to Imperial, California for burial. He was survived by his wife, mother and 25-year-old son. Bennett was 46 years

old. Charles Bayless would become the next postmaster of Redington.

Ramon Mendoza, Sr. was discharged by the grand jury with no charges filed. Ramon Jr. was tried in May 1909 for manslaughter. He was found guilty and sentenced to 15 months in the Territorial Prison. In Sept. 1909 his sentence was commuted to time served due to his good behavior and for working to build the new Territorial Prison in Florence. Inmates who worked construction at the new prison received two days off their sentence for each day they worked. The quarrel between Bennett and the Mendozas was over a \$70 debt.

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•13 ac., San Pedro with unique home among Mesquite Cottonwood. \$249,000.

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APACHE TRAIL

Continued from Page 7



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Hill. Although one of the most scenic spots along a scenic road, the pavement has long turned to dirt here and the hill is extremely steep, rough and treacherous. Many people such as myself have stories about trying to reach one of the Salt River Lakes on a busy holiday weekend and having to park and wait while two drivers of RVs towing boats get out and debate who will back up this dangerous stretch of road so the other can pass. Here at Fish Creek Hill the Apache had an interesting encounter. As the road progressed to Fish Creek Hill many Apache were eager to camp along the creek in the shade of the trees. The camp was ambushed in the middle of the night by an infestation of garter snakes. Ms. Watt's Aunt Bessie along with several other Apache came running up the hill shrieking in terror. She was terrified because one of the snakes had wrapped itself around her leg. As some people tried to gather their things before fleeing up the hill, Ms. Watt's father had sage advice, "Leave the pots and pans let the snakes cook their own dinner." Not just Apache worked

the trail but at least one Apache scout was employed as well. Al Sieber was perhaps the most famous of General Crook's scouts. A seasoned battle veteran, Sieber survived both the Civil War and the Apache Wars only to meet his demise working road construction when a large boulder toppled on top of him. A monument has been built honoring his service on the edge of Lake Roosevelt.

GERONIMO

Continued from Page 5

of the ranch hands looked towards the direction the shots came from. They saw a man's body lying near the creek and two men standing nearby looking at the body. The men were identified as Geronimo Miranda and Federico. The two men mounted their horses and rode off. When the ranch workers went to the creek they found Lucero with two bullet holes in his head. Lucero had not expected any trouble and was unarmed. Unknown to him, Manuel Robles, Fred Federico and Geronimo Miranda had been hunting him. Lucero was buried on the ranch.

Posses were formed and the search began for Geronimo's gang on both sides of the border. After killing Lucero the three murderers had gone to within a few miles of Willcox where they stole three fresh horses. They then headed back into Mexico. The reward for the men dead or alive was now \$3,000. Slaughter took up the chase and followed the gang for hundreds of miles but the bandits continued to elude him. On Oct. 19,

1888, Slaughter received a letter from the governor of Sonora that Federico had been captured and was in the jail at Oposura. There was no word on Geronimo or Robles. A month later Slaughter received word that Federico had escaped. Before escaping, he had confessed to killing Lucero but said he had not robbed the train at Agua Zarca.

In June 1890, Sheriff Slaughter received news that Geronimo was seen in Bisbee. Slaughter and a deputy went to Bisbee and arrested a Mexican who had been seen with Geronimo. The Mexican then told Slaughter where Geronimo may be hiding. Just after dark, the scared Mexican led Slaughter and a deputy to an encampment just outside the town of Charleston. He pointed to a tent where he said Geronimo was camped. The three men then quietly approached the tent.

Slaughter stood outside the tent while Deputy Sheriff Pisher and the guide entered through the front entrance. Inside it was very dark. Pisher lit a match and saw two legs scrambling underneath the rear of the tent. He yelled, "There he is!" Slaughter ran to the back of the tent and saw a man jumping over a fence. He fired his trusty shotgun at the figure and was certain that he had hit him. Miranda had escaped once again. The Sheriff and deputy followed Geronimo in the darkness for a while but then called off the pursuit as they were unsure if the rest of Geronimo's gang was around and they were not familiar with the terrain.

"Texas" John Slaughter

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did not seek reelection as sheriff in 1890. He decided to spend more time at his ranch with his family. Geronimo Miranda picked up some new members for his gang and continued his life in crime. Manuel Robles and Fred Federico were not heard of again although some unconfirmed stories say that they were killed by Rurales in Mexico.

The story will continue in the June 2014 issue of the Pinal Nugget.

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Stargazing, music set for June 21 at Oracle State Park



Kannally Ranch House at Oracle State Park.

John Hernandez | Pinal Nugget

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Telescopes will be set up on the spacious Kannally Ranch House patio at Oracle State Park for viewing the night sky on Saturday, June 21.

Visitors will enjoy live music while viewing the planets Mars and Saturn, the asteroids Ceres and Vesta, plus star clusters, nebulae and galaxies. During the evening, the Milky Way will rise over the eastern horizon. The historic ranch house will also be open. Viewing time and band info will be posted on the park website www.azStateParks.com/Parks/ORAC or by calling the park at 520-896-2425.

In addition to star-gazing and toe-tapping, the recently formed Oracle Dark Skies Committee will be on hand to discuss its work to have Oracle State Park designated as an "International Dark Sky Park" by the international Dark-Sky Association.

The park, a designated center for environmental education, is open year around on Saturdays and Sundays 8am to 5pm, and on weekdays for group reservations.

The Milky Way rises over Oracle on June 3, 2013, photographed by Oracle astronomer Mike Weasner. Weasner is leading the charge to have the Oracle State Park declared an international dark sky park.

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