



Copper Country News

Your Good News Newspaper!

Volume 38, No. 50 April 14, 2021

Covering Gila County and Beyond

FREE Please take one.



Hidden Heroes page 20

Free Pop-Up clinics hosted by SCAHC

Cassie Tafoya/Copper Country News

Pop-Up clinics have been held throughout the area to vaccinate as many residents as possible. The San Carlos Apache Healthcare Corporation vaccination team recently held a Pop-Up clinic in the Globe High School gymnasium. They were administering the Pfizer Covid-19 vaccines for anyone, tribal or non-tribal, ages 16 and up.

Roll up your sleeves

Gila County residents, April 23, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Gila County Health Department will be hosting a Covid-19 vaccine clinic inside the gym at the Miami High School. The vaccine to be given will be Johnson and Johnson on Friday,

Miami High School is located at 4739 S Ragus Rd., Miami, Az.

Please contact Gila County call center at 928-910-4009 to schedule an appointment.

COVID-19 vaccine clinic.

We will be hosting a COVID-19 vaccine clinic at the Miami High School inside the gym.

Date: Friday, April 23, 2021

Address: 4739 S Ragus Rd, Miami, AZ 85539

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Please contact our call center at 928-910-4009 to schedule an appointment.

The vaccine to be given will be Johnson and Johnson.



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Community

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Copper Cities Community Players taking auditions

We are back!

The Copper Cities Community Players announce auditions for the upcoming 2021 production season. As things start to open up, we are planning on events happening this fall. People of all ages are needed for

acting, singing and dancing roles. We would also like to invite anyone who wants information about becoming a member of the Players to come and sign up during auditions. If you are not ready to perform, you can still be a volunteer or help behind the scenes.

Those auditioning as actors will be asked to read from provided selections. Singers, please come prepared with your own vocal selections to sing a capella. Singing auditions are limited to one minute.

Auditions will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 15

at the Old Courthouse Theater located in the Cobre Valley Center for the Arts.

We will be practicing social distancing and we request that you wear a mask while not auditioning. Please use the elevator entrance. If you are not able to attend this audi-

tion and want to be on our membership list or if you need further information, please call Jo Nell Brantley at 425-8111.

Musicians are encouraged to contact Jo Nell to leave contact information to make arrangements for private auditions.

San Carlos Apache Early Childhood Mini-Conference planned

You're invited to attend the first virtual San Carlos Apache Early

Childhood Mini-Conference presented by First Things First. This two-hour conference offers two sessions highlighting information on:

Early Childhood Education - Learn how early education plays an important role in a child's devel-

opment.

Family Wellness - Get tips on supportive services and resources for caregivers of young children.

Join them on Zoom, April 14 from 10 a.m. to noon at <https://zoom.us/j/92542677789?pwd=Um9lck1SL1h0YU1nbWQ3aVRmb1djdz09>.

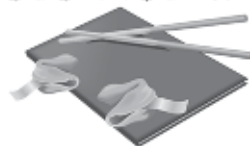
Meeting ID: 925 4267 7789 Passcode: 027405

By phone: +1.669.900.6833 Meeting ID: 925 4267 7789 Passcode: 027405

Rummage sale planned

The Gila County Historical Museum and the Friends of the Globe Public Library are partnering to sponsor a huge rummage and book sale on the Museum grounds at 1330 N. Broad St. in Globe, Az. The event will be on Saturday, April 17 beginning at 8 a.m. Keep watching for more details soon.

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Pet of the week



**Vanessa -
female**

Vanessa is a DSH black/white female with a tuxedo and white tipped tail. She was born on 1-28-20. She's very friendly.

For more info about her, contact Cheryl at the
**Cat Rescue
928-812-4097**

Connie's

103 Ruiz Canyon Rd., Globe, AZ • 928-425-2821



**Copper Country
News**
ESTABLISHED IN 1964

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Community

Gila County to celebrate National County Government Month

Throughout April, Gila County will celebrate National County Government Month (NCGM) to showcase how the county achieves healthy, safe and vibrant communities.

The theme for this year's NCGM is "Counties Matter," demonstrating how counties help improve people's lives every day, especially for local government workers on the frontlines of the coronavirus pandemic. They have demonstrated bold, inspirational leadership and saved countless lives during these extraordinary times.

"Gila County is proud of the programs and services we provide to our residents," said Board of Supervisors Chairman Tim Humphrey. "Our efforts combined with efforts of counties across the country are helping American communities respond to public health needs."

"Most recently, Gila County is gaining national attention for being the first county in Arizona and one



of the first counties in the U.S. to vaccinate the general population. Now more than ever, our residents are seeing firsthand the essential functions counties perform."

New to this year's NCGM celebration is the National Association of Counties' (NACo) "I Love My County Because" art contest. This is an opportunity for children and young adults ages 18 and under to create artwork for NACo's

2021-2022 "Counties Matter" calendar. For a full list of eligibility criteria, rules and submission guidelines, you can pick up an entry packet at the Gila County Courthouse in Globe, 1400 E. Ash St., the Gila County Complex in Payson, 610 E. Hwy. 260 or online at: www.naco.org/art.

Gila County is offering kids an additional chance at prizes and public display by inviting local students to enter Gila County's own

"I Love Gila County Because" art contest. As you know, Gila County recently earned a spotlight in nationwide news when it was reported that our public health team and community partners were the first of all counties in Arizona and one of the first in the nation to open Covid-19 vaccinations to all ages and categories of residents within our county, as well as to non-residents who travel here for work.

All artwork will be displayed at the Gila County Courthouse in Globe during the month of April and on the county's website. For a full list of eligibility and submission guidelines, you can pick up an entry packet at the Gila County Courthouse, the Gila County Complex in Payson or online at: www.gilacounty-az.gov.

Since 1991, NACo has encouraged counties across the country to raise public awareness and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of counties.

Community Working Group reviews status of Resolution Copper Project

The Community Working Group for the Resolution Copper Project will be meeting 'virtually' online until it is safe to resume in-person meetings -- it's expected that in-person meetings will once again be open to the public. The next online meeting will be on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 6 p.m. The CWG will discuss the federal review process for the project environmental studies. Summaries of all past meetings, presentations and other materials are available to the public at the CWG's website at <http://SuperiorAZCWG.org/>. Comments and questions can also be submitted here.

The CWG includes residents and stakeholders from the Town of Superior, Queen Valley, Hewitt Station, Globe, Kearny, Winkelman, Hayden, the San Carlos Community and around the area. The group deals with the social and environmental issues, science and policy, and pros and cons of the proposed Resolution Copper Project. Topics include environmental impacts, health, safety, natural resource issues, engineering, water quantity and quality, geology, economics, air quality, community investments, recreational changes and other related subjects.

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Been in a bike or pedestrian collision in Globe or Miami?

Our community is great in so many ways, but it's no secret that Globe and Miami streets are less 'pedestrian and bicycle friendly' than other places in Arizona. How could our streets be safer? If you were walking or bicycling and were struck by a car in the past five years, or were driving a vehicle that collided with a walker or

cyclist -- whether your fault, theirs, or nobody's fault -- please take three minutes to complete a brief online bike/pedestrian collision survey. The purpose of this survey is to gather data to apply for future grants to improve pedestrian and bicycling safety here in Globe-Miami.

Anonymous and easy to complete, the survey asks

when your accident happened, what type of road or trail you were on, and daylight or darkness conditions when the collision occurred. Your experience can help make local roads safer!

Please take a couple of minutes and answer questions posted at surveyMonkey.com/r/DF9JGFZ (you'll find convenient 'click here'

links at Gila County Health & Emergency Management's website and also on facebook.com/gilacohealthem). If you're unable to access that website, have questions about this survey or want to be involved in future safety planning, email Whitney Conger at wconger@gilacountyaz.gov.

Community

New art coming to Bullion Plaza

By DAVID SOWDERS
Staff Reporter

Bullion Plaza Cultural Center & Museum is greeting this spring with a colorful addition to one of its exhibits.

The desert ecosystem is the theme of local artist Patty Sjolín's new mural for the museum's McKusick Tile Exhibit - a work of art that will complement the collection of birds and mammals depicted in ceramic tile by Globe artists Robert and Charmion McKusick.

Stretching over three walls of the exhibit room, the mural will portray local animals and plants in their natural settings, both above and below ground, including a riparian area. It will also show area landmarks like the Pinal Mountains and Salt River.

The project, which Sjolín called a team

effort, was inspired and largely funded by Victoria Carella and her partner Charles Beck, of Globe, whose home Sjolín had decorated with a dinosaur mural in 2020. The couple brought her the idea for this new work and contributed a major share of its funding.

The artist said she is putting in four to five hours a day on the work, and expects to finish it in around a month. She added that the mural will be educational and interactive, and there are plans to create an accompanying coloring book.

The ceramic tiles in Bullion Plaza's exhibit, produced by the McKusicks over decades of work, portray Native American themes as well as local wildlife. Robert McKusick, who taught ceramics at Gila Community College for many years, also helped design the exhibit.



David Sowders/Copper Country News
Artist Patty Sjolín adds another detail to a new mural at Bullion Plaza Cultural Center & Museum, which will adorn the museum's McKusick Tile Exhibit.

Miami Memorial Library welcomes readers

The Miami Memorial Library is open! Our hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please wear a mask; sanitizer is provided.

Join us for story time from home! Catch us on our Facebook page live every Friday morning at 9:30 a.m. Watch for upcoming virtual programs in April.



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Obituaries

Ernestina Flores



Ernestina “Ernie” Montez Flores of Phoenix passed away peacefully surrounded by family on April 3, 2021 at the age of 94.

She was born in Miami, Ariz. to Guadalupe “Lupe” Nora and Jose Montez. She never knew her father as he died in a mining accident when she was two. Her only brother, Robert, also died in a mining accident. Ernestina grew up in Miami and attended Miami High School, until she married at Blessed Sacrament Church to her husband, Ricardo “Richard” Flores, and moved to Ray Sonora, Arizona where Richard worked in the Kenecott Mine. It was there where their first son, Richard Jr. “Dickie” was born. Upon Richard completing studies at ASU all while still working in the mines at night, Ernie and Richard moved to Phoenix in 1960, joined the St. Thomas the Apostle par-

ish and lived in the neighborhood. Ernie was very active in the St. Thomas church and school, which her now 3 children attended. She was a member and leader in Our Lady’s Sodality, and with Richard, they were very active leaders in the Parish Youth Organization (PYO), and boys and girls scouting. Ernie often served as home-room mother and assisted in the classroom. Ernie & Richard had a wide circle of work, parish, school, neighborhood and old hometown friends from Miami, Supe-

rior and Kearny, with whom they kept in close contact with throughout their lives. There would often be lively get togethers in their home for every milestone, holiday and no particular occasion at all. Ernie was the ultimate hostess! Ernie & Richard loved to dance and would often break out in dance, right in the family room, when a favorite song was playing. They loved to play bridge as a couple, but after Richard’s untimely death in 1998, Ernie’s bridge ladies became her family. Ernestina was a beautiful woman known for her kindness, generosity, and her excellent sense of fashion. She spread her embracing warmth and good cheer to all who crossed her path. Ernie was always so gracious, and her smile was infectious.

Ernie was a wonderful mother; she had a very gentle manner about her. She was a

very dedicated mother who would stay up until the last child came home no matter how late. She was a very popular mom in the neighborhood with her homemade tortillas and amazing baked creations. As a grandmother she was very hands on, loving and present. All of her 5 grandchildren revered her, and she completely loved them! She was also a very devout keeper of the faith. She attended daily mass at St. Thomas and spent an hour a day in dedicated prayer with her prayer book. She was always prepared to join our Lord but prayed a daily intention to live long enough until her children were grown and on their own. She achieved that and more.

Ernie took great pride in her work as a special education teaching assistant in the Madison School District. She worked with children with Down Syndrome. Her

students and families adored her, and she felt the same way about them.

Ernie was preceded in death by her husband, Ricardo “Richard” Flores, and sons, Richard “Dick” Flores and William “Chico” Flores. Also, her siblings Natalia Madrid, Carmen Monje, Lupe Norman and Robert Montez. She is survived by her daughter, Carol Flores Dries (Charlie) and grandchildren Elizabeth “Betsie”, Ellen “Ellie”, Charles “Chuck” and Richard Charles “RC” Dries. Also, granddaughter, Trina Flores Van Os (Eric) and their children, Coren and Melody Van Os, and many beloved nieces, nephews and friends.

While we mourn our loss, we rejoice and are glad in knowing that Ernie is with our Lord Savior Jesus Christ, where she is also reunited with Richard, Dick, Will and other loved ones. This

is what she has wanted for a long time.

Visitation will be Friday, April 16, 2021 from 2-6 p.m. at Whitney Murphy Funeral Home, 4800 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix.

A funeral mass will be held Saturday, April 17, 2021 at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 2312 E. Campbell Ave in Phoenix, at 10 a.m. with a burial at St. Francis Cemetery to follow. A reception will be held at Carol and Charlie’s immediately after services.

The mass will be live streamed on the St. Thomas the Apostle website and a link to the mass will be put up on Carol’s Facebook page the next day.

The family suggests donations to St. Vincent de Paul. Condolences and Hugs from Home may be expressed at www.whitneymurphyfuneralhome.com.

Margaret Darling



Margaret “Maggie” Louise Pritchard Darling, born Nov. 19, 1949, to William Thomas and Genevieve Ann (Parsons) Pritchard in New Castle, PA, went to Heaven April 2, 2021 (Good Friday), peacefully surrounded by her loving friend and family. Maggie had three siblings, sister Barbara and husband James Osborn, brother Edward John Pritchard (deceased) and wife Fran Thus, and sister Marien (Pritchard) Himes. Maggie moved to Arizona at the age of 13 and graduated from Phoenix Union High School. She worked for the City of Phoenix for 11 years and retired to pursue the things she loved, including non-stop cruises with her sister, ceramics and crafts with her BFF

Thelma, and to spoil her children and grandchildren. She had two loving children, son Benjamin and wife Julia Darling, and daughter Michelle Darling. Maggie was “the best grandma ever” to grandson Marcus and wife Christi Galbaldon, granddaughter Salina Galbaldon, grandson Kaiden Murphy, grandson Brody Darling, granddaugh-

ter Brooklynn Darling and great-granddaughter Elena Rose Galbaldon. In addition, she was an admirable aunt to several nieces and nephews. Maggie recently moved to Globe, Ariz., where she was a member of a wonderful prayer group of people; Holy Angels, who were there to love and support her to the end. The family is eternally grateful for their continued prayers.

Celebration of Life for Maggie will be at Lamont Mortuary of Globe, 328 S. Hill St., on May 15 at 2 p.m. Reception will follow at her residence. Please join the family in celebrating the wonderful life led by our Maggie Lou.

Assisting the family; Lamont Mortuary of Globe.

Kayleen Noel Green, age 35, went to be with her Lord and Savior March 22, 2021. Kayleen was born Jan. 3, 1986 in Phoenix, Ariz. and years later moved to Globe, Ariz. and raised her sons Taylor and Christian.

Kayleen received her welding degree at Gila Community College and opened her own welding shop, Pinky’s Welding Fabrication & Repair, LLC.

Kayleen loved fishing, camping and outdoor activities. Kayleen is sur-

Kayleen Noel Green



vived by her two precious sons Taylor Bates and Christian Channell, mother Kimberly Channell, father John Channell, brother Brandon Channell and family, sister Lashaw-

na Channell and family, grandmother Mary Helen Mitchell, many uncles, aunts and cousins, and dog Dobie.

She was preceded in death by her grandfather (dad) Ernest Mitchell, grandparents Willie and Sarah Channell, and great-grandparents Raymond and Jewel Edwards.

Memorial for Kayleen Noel Green will be April 17, 2021 at 1 p.m. at Living Waters Church in Globe.

Deadlines for Obituaries

Obituary deadlines are on Mondays at 8 a.m. for the Copper Country News and Mondays at 10 a.m. for the Arizona Silver Belt.

Community

Small Business Resource Connection

The Small Business Resource Summit will take place on April 20, 4 – 7 p.m., at the Miami High School Gymnasium. This free event is brought to our region by the City of Globe, Town of Miami, Gila County, Southern Gila County Economic Development Corp. and Gila County IDA. Participating agencies will be on hand to talk to local business owners and provide information on available resources to assist owners through the Covid-19 recovery period.

Agencies include Local First Arizona, Rural Communities Assistance Corp., Southern Gila County EDC, Gila County IDA, EAC Small Business Development Center, Arizona Commerce Authority, Arizona Small Business Association and Globe-Miami Chamber of Commerce.

For almost 50 years, the Arizona Small Business Association (ASBA) has been providing the tools, resources, connections and competitive intelligence to help Arizona small businesses prosper. Here are just a few of the things ASBA can offer you:

- Member benefits, from card processing services to unique health insurance options
- Business-to-business networking to grow your relationships, increase revenue and discover new customers and partners
- Social media spotlights and opportunities to post blogs on the ASBA website as our way to highlight our members and their amazing businesses

· On-demand training through the Forge Ahead initiative; register for free at <https://forgeahead.lpages.co/asba/>.

The Arizona Commerce Authority will have many resources to share, including more specifics on the Restaurant Revitalization Fund. The recent American Rescue Plan Act established a \$28.6 billion national fund with the US Small Business Administration (SBA); program details have not yet been announced, but the ACA encourages restaurant owners to prepare now for when the application opens, including:

- Apply for DUNS Number
- Register at www.SAM.gov
- Have 2019 & 2020 financial statements ready

For assistance with any of these items, small business owners can call our local EAC Small Business Development Center Executive Director Kevin Peck at (928) 428-8590, email to sbdc@eac.edu, or go to www.azsbdc.net to request an appointment.

Have a question or need help now? Call the City of Globe Economic Development team, Linda Oddonetto at (928) 961-3382 or Melissa Steele at (928) 200-0836.

April typically an active month for rattlesnakes *264 bites recorded statewide in 2020*

With more people getting outdoors to take advantage of the state's warm spring weather, it's important to keep in mind that 13 species of rattlesnakes also call Arizona home.

Depending on location, the species that are encountered most often are the Western diamondback, sidewinder, Mojave and black-tailed rattlesnakes.

"Arizona has more rattlesnake species than any other state, and we can all celebrate that amazing biodiversity," said Thomas Jones, amphibians and reptiles program manager for the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

In warm desert areas, rattlesnakes are most active from March through October. During the spring, it's not uncommon for rattlesnakes to be out during daylight hours. As the days become increasingly hot, though, usually around early May, rattlesnakes tend to move around more at night.

April is typically an active month for rattlesnakes, as they are coming out of hibernation. "We want people to know that there is a higher than average chance that they might encounter a rattlesnake when they are out recreating," Jones said.

Statewide, 35 bites were reported last April to the Arizona Poison and Drug Information Center.

Watch your step at home

Rattlesnakes can easily blend in with their surroundings, so a person should al-

ways be mindful where they are placing their feet and hands. Carry a flashlight at night, especially on warmer nights when rattlesnakes can be most active.

Stay on the trail

Encounters with rattlesnakes and other venomous reptiles can take place anywhere, but they are more likely to occur when a person leaves a marked trail or wanders away from a heavily traveled area. Always stay on marked trails and be aware of your surroundings.

When encountering a rattlesnake, remember that the reptile is more concerned with being left alone. Back away from the rattlesnake, give it a wide berth, and continue on your way. An agitated rattlesnake will often hold its ground but will not give chase.

"Although accidents certainly happen, rattlesnakes are typically not dangerous unless provoked," Jones said.

If a rattlesnake bite occurs:

Remain calm and reassure the victim.

Call 911 and seek medical attention without delay.

Remove all jewelry, watches, etc. from the affected area.

Immobilize the extremity and keep at level below the heart.

Decrease total body activity as is feasible.

What NOT to do if a rattlesnake bite occurs:

Do NOT apply ice to the bite area.

Do NOT use an incision of any kind.

Do NOT use a constriction band or tourniquet.

Do NOT administer alcohol or drugs.

Do NOT use electric shock treatment.

Leaving a rattlesnake alone can significantly reduce the risk of being bitten. In fact, more than half of all rattlesnake bites are provoked by the person who



Courtesy photo

was bitten. For additional information and resources about rattlesnake bites, contact the Arizona Poison Drug and Information Center at 1-800-222-1222.



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Community

Community cleanup days planned

This weekend, free dumpsters will be set out for public use in a community cleanup. The dumpsters will be located on the corner of Euclid Ave. and Gleason St. next to Nob Hill Grocery on Devereaux St.; in front of Santiago Copper Country Mobile Home Park; and in the lot next to

O'Reilly's. They will be available Friday, April 16 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, April 17 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. No batteries, refrigerators or tires will be accepted.

This cleanup is made possible by the partnerships between Gila County, the City of Globe, GilaPROUD, Capstone Mining, the US Forest Service, Clean and Beautiful of the Cobre Valley Communities, Cobre Valley Watershed Partnership, the Cathy Sanchez Cañez Memorial Foundation and Copper State Sanitation.

GCGMS 2021 Spring "Show & Sell"



Courtesy photo
A picture taken at the 2017 GCGMS Spring "Show & Sell" in Miami.

We invite you to join the Gila County Gem and Mineral Society on Saturday, April 24, in Miami, Ariz. for our 2021 Spring Show & Sell.

This event will be held in the parking lot of Oasis Insurance at 411 W. Live Oak (Highway 60), located in Miami, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is an outdoor event. Masks are required.

Come and see what we have to offer for sale, make your own fluorescent sand necklace, grab some popcorn and a drink, and visit with other rock hounds and jewelry makers.

Come check out our club. We offer classes for our members, i.e.: silver-smith, wire wrapping and lapidary.

Would you like to learn how to do basic wire wrap jewelry? If you have a stone or a crystal you would like to wrap, bring it with you and we will teach you. You are welcome to bring in your own wire or wire will be available. There is no charge but you're welcome to leave a donation.

We also offer a space with an 8-foot table for \$10 for you to set up and sell your own rock - and mineral-related items. (Tables and chairs will be provided but you're welcome to bring your own.) Tables need to be reserved by April 22.

For more information or to reserve a table contact President Jodi Brewster at 623-810-9780 or jodibrewster66@gmail.com.

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Community

Globe Public Library provides April update

Globe Public Library has moved to Phase 4. The Globe Public Library staff is happy to announce that we can now have 10 people in the library. There are no appointments necessary. We are still asking you to wear your mask and social distance. Hand sanitizing stations are still available. If you are sick, please stay home. We are happy to renew items over the phone.

Globe Public Library has a patron survey. We want to learn what we can do better to serve our community. Your constructive feedback is welcome. All surveys can be picked up at the following locations: Globe Public Library, Gila County Historical Museum, Cobre Valley Center for the Arts, Globe Active Adult Center, Bullion Plaza Museum, and completed online at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdYVI8KK_-jpbTGzn0-pHVus5B43rDJn1ULIKgxF_-gbLOOSg/viewform?usp=sf_link. Another way is by clicking the link on the Globe Public Library Facebook page. Thank you for helping us make Globe Public Library a better place for everyone.

Events

March 15 – May 17 - Virtual Walk/Run Club On March 15 Globe Public Library will begin our 6th season of the Walk/Run Club. We will once again be virtual. We will have club check-in days on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Be sure to join the Globe Public Library Walk/Run Club on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/544248562862623>.

•This group is open to those in Glob, Miami, San Carlos and surrounding areas who are interested in participating the Globe Public Library Walk/Run Club. We



Courtesy photo

are acting as a virtual Walk/Run Club for the time being.

•Members that participate agree to the posted waivers.

•We encourage participants to walk or run a minimum of 20 minutes on each club day of Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

•For each day participating, participants will be entered for a weekly prize drawing (winner announced each Friday). Therefore if you participate all three days you will have three entries into the drawing, two days= two entries, one day=one entry. The raffles re-set every week because every week is the opportunity to start again.

•We also encourage you to be mindful of social distancing and your surroundings while you participate.

We are excited for the upcoming virtual season. We hope you will join us and be sure to invite some friends to join our group.

April 13, 20, 27 - Virtual Family Storytime with Robin is at 9:30 a.m. We will

have a grab-and-go kit to go with each storytime. These can be picked up any time after storytime, all week.

April 16, 23, 30 at 6 p.m. Human Genetics Film Series for adults (18 years old and up)

We will be hosting several Zoom events, where we will be watching four different films about human genetics and discussing them. We will also learn about the citizen science project All of us. Check Facebook events for a place to get more information about the movies and the Zoom details.

The 1,000 Books before Kindergarten Program is starting at the Globe Public Library. This program is to help children read 1,000 books before entering kindergarten and encouraging lifelong reading habits. You can register online at <https://globepubliclibrary.azsummerreading.org/> or come to the Globe Public Library for the paper form. If you have used the summer reading program online, you can use the same login to register for 1,000 Books. For every 100

books they read children will receive a reward. They will receive a grand prize when they finish the 1,000 books.

Attention High School Seniors Globe Public Library has Civics Flash Cards and Pocket Study Guides for the Naturalization Test, which is similar to the Civics test you are required to take to graduate. They are available in both English and Spanish. You can come by the Globe Public Library to get these study aids.

Services

We are also offering curbside pick-up. You can call the library or request books and DVDs online and pick them up from the comfort of your car. Just give the library a call at 928-425-6111 when you get to the library, and we will run the materials out to you.

We are now offering wireless printing. You can print from your phone, laptop, or desktop computer from home. You need to download the “Princh” app from the App Store or Google Play or open your browser and type: print.princh.com in the address line. Open your document and select “Print.” Be sure to choose the Globe Public Library Printer #103148. The costs are the same, \$0.25 per page. You can choose to pay by credit card or select pay at the desk. Then just come to the library to pick up your prints.

Due to Covid-19, we have to quarantine all returned materials for seven days before checking in. All fines will be waived during this time.

Now is a great time to return anything that you have out. All fines are waived when they are returned.

We are now offering books for sale.

San Carlos Apache Culture Center offers culture classes

The San Carlos Apache Culture Center will begin offering culture-based classes at their property in Peridot.

Additional cultural

classes being offered by the San Carlos Apache Culture Center and the San Carlos Apache Education Department include the following:

Moccasin Making Class

on April 13 to 15

Special Introduction to Conversational Apache Language Class on April 20 & 21

Camp Dress Making

Class on May 4 & 5

Special Introduction to Conversational Apache Language Class on May 11 & 12

Basket Making Class on

May 18 – 20

To attain registration for the classes, all interested participants should call the San Carlos Apache Culture Center at 928-475-2894

and speak to Marlowe Casadore or Tia Early or send an email to Marlowe.casadore@scat-nsn.gov or tiamtearly@gmail.com.

Community

Weather-watchers: Signup for free online 'Storm Spotter' training

Are you captivated by clouds, stimulated by storm fronts and generally intrigued by weather? Sign up soon for a free one-hour workshop Thursday, May 6, hosted by the National Weather Service. In particular, weather watchers who live in Globe/Miami, San Carlos and Tonto Basin are needed by the National Weather Service. The class is free, but spaces are limited and pre-registration is required. Sign up online at <https://forms.gle/bDJDb-JG6A4pLzbg3A>.

Even with sophisticated technology such as radar and satellites, forecasters still need ground truth information from trained weather spotters throughout the year. This free webinar teaches how to properly identify and report significant weather phenomena and contribute to public safety. Learn how thunderstorms work, how to identify cloud features associated with microbursts and tornadoes, and how your

reports tie into warnings and advisories issued by the National Weather Service (NWS). In addition, you will learn about all of the services available from the NWS.

Ideal volunteers are community-minded adults who understand they play an essential role in providing storm information to the National Weather Service. Anyone can be a spotter and we encourage those who pay close attention to local weather to become involved. Immediately following the presentation, attendees will be sent a link for an online quiz. Upon successful completion, program participation will be confirmed. Register online, if you're unable to access the link above, please email austin.jamison@noaa.gov to request the link be sent to you via email. Other questions? Call the National Weather Service Phoenix Forecast Office, (602) 275-7418.

Apache Clan Project Seeks Artist to Enter Logo Design Contest

The Apache Clan Project had originally chosen to begin their introduction into the community by hosting a Logo Design Contest during February and now we need more entries, so we are re-opening the contest! The winner will be awarded a \$300 prize. The contest will now be held throughout the month of April and is open to anyone. The deadline will be April 30 at 4 p.m. and all entries may be dropped off at the San Carlos Apache Culture Center or emailed to Marlowe.cassadore@scat-nsn.gov or tiamtearly@gmail.com. All entrants should be reminded that their artwork will become the property of the Apache Clan Project once the winner is selected. If you have any questions on the Apache Clan Project or the Apache Clan Project Logo Contest, please feel free to contact the San Carlos Apache Culture Center at (928)475-2894.

Plan ahead for warmer weather travel on Arizona's highways

Having emergency prep kit in vehicle is a year-round smart idea

We've had a taste of hot weather across Arizona in recent weeks. It serves as a great reminder for drivers to prepare for highway travel under higher temperatures, according to the Arizona Department of Transportation.

Just like ADOT reminds travelers each fall to prepare an emergency preparation kit in case of winter weather conditions, the same recommendation holds true for the rest of the year. Especially when temperatures will continue that inevitable climb in the coming weeks.

Many of the items in a kit will remain the same year round. You should pack items that help keep you comfortable and safer in case your vehicle breaks down or an unscheduled closure happens and traffic is stopped due to crashes, disabled vehicles or even wildfires.

It's important to follow health and safety protocols during the current health situation. Don't forget to bring face coverings and use when appropriate while traveling.

Here are some of the items you'll want to pack for warmer weather travel.

Extra drinking water in case an unscheduled stop

in traffic occurs. Packing water on ice in a cooler also is a good idea.

Fully charged mobile device and charger.

An extra blanket or two. Maybe not for keeping warm but possibly for kneeling on if changing a tire. A blanket also is a good component of overall first aid supplies.

A well-stocked first aid kit

Hats, sunglasses, sunscreen and an extra set of loose-fitting cotton clothing.

An umbrella for use in sun or rain.

A paper map in case cellular service is not available.

An adequate amount of prescription medications in case of travel delays.

Healthy snack foods.

Other items you may be glad you packed include a flashlight, extra batteries and extra diapers.

Take steps to limit problems with your vehicle. Having engine fluid levels, fan belts and tire pressure checked ahead of time could save you risky time spent along a busy or lonely stretch of highway. Proper tire pressure is important for reducing the risk of a blowout in hot weather.



Courtesy photo

ADOT reminds travelers to prepare an emergency preparation kit in case of extreme heat.

This also is a good time to check the condition of your windshield wipers. It's also wise to not let your gas tank level drop too low.

ADOT also asks that you be a smart, safe driver. Aggressive speeding, tailgating or unsafe lane changes are a recipe for tragedy. Get plenty of rest before heading out on a trip. Never drive while impaired, whether by alcohol or prescription medications that can cause drowsiness.

Real-time highway conditions are available on ADOT's Arizona Traveler Information site at az511.gov.

gov by calling 511. Updates also are available on ADOT's Twitter feed, @ArizonaDOT. When a freeway closure or other major traffic event occurs, the free app for ADOT Alerts, available at ADOTAlerts.com, will send critical information directly to app users in affected areas and, when possible, in advance of alternate routes.

ADOT has more on the agency's Extreme Weather Safety site. You're likely to be a much happier camper if you prepare an emergency kit in advance and travel knowing you should expect the unexpected.

Community

CVRMC announces “Get out and get fit” health fair

Let’s all “Get out and get fit!” The Cobre Valley Regional Medical Center Foundation has scheduled their bi-annual health fair for Oct. 2, 2021, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., on the hospital campus located at 5880 S. Hospital Dr. in Globe.

This year the CV Foundation is focusing on our beautiful region and all that the Globe-Miami and surrounding areas have to offer. We all can enjoy hiking, biking, kayaking, fishing, boating, camping and another hundred “ings” to do just outside our back doors.

Please consider being a booth participant by completing the “Health Fair Booth Application” and returning it via e-mail to contactus@cvrmc.org or mail in to Shantae Hunter, 5880 S. Hospital Dr., Globe, AZ 85501.

Another option to help make the health fair a success is to come and enjoy the fun!

There will be health, wellness, and safety booths, many outdoor activities, *Get Fit Run*, local food trucks, arts and crafts, and much, much more!!



ADOT set to reopen state roads to popular outdoor attractions

Motorists will soon be able to access several popular outdoor attractions in the state when the Arizona Department of Transportation reopens several highways this spring.

State highways scheduled to reopen are:

- State Route 261 between Eagar and Big Lake in the White Mountains – April 15
- State Route 273 between Sunrise Park and Big Lake in the White Mountains –April 15
- State Route 473 between State Route 260 and Hawley Lake in the White Mountains –April 15
- State Route 67 that leads to the North Rim of the Grand Canyon – mid-May

ADOT closes these scenic roadways annually as part of the agency’s winter shutdown schedule due to the significant amounts of snowfall these parts of the state typically receive.

BUSINESS CARD DIRECTORY

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Community

‘First Five Years’ Online Free Parenting Class Tonight

Learn about the stages of your baby or toddler’s development; a new series of four classes begins Wednesday, April 14 at 6 p.m., free and online. Even if you’re an experienced parent, you’ll add to your child-rearing toolkit in the free series of First Five Years workshops coached by Charlene Becker, the Cobre Valley’s youth and family educator with Arizona Youth Partnership’s Starting Out Right program.

Covid-19 social distancing precautions moved these classes online, where they are conveniently hosted on Zoom and you can attend at home, at your convenience. Sign up by requesting the class link with an email to Charlene@azyp.org or call her at (928) 812-0555.



Courtesy photo

Charlene also posts the address online, like and follow for her classes at facebook.com/charlene.sor.

Participants score more than parental coping skills; those who complete the series earn bonuses that usually include free diapers and a free child’s car seat or booster. Lessons over the series of four classes include:

- Interaction and time spent with your child; help

with their brain development

- Setting up routines with your child helps them feel safe and secure
- Nutrition plays a huge part in your child’s brain development
- Building a bond with your child
- Discipline methods
- Positive ways to set boundaries
- Balanced parenting style





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Worship



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Pastor, John Skaggs
201 E. Yuma St., Globe,
(behind Tri-City Furniture)
928-425-8345 or 928-358-2612
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.,
Worship 11 a.m.
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor, Derek Wheeland
3654 Gordon St., Miami, AZ
928-793-4306
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Worship 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.
Wednesday Bible study 6:30 p.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
Minister Al Beasley
480-516-6456
401 S. Broad St., Globe
928-425-5610
Sunday School 9 a.m.,
Worship 10 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
141 N. Hill St., (Cedar & Hill)
Globe 928-425-2340
Sunday School (all ages) 9:15
Fellowship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Office 9-noon.
Pasor Adriana Hernandez
stpaulumcglobe@gmail.com

WHEATFIELDS SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor John E. Brandt
276 E. Green Ave., Globe
928-425-3601
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Tuesday Bible Study 6 p.m.

GLOBE CHRISTIAN CENTER
Pastor, John Gooding
509 E. Maple, by Globe High
928-425-7846
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship: Sun. 10:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday 7 p.m.

MIAMI CHURCH OF CHRIST
Minister, Tony Stafford
735 N. Sullivan St., Miami
928-473-3989
Sunday 10 a.m. Bible Study
11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship
Wednesday 6 p.m. Bible Study

DIVINE GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rev. Dr. Valerie DeLa Torre,
305 W. Live Oak St. Miami
Office: 928-473-3158
Sunday adult and youth worship
9:30 a.m.
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LIVING WATERS COMMUNITY CHURCH
Pastors Jay and Gloria Petty
125 E. Haskins Rd., Globe
928-425-9462,
cell 928-812-4192
Sunday: 10:00 a.m.
Children's Church
(nursery available)
Tuesday, Women & Mens
fellowship 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday,
Strive Youth 6:30 p.m.
Thursday,
Celebrate Recovery
6:30 p.m.

FAMILY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
Senior Pastor Wayne Crick
Pastor Kenneth Crick
Pastor Scott Crick
200 E. Oak St. Globe,
928-425-6503 or
928-961-2466
Sunday worship 10 a.m.
Teen/children classes 11 a.m.
Thursday, 7 p.m.
adult bible study

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH — PC (USA)
Rev. Bill Norton, 928-200-4767
318 S. Hill St., Globe
Office 928-425-5560
P.O. Box 1362
Rev. Bill Norton, 928-200-4767
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Worship, 11 a.m.;
Communion, 1st Sunday
10 a.m. summer worship,
Memorial Day to Labor Day

CENTRAL HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor Rob Craig
5468 Apache Ave. Globe
928-425-5303
centralheightsbaptistchurch.org
Sunday: Breakfast - 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School (all ages) - 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship Service &
Children's Church - 11:00 a.m.
(nursery available)
Evening Worship Service - 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday: Men's Bible Study
— 6:00 p.m.
(every other Tuesday)
Wednesday:
Bible Study/Prayer Meeting

FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH, MIAMI
Pastor Donald Brackbil Jr.
880 W. Live Oak St., Miami
Church office, 928-473-3311
www.firstsouthernbaptistchurch-miamiaz.org
Sunday: 9:15 a.m. Fellowship
breakfast; 9:45 a.m.
Sunday School
Worship 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wednesday: Prayer meeting 6 p.m.
Call church office and leave a
message for free transportation

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
Pastor David Hakes
2407 E. Ash St., Globe
423-314-1686
Saturday Bible study, 9:30 a.m.
Worship, Saturday at 11 a.m.

PENTECOSTALS OF GLOBE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
425 N. Devereaux St. Globe, Az
Pastor David Staten
928-651-2191
Sunday: Class 10 a.m.
Service 11 a.m.
Wednesday: 7:30 p.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH. LCMC
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Youth Sun 3-5pm Age 13-18
www.splcaz.org

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Pastor Eric Hartzell
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Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship
10:45a.m.
Sunday Nights 6 p.m.



Walking with Jesus and the Important

By **DR. DAN MORTON**
Contributor

As a youngster I collected autographs and had the joy of meeting many celebrities. Some were movie or television stars, some were leaders in industry, some held high positions in government. I once made an appointment to visit Sidney P. Osborn, Governor of Arizona. I took a streetcar to the capital and was soon ushered into his office. When our conversation was finished, it was late and he was ready to go home. He asked how I got there and I explained. He suggested a better way to get home. He had his chauffer drop him off at his house and then take me home.

As I have grown older, I have become friends with many important people and find that while the public labels them important, they do not consider themselves such. For several years I lived across the street from Governor Paul Fannin and found we could stand in the yard and talk about anything but politics. A Major General in the United States Air Force was the same way. His rank carried respect but he needed friendship.

Jesus felt that way in talking with His disciples. Then the disciples got into a heated discussion about who ranked first among them. Jesus was annoyed at such petty differences. Asking the disciples about their discussion, He told them, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all. (Mark 9:35)"

The New Covenant

A mutual consent or agreement of two or more persons under the old covenant, our sin could be covered by the sacrifices of animals, but never removed. The sense of guilt connected to sin was always present.

But the good news is that God has made a new covenant with man. It is a better covenant—far superior to the old. The old covenant was initiated with the blood of animals, but the new was initiated with the sinless blood of Jesus Christ.

Jesus took the punish-

ment that we deserve and promises that if we will believe in Him and all that He did for us, He will forever stand in our place, and our responsibility to keep the law will be met in Him. The old covenant focused on what man could do, but the new covenant focuses on what God has done for us in Jesus Christ (see Romans 5).

Prayer Starter: Lord, help me see myself the way You see me, as a new creature in You. In Jesus' name, amen.

Send church news and events to news@coppercountrynews.com

Worship

Jehovah's Witnesses' year without knocking on doors

It's been one year since Jehovah's Witnesses worldwide adjusted their hallmark methods of sharing comfort and hope from the scriptures due to the pandemic.

For many, the change from ringing doorbells and knocking on doors to making phone calls and writing letters expanded and invigorated their ministry.

"Witnesses have embraced this shift, finding the good in these trying times," said Joseph Castano, who reports a 30 percent increase in the Witnesses' preaching activity in his region of northern Virginia and nearby parts of West Virginia. "In fact, I hear many saying, 'I'm able to do more now.'"

In March 2020, the 1.3 million Witnesses in the United States suspended their door-to-door and face-to-face forms of public ministry and moved congregation meetings to videoconferencing.

"It has been a very deliberate decision based on two principles: our respect for life and love of neighbor," said Robert Hendriks, U.S. spokesman for Jehovah's Witnesses. "But we are still witnesses and, as such, we must testify about our faith. So it was inevitable that we would find a way to continue our work."

In the bitterly cold winters of Arden Hills, Minnesota, Terri Whitmore normally bundles up for the door-to-door ministry in a long down coat and snow boots—sometimes with

removable cleats to help navigate icy sidewalks.

Now she sits at her dining room table, sips on hot tea and calls people on her cell phone to share the same message. In December, she conducted more than twice as many Bible studies than in any prior month. "I'm having a blast," she said. "After a nice phone call, it energizes you. You can't wait to make the next call."

Her "go-to" topics for conversation with her neighbors are Covid-19, civil unrest and government. "Some people feel like they have nothing secure to hold on to," she said. "The power of God's word is amazing. You can just share a scripture and you feel like they're settling down."

Last year nearly 51,000 people in the United States made a request for a Witness to contact them, either through a local congregation or jw.org, the organization's official website, according to Hendriks. Since the outbreak, the Witnesses have followed up on these requests via letters and phone calls instead of in-person visits.

"Our love for our neighbors is stronger than ever," said Hendriks. "In fact, I think we have needed each other more than ever. We are finding that people are perplexed, stressed and feeling isolated. Our work has helped many regain a sense of footing—even normalcy—at a very unsettled time."

More than 30 years ago,

John Haggart of Globe, Arizona, vowed to do the Lord's work as one of Jehovah's Witnesses. Prior to the pandemic, he would often spend a full day preaching from door to door or standing with a cart displaying Bible-based literature. "It gave me the opportunity to learn about, and truly care about, people of all different faiths," he said. "While differences may tend to polarize people, often we have more in common with others than we may realize."

Now he meets with other Witnesses online to write letters or take turns making phone calls. "I have had very positive experiences in which individuals were surprised and happy to receive an unexpected phone call that was just what they needed to put a smile on their face that day," he said.

Although Haggart hopes to return to the door-to-door ministry someday soon, he is keeping busy with his online ministry. "It helps to keep my own mind focused on positive things and helps me to realize that even in difficult times, some really great things are happening," he said.

In the rural areas of Salina, Kansas, where the wheat and corn fields stretch for acres, the Milbradt family sometimes



Jehovah's Witnesses have adapted their ministry during Covid-19.

Courtesy photo

drives miles from one house to the next to reach their neighbors. Now, instead of buying gasoline to fill up their vehicle for the ministry, they spend money on paper, envelopes, stamps and crayons.

"We look for ways to add variety to our ministry," said Zeb Milbradt. He and his wife, Jenny, help their boys Colton, 8, and Benjamin, 6, write letters to children's book authors, local police and hospital workers. Sometimes the boys even include with the letters hand-drawn pictures of the Bible's promise of a global paradise.

"We've been able to get the message to people who we wouldn't necessarily reach otherwise," said Jenny Milbradt.

A letter Benjamin sent to nurses at a regional health center included a quote from the Bible's prophecy at Isaiah 33:24 of a coming time when no one will say, "I am sick." The center's marketing secretary replied

to Benjamin, informing him that she scanned and emailed his letter to 2,000 employees. It "made so many people smile," she said.

Witnesses have also made a concerted effort to check on distant friends and family—sometimes texting links to Bible-based articles on jw.org that cover timely topics, such as isolation, depression and how to beat pandemic fatigue.

"Former Bible students have started studying again," said Tony Fowler, who helps organize the ministry in the northern portion of Michigan's Lower Peninsula.

"Colleagues at work have now started to show interest. Some have started Bible studies with family members who showed very little interest before the pandemic."

Castano has been reaching out to Witnesses who had long ago stopped associating with fellow Witnesses. "The pandemic has

reignited their spirituality," he said, adding that many are attending virtual meetings with some sharing in telephone witnessing and letter writing even after decades of inactivity. "It's been pretty outstanding," he said.

Fowler and Castano both report about a 20 percent increase in online meeting attendance. But perhaps the most significant growth is in an area that cannot be measured by numbers.

"I think we've grown as a people," Fowler said. "We've grown in appreciation for other avenues of the ministry, our love for our neighbor, and love for one another. We're a stronger people because of all of this, and that's a beautiful thing to see."

For more information on the activities of Jehovah's Witnesses, visit their website jw.org, with content available in over 1,000 languages.

Community

Outstanding commitment to reducing litter along State Route 188



Courtesy photo

Mary Currie, communications program manager with ADOT, presented Sheriff Adam Shepherd and staff a certificate of appreciation for outstanding commitment and dedication to reducing litter along State Route 188. Pictured, from left Justin Solberg, Mary Currie, Sheriff Adam Shepherd, Chief Deputy Mike Johnson, Lieutenant Virgil Dodd and Undersheriff Matt Binney.

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April is Alcohol Awareness Month

Every April the National Council for Alcoholism and Drug Dependence sponsors Alcohol Awareness Month to increase awareness and understanding of the causes and treatment of the nation's number one public health problem; alcoholism. This year's theme is "Changing Attitudes: It's not a 'rite of passage,' " and youth and their parents are the target audience.



This year Governor Ducey made a proclamation in support of Alcohol Awareness Month. As his proclamation states, alcohol can be especially dangerous for youth. It is vital that our community knows and understands the danger of underage drinking and alcohol use.

According to the 2021 Arizona Youth Survey, 13.8 percent of Gila County 8th, 10th and 12th graders reported that they rode in a vehicle in the last 30 days with someone who had been drinking alcohol. Further, according to the same study, 56.3 percent of 8th, 10th and 12th grade students in Gila County reported drinking alcohol in the last 30 days. Most importantly, 49.6 percent of Gila County youth that did not use alcohol reported the reason they didn't was because their parents would be disappointed.

It is important to talk with your youth about your expectations concerning drugs and alcohol.

To help our youth take part in reducing the amount of underage drinking, Globe/Miami has the DIG YA coalition (Development in Gila County for Young Adults). They meet twice a month with youth ages 12-21 to learn facts about underage drinking and resiliency skills, to make healthy decisions and to learn to be a leader/mentor to their peers. Their next meeting will be April 22 at 4 p.m. at Globe High School. Please encourage your youth to join the coalition in their efforts and be a leader in their school and community. It is a great way to get involved in the community, receive service hours needed for high school or college and have fun. For more information please contact Aly Buhler at 801-660-9409 or aly@azyp.org, or Dynell Palmer at 928-812-3048 or dynell@azyp.org.

Send your community news to news@coppercountry.com

Community

Tomatoes Galore Gardening Webinar Thursday

Did you know that Arizona low desert gardeners who love tomatoes can take advantage of two growing seasons? Tomatoes planted after the last spring frost (usually mid-February) can be ready for salads and pasta sauce within 60-90 days. Those who missed that optimal window can plan on monsoon season, planting around the end of July through mid-August and covering their plants with shade cloth to protect from daytime heat until gentler autumn daytime highs. Their favorite temperature range is 70-90 degrees, with nights that stay above 55. Arizona tomatoes are most productive when they flower and get pollinated before the extreme summer heat. Why? Temperatures above 90 can neutralize tomato pollen, but fruit that had already set will continue to mature in the heat. Are tomatoes a vegetable or a fruit? Did they originate in the Americas, Europe, Africa or Asia? Which varieties are best for Arizona? And do they lose their nutritive value when cooked?

Tomatoes are the topic for this week's gardening webinar, Thursday at 11 a.m., hosted online and free as a collaboration between University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Gila County and green-thumbed experts from the Payson Community Garden. Zoom link for the presentation is arizona.zoom.us/j/82524359900

and you're welcome to log in up to 10 minutes prior to the start time. An easy, convenient way to connect is via 'click here' direct hotlinks at extension.arizona.edu/gila, where you can also view dozens of prior Thursday webinar topics ranging from soil preparation to winter gardening, container gardening and more. University of Arizona Gila County Cooperative Extension Agent Chris Jones hosts this popular series, and Cooperative Extension's website has an array of links to programs, talks and resources. Links are also conveniently posted each week on Facebook, where you can join Chris Jones and a network of Gila County gardeners at facebook.com/gilaextension. Want to be added to an email invite list for these gardening and horticulture workshops? Call Chris Jones, Extension Agent, University of Arizona Gila County Cooperative Extension at (928) 402-8586 or email ckjones@email.arizona.edu.

Presentations continue with:

- April 22 Transforming needs into assets: Establishing a watershed partnership
- April 29 Climate Masters Extension & Outreach Research Report
- May 6 Microbes and mulch for your garden

As for the questions above, a few interesting facts and answers include that tomatoes contain seeds

so they're fruit, not vegetables, botanically speaking - even though Supreme Court case law from 1887 says otherwise. In that year United States tariff laws imposed a levy on imported vegetables but not fruits, and the debate over tomatoes went to the Supreme Court (*Nix v. Hedden*) with a decision affirming that tomatoes were considered vegetables, defined by their culinary use with dinner rather than dessert. Rich in lycopene, the antioxidants within are good for your heart and effective cancer-fighters. Cooked tomatoes are actually bet-

ter for you than raw - because cooking releases beneficial chemicals. The tasty fruits (er, vegetables?) are also packed with vitamins A and C, calcium and potassium. Originally from the Peruvian Andes in South America, tomatoes made it to Mexico and North America thanks to Aztec trading routes and now there are more than 7,500 tomato varieties worldwide. Oh, and varieties suggested as optimal for Arizona gardens are those with a fairly quick 60-90 days-to-maturity cycle; small and medium fruit



Courtesy photo

Tomatoes are the topic for this week's webinar on Thursday, April 15 at 11 a.m.

such as Roma. Others suggested for Arizona gardens include Celebrity, Pearson, Cherokee Purple and Punta Banda.

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Community

Hidden heroes of the Covid-19 pandemic

By Aaron Tohtsoni
DHHS Communications
Officer

SAN CARLOS, Ariz.— While the country and world battled the coronavirus it took a few months before the San Carlos Apache Reservation would see its first positive case and months before outbreaks started daily. Everyone took note of frontline workers and heroes in healthcare settings like doctors and nurses, as well as store clerks at grocery stores and big box stores around the world, working through a pandemic and sacrificing their lives.

In our community, there

were groups of unsung, unseen heroes that for the large part were under the radar. The drivers of the Department of Health and Human Services’ (DHHS) two transportation programs, the Community Health Representatives (CHR) Program and Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) program were on the frontlines in an overshadowed capacity.

During the pandemic, NEMT and CHR transported patients to and from the healthcare corporation in Peridot for appointments, Covid-19 testing as well as transportation to the Alternative Care Site (ACS)



Courtesy photo

Bylas Community Health Representatives (CHR) drivers.

at the Apache Gold Casino Hotel. These duties were still in addition to their regular work duties transporting patients to non-Covid-19 appointments.

Regularly, CHR drivers transport patients to their appointments both locally and in the Phoenix and Tuc-

son areas. Another important task they have is transporting cancer patients in a mandatory single transport to ensure the best comfort level. In addition to transporting patients, they also help deliver medication to patients within the community. During the pandemic,

they also assisted in checking on the elderly in the community. While patients were quarantined, CHR delivered groceries to those families.

Both programs, NEMT and CHR, operate in the San Carlos/Peridot area and in the Bylas community, meaning off-reservation appointments can be in any of the neighboring communities or further out in the metro areas.

In the beginning, the drivers assumed a certain risk on the job with few safety barriers, not knowing for sure if a patient was Covid-19 positive. As the pandemic progressed, DHHS was able to have plexiglass installed to keep drivers safe while on the job as well as taking other precautionary measures such as donning full personal protection equipment (PPEs) during transportation and appropriately sanitizing the vehicles in between patients.

NEMT drivers were dedicated to driving Covid-19

positive confirmed patients, which led to anxiety and nervousness especially with long distance transportation.

The drivers of both programs also sacrificed family time, having to work with no time off because of the pandemic and amount of cases in the community.

While so many people world-wide fought the pandemic on the frontlines, some of the most critical roles were often overlooked. The drivers from the CHR and NEMT programs were frontline workers, made sacrifices, risked their lives but as with all frontline employees, there was a bigger picture to see. Each driver was part of a puzzle that needed to be finished in order to stop the coronavirus pandemic. They played an important role alongside healthcare workers and because of everyone’s handwork and dedication the San Carlos Apache reservation has no active cases of Covid-19 as of press time.



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