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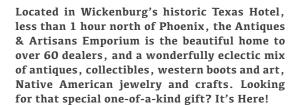
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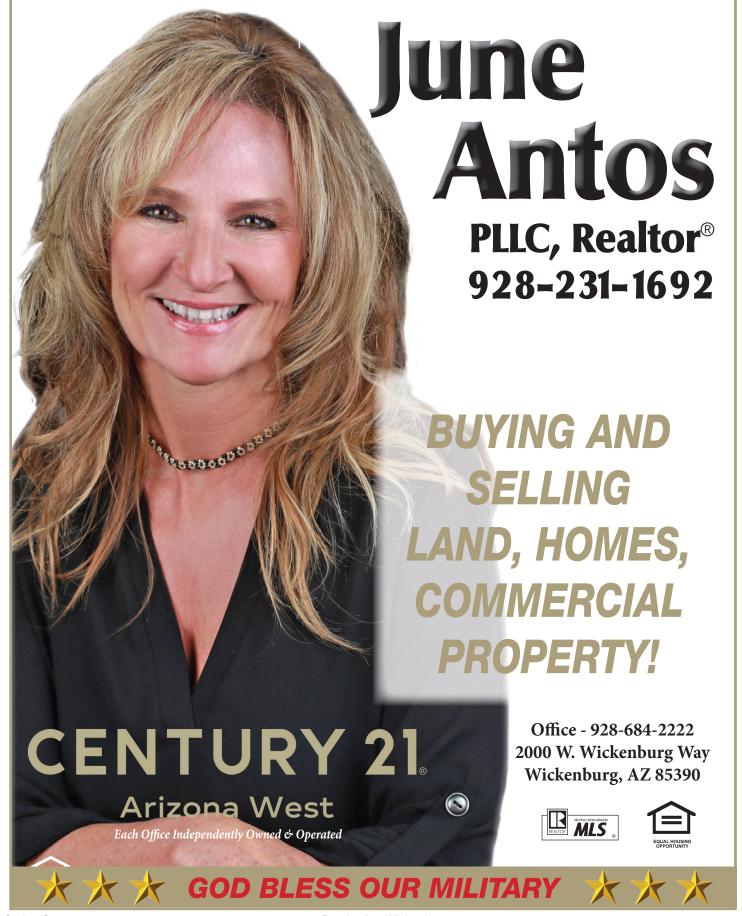
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The Wickenburg Way

By Julie Brooks,

Executive Director. Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau

Howdy! Bienvenido's! Willkommen! Bienvenue! Welcome!

The people of Wickenburg choose this community not just as place to live, but also a way of life.

Wickenburg is a town where visitors are warmly welcomed whether the stay is an hour, month or season. It isn't important where you're from or who you are - the important thing is that you are here.

When was the last time you were someplace where you wanted to be outside all the time? That's what a visit to Wickenburg is all about. Surrounded by scenic high Sonoran Desert and mountains, it pulls us out into the beauty and the solitude of the Hassayampa Valley.

We hike trails lined with wildflowers and cacti, ride horses, and then ride in a jeep to experience natural trails and historic places. We can fish nearby lakes, participate or watch team roping at local arenas, ride a mountain bike, golf, take a stroll around our historic downtown, attend annual heritage events,

or sit and wait for the sunset, just as long as we can stay outdoors a little while longer.

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Wickenburg **Chamber of Commerce**

216 N. Frontier Street Wickenburg, AZ 85390 (928) 684-0977 Email: Info@wickenburgchamber.com

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Tassie lundt Susan Ricke



Frontier Street is a gateway to Wickenburg's historic past. Railroad enthusiasts will relish one of the main focal points of this celebrated thoroughfare, the restored Santa Fe Railroad Depot that now houses the Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center.

Recently awarded the prestigious 2020 Governors Heritage Preservation Honor Award for the restoration of the building, this signature railroad depot still sits in its original location and is one of the only depots left in Arizona that remains intact with its wood siding and much of its original configuration.

Dedicated in July of 1895, the station was originally built by the Prescott & Phoenix Railroad and serviced the "Peavine" railroad line that connected Wickenburg to Phoenix in a southern direction and Prescott in a northern direction. The Railroad was sold to the Santa Fe Railroad (Santa Fe) in 1903 and Wickenburg become a financial and cultural hub with the many passenger routes and commerce goods, mining ore and livestock that were transported all over the country. In 1969 the Santa Fe discontinued its daily run between Phoenix and Williams, and like so many of the old train stations, it was left with an uncertain fate.

The Town of Wickenburg acquired the station from the Santa Fe Railroad in 1984. The depot was restored and dedicated as the Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce in 1987, and the chamber maintains it as the official Wickenburg Visitor's Center.

Understanding the historical significance, The Wickenburg Chamber expressed an early interest in the building. With the help of long-time Wickenburg patrons, George and Vi Wellik, Santa Fe officials were convinced of the importance of saving the building and the Town was awarded a \$1 a year lease for the land, along with the Santa Fe agreeing to donate the building for the use of the Chamber and Visitor Center.

For over 30 years the Chamber of Commerce has called the depot home, and through multiple fund raisers and grants has been able to take the neglected building, enhance and preserve it.

Careful planning was taken to make sure that original fixtures and

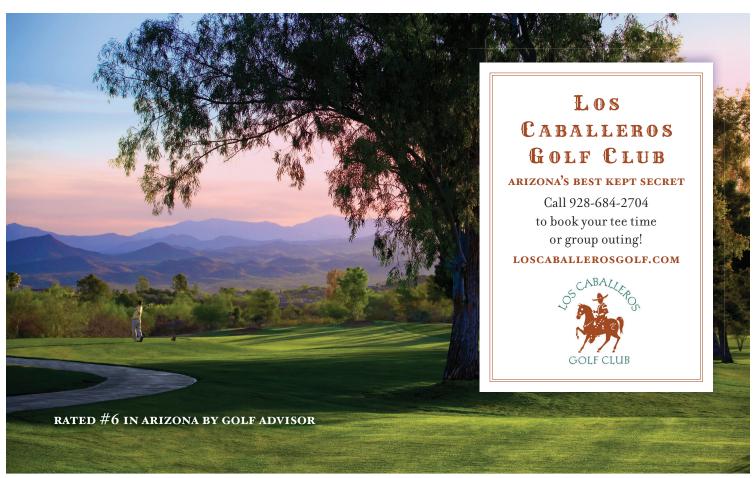
old wood from the loading dock and walls were utilized in the final design.

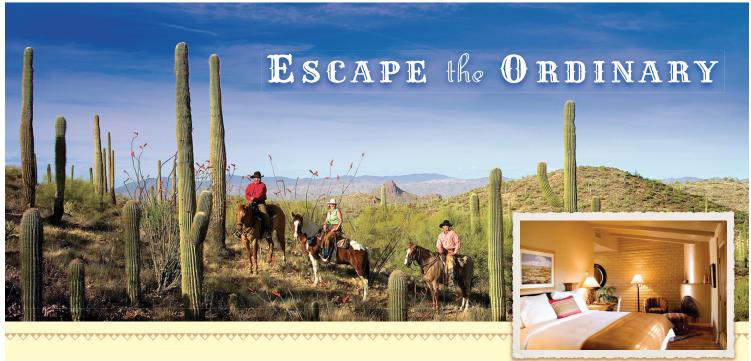
Asbestos was removed from the attic and insulation, heating and cooling were placed in the ceiling and then covered with a wooden sub roof.

The wooden railroad tie floors that have been in the warehouse since it was built were removed cleaned varnished and returned as flooring. Even the old scale that was used to weigh luggage, packages and commercial goods, was taken out and then put back where it was originally located and in order to preserve the essence of the Warehouse, the old "graffiti" signatures that were etched into the wooden walls by years' worth of railroad workers was preserved.

A wonderful complement to the depot is adjacent to the building – Engine No. 761 and Drover Caboose. Atkinson, Topeka, and Santa Fe Engine No. 761 was one of the workhorses when the main line was built in 1890. The 1900 series Southern Pacific Drover Caboose was purchased by the Wellik Foundation in 2003, and is managed by the Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce.







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Hiking Vulture Peak

For those who are avid hikers, Vulture Peak is the place to be.

Make time to climb the landmark mountain on Wickenburg's skyline. Vulture Peak can be seen for miles as travelers approach the town.

A hike to the top makes for great photos and memories. From the intersection on U.S. 60 (West Wickenburg Way), about a 15-minute drive south on Vulture Mine Road reveals the trailhead.

From the lower trailhead, hikers will ascend for about 2.5 miles, with the last mile being steep and challenging.

Those who make it to the saddle (just below the peak) can stop and have a snack and rehydrate while taking in the view.

If you are up to the challenge, climb to the top where you will find amazing views of Wickenburg, the Valley of the Sun and a sweeping pristine desert panorama.

An upper trailhead to Vulture Peak is accessible by 4-wheel drive and cuts the hike distance in about half.

Take lots of water, and go when the weather is cool. Mornings are a great time to hike.

Family pets can make most of the hike. (The climb up to the summit from the saddle isn't recommended for dogs, as it requires hand and foot climbing and can be a challenge to traverse both up and down.) A leash is recommended due to plentiful cactus along the trail.

After the hike, the whole group can head down to the Chamber of Commerce downtown on Frontier Street for a certificate commemorating the climb.



Looking at Vulture Peak from Wickenburg (top photo), a climb to the summit may seem impossible, but a trail leading up the other side (above) takes adventurous hikers to the top.

The Team Roping Capital of the World

Wickenburg is the Team Roping Capital of the World with at least seven competitive roping arenas in the area. Rancho Rio alone hosts 30,000 roping teams annually and is home to the National Team Roping (NTR) tour and the NTR finals every March.

Weekly roping jackpots, team roping practices and barrel races are held at Rancho Rio throughout the winter season (November through March). Cowgirls and cowboys rake in weekly winning checks and buckles at this two-arena rodeo hotspot. Rancho Rio also serves as a trail head for horse-back-riding adventures that wind throughout the Hassayampa Riverbed. It is the venue for the yearly Premiere Rope Horse Sale, auctioned by Steve Friskup. The Horse Sale is limited to 65 of the best Arizona roping horses and attracts buyers from all over the U.S. Last year's auction moved over \$1.3 million in rope-horse sales. The 2021 Horse Sale is scheduled for March 5th at Rancho Rio, 1325 N. Tegner St.

Rancho Rio is also home to the "Nations Wildest Bounty Steer," Rio. One roper is drawn before the start of each event of the day to take their shot at roping Rio. The starting bounty is \$1,000. Eighty percent of the bounty goes to the successful roper and 20% is donated to Wickenburg charities. For Rancho Rio event info call (520) 251-1495 of visit https://www.ranchorioaz.com

Across town, the Everett Bowman Rodeo Grounds at 1201 Con-

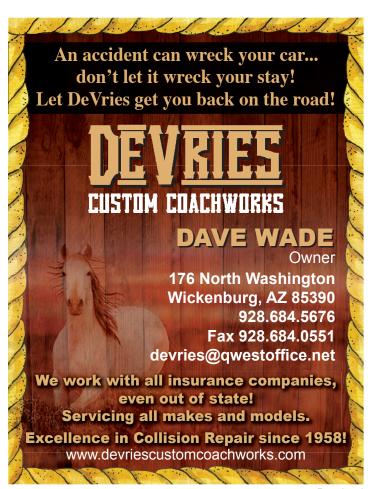
stellation Rd. features a lighted competition arena, an equestrian show arena, six bucking chutes, holding pens and covered bleachers. Visitors and ropers also have access to an RV campground. Less than a mile from the Rodeo Grounds is Constellation Park, which includes a Shooting Range and Sportsman's Club.

Near the heart of Wickenburg, visitors will find Simpson's Arena also known as Roper Nation. Check out the weekly ropings at 503 South Tegner Street, Wickenburg, Arizona 85390. Call (307) 260-7673 or visit https://ropernation.com for more details.

The Downtown Arena, located literally downtown Wickenburg, at 520 N. Tegner holds several ropings a week. To find out more, look up their schedule on Facebook.

Out in Morristown, just about 10 minutes south of Wickenburg on Hwy. 60, two arenas offer lots of activity. Hooves and Horns, 39410 N US Highway 60 Morristown, AZ 85342, and Western Trails between MP 123 & 124. Both post their schdules on Facebook.

Spectators are welcome at ropings. Admission is usually free.





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Rancho Rio alone hosts 30,000 roping teams annually and is home to the National Team Roping (NTR) tour and the NTR finals every March.

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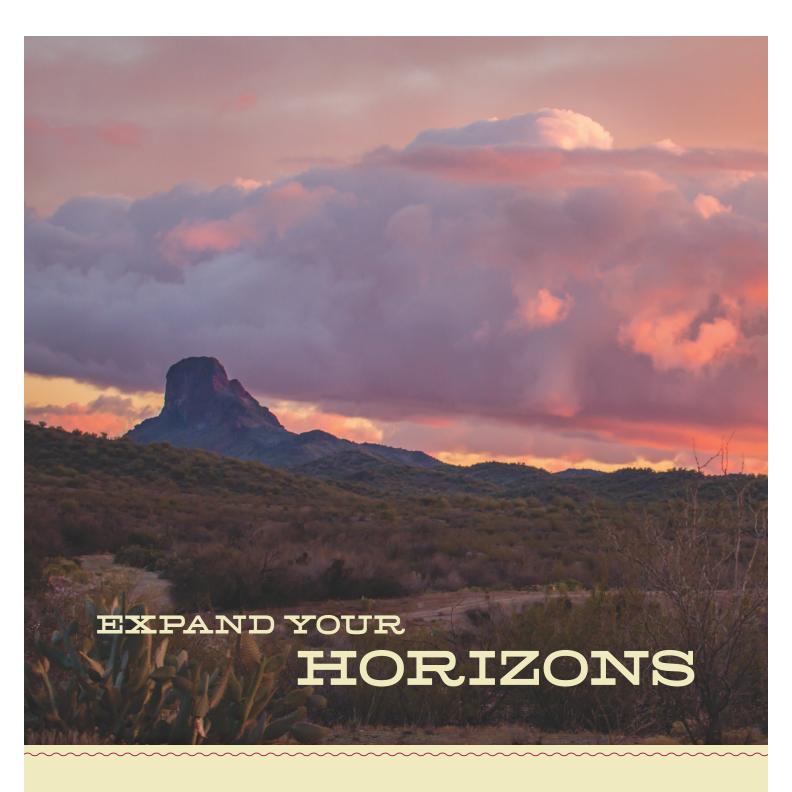
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Desert Stars!

Photos & Story by Anie Wayman-Trujillo

The night skies surrounding the Wickenburg area are captivating. All you have to do is look up at the canopy of twinkling stars, catch a glimpse of the Milky Way or see shooting stars streak across the night sky to know that this area is special.

From the isolated areas around Vulture Peak, star parties at Vulture City, a peaceful weekday night around Box Canyon, or the northern skies near Lake Pleasant, on any given clear night, these outlying areas can provide unobstructed views of the planets, satellites, constellations and other objects that make up the galaxies above.

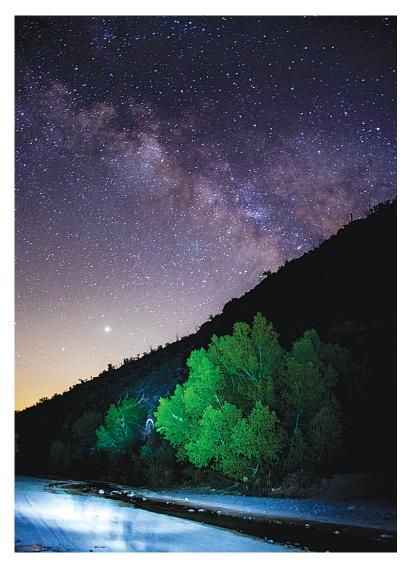
You don't need a degree in astronomy or expensive equipment to enjoy one of Mother Natures' "free shows," but there are a few tips you may want to keep in mind when stargazing.

First and foremost is safety first. If you want to get out to see the stars, make sure you scout out a place in the advance, preferably during the daytime and always take a headlamp or flashlight with you at night.

Getting up high in areas where there are mountains or hills is important as to have a clear view of the sky. When looking up at the sky, first identify a few good anchor objects such as planets or visible constellations like the Big Dipper that can help you navigate the skies. Downloading a good free app on your phone will help identify what you are looking at when gazing up at the night sky. A telescope or pair of binoculars will help you see certain objects, but many objects like the Milky Way or Shooting Stars are best seen with your naked eye. Allow time for your eyes to adjust to the night sky. It usually takes 20 minutes or more for your eyes to fully adjust to optimal sensitivity to low light conditions.

The sky is at its best on crisp, clear winter and spring nights when there's little humidity in the air. Summer evenings tend to produce haze and can blur the view however because the sky rotates to different positions during different times of the year, what may not be visible or only visible for a short time in the winter (like the Milky Way) is fully visible for hours on late spring and summer nights.

Getting a good book or finding a good website that chronicles what objects will be visible during the months of the year is another good tool to use when planning a stargazing trip. Photographing the night sky, like viewing objects through a telescope takes time to learn, but can be a lifelong rewarding hobby. With Wickenburg's dark skies and abundance of open areas, now is the time to get out, look up, and see what you can see.







Collectors' Legacy: Wickenburg's Treasures

Over the years, the Desert Caballeros Western Museum has been the recipient of generous gifts from many benevolent benefactors, entrusting the Museum to preserve the art, history, and culture of the West. Their donations slowly grew into an impressive collection that includes works by Frederic Remington, Charles M. Russell, and Maynard Dixon, just to name a few. These treasured pieces from the Museum's permanent collection will be on display in an exhibition that has been years in the making. Join the Musuem in celebrating a legacy, built by those whose love of the West endures through art and artifacts they preserved for future generations to enjoy.

In the early 1970s, DCWM trustee Aiken Fisher suggested that the Museum become a center for Western art as well as history. As with many of the Museum's major supporters, they had come to Wickenburg with a view to getting away from snowy winters, and they bought a home in the Rancho de los Caballeros guest ranch development. Thanks to the advice of Ginger and Fred Renner and Abe

Hays, work by Remington, Russell, Thomas Moran, and other Western greats came into the Museum through the Fisher's largesse.

The Fishers inspired other donors through the years, including Mrs. Scott Libby (Daughters, Houser, Kloss, Megargee, Payne), Mr. and Mrs. John D. Ryan (Boren, Heikka, Reynolds, Steinke), Joel and Roberta Rogers (Molnar, Stefan), and Harriet and Edson Spencer (Maynard Dixon). One of the most numerous gifts came from the estate of Laura Evans Ford whose family had befriended artist Olaf Wieghorst when they were in Wickenburg together in the mid-1950s. Laura bequeathed three Wieghorst oils and 22 watercolors, along with six significant Bill Nebeker bronzes and her collection of custom-made boots from Wickenburg master craftsman Al Reynolds.

Continuing the tradition, there will be a section in the exhibition on Promised Gifts from DCWM supporters who have included the Museum in their estate planning. From Victor Higgins and Gene Kloss to John Hampton and Donna Howell-Sickles, these works span the history of Western art.

"Collectors' Legacy: Wickenburg's Treasures" will remain on view through March 7, 2021.

River Preserve a bird watcher's haven

Wickenburg is home to the Hassayampa River Preserve, a bird watcher's heaven. Managed by Maricopa County Parks and Recreation, the Hassayampa River preserve features an array of plants and animals and is considered to have the highest plant biodiversity of deserts worldwide. The Pre-

serve is a natural haven for birders, hikers, and photographers to experience a touch of luscious green life in the desert. It has at least six hiking trails and spans over 700 acres (approximately 5 miles).

Travelers can enjoy guided bird walks with Interpretive Ranger Eric Hough, featuring topics such as bird identification, behavior



and ecological traits. Hough has worked at the Hassayampa River Preserve for three years and studies bird biology. Over the last three decades, the Preserve has offered a home to nearly 300 different bird species including the red-shouldered hawk and the grey hawk.

Guided night walks are also available. Explorers are encouraged to bring their own flashlights or blacklights to easily spot critters on the night walk. On past walks, javelina, owls, foxes, scorpions, deer and other animals have been spotted lurking in their natural habitat. Registration is required and space is limited to 10 people per walk. To register for a walk, contact the visitor center at (928) 684-2772. Camping, hiking, and picnicing are permitted at the Preserve, but hunting, swimming, bicycling and boating are prohibited.

VisittheHassayampaRiverPreserveat49614U.S.Hwy.6089 Wickenburg, AZ. Hours of operation are Wednesday through Sunday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hiking trails close at 4:30 p.m. daily. The Preserve is closed Monday and Tuesday. For more information and the 2021 events schedule visit https://www.maricopacountyparks.net/park-locator/hassayampa-river-preserve/







Flying E Ranch offers family fun in a Western environment

The grandparents are out on horseback. The parents are either horseback riding or hiking, while their children are riding in a side-by-side RZR.

That is a vision Jim Brown has for the Flying E Ranch. It is a guest ranch, he said, that is trying to keep up with the times while still promoting an appreciation for Western culture.

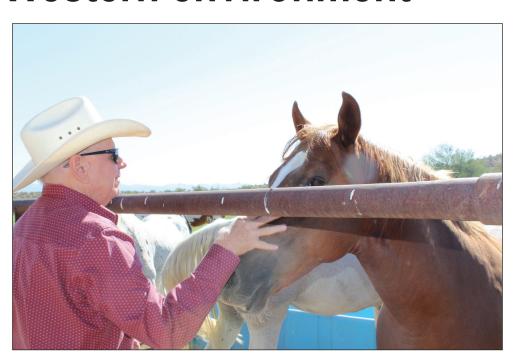
"The ultimate goal is once we get that family here is to introduce the younger generation to horseback," he said. "It is my experience that once a child experiences that moment of greatness with a horse, they will never again view it as boring."

Brown said dude ranches historically were an opportunity for families to spend a week or two together in a Western environment. "Unfortunately, society's changed," he said. "To get younger people, even my grandchildren, to get interested in horses as opposed to fast moving videos, ect. is a challenge."

To that end, the Flying E has several events planned for the community and guests to help them experience a Western environment.

They include four cattle drives and musical entertainment at the at the Real Country Corral.

The Flying E will also have a family night on the fourth Saturday of each month that will include dining, live music and



Jim Brown with one of the horses at the Flying E Ranch. Horseback riding is one of the many activities the ranch provides.

dancing for adults and westernthemed activities planned for children in a cowboy corral.

Brown encourages the community to call the ranch or check online "to follow all of our Western activities, including some side-by-side events that are also centered around bringing the whole family."

As for the guests staying at the Flying E?

"The guests at the Flying E get to enjoy our greatest asset, which is Mother Nature," Brown said. "To some people, that means spending several days hiking. To some people, it means spending every day riding horses and some people, it means laying by a swimming pool and doing nothing, but en-

joying the greatness of Arizona."

"It's all up to them," he said.

All of the guests' food is included in their room charges.

"We have two spectacular chefs that I can't say enough about," Brown said.

With the change of ownership in the last few years, Brown said he wanted residents of Wickenburg to know that the ranch was aware of its cultural significance to the community.

He said the ranch was appreciative of local residents who joined its Saddle Club, which helps with its' six-weeks long foster children program, which brings foster children to the ranch of experience Western culture free of charge.



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Del E. Webb Center for the **Performing Arts**

The Del E. Webb Center is home to actors, musicians and students who provide unforgettable entertainment to the Wickenburg Community.

"It's super quiet right now, but we are doing a lot of behind the scenes stuff because we don't have as many shows and tickets to sell," said Stephanie Fornoff, Director of Marketing and Box Office Operations.

Last year the Webb Center celebrated its 20year anniversary. Located at 1090 S. Vulture Mine Rd., the theatre is an integral part of the Wickenburg High School Campus. The organization continues to raise funds through grants and donations to enhance the sound, lighting, technology and performance capabilities.

The Webb Center is excited to present its an-





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Edward Jones MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

nual Find Your Center Gala. This year's theme, "The Show Must Go On!," features The Texas Tenors, Billboard Magazine's #10 Classical Artist in the World for 2019 and America's Got Talent's most successful touring group. Join the talented trio of JC, Marcus and John at the Flying E Ranch's outdoor pavilion Saturday, April 3, 2021.

This annual event benefits the Webb Center's programs in Wickenburg including its summer arts camp, Camp Imagination. Guests will be treated to a western evening that includes cocktails, plated dinner, prize drawings and entertainment. Social distancing will be observed and event capacity is limited. This year's auction will be held online and bidding for items will begin one week before the event.

The Texas Tenors are classically trained, versatile vocalists that have performed more than 1,400 concerts around the world including headline shows in Las Vegas, China and the United Kingdom. With a catalog of hits from rousing patriotic medleys, to Broadway show-stopping numbers and toe-tapping country harmonies, their concerts appeal to all ages. The Texas Tenors have won three Emmys for their PBS special, You Should Dream, and were recently honored as one of the 50 Top Acts in the World.

"This will be the fourth time The Texas Tenors will have performed for a Webb Center audience," said Executive Director,

Cathy Weiss. "They sold out two shows last season, and they understand the organization's mission and our valuable work in the community. They are the perfect match for this western themed event."

The Gala festivities begin at 6:00 p.m. at the Flying E Ranch Real Country Corral. Tickets are \$200. A portion of the ticket fee is a tax-deductible donation for this annual fundraising event. Dress in western attire. Call the Webb Center Box Office at (928) 684-6624 or go online to dewpac.org to reserve tickets.

In February and March, the Webb Center is bringing the acclaimed National Geographic Live Speaker Series direct to living rooms through livestream events. Join leading scientific researchers and intrepid filmmakers as they share cutting-edge technology and behind-the-scenes adventures with viewers. Topics during the four different events will explore diverse subjects from life below the oceans and prehistoric dinosaurs to the art of photography and filmmaking.

This June the theatre will offer its summer arts camp, Camp Imagination, for youth entering first through twelfth grades. Campers will explore the performing and visual arts through a variety of engaging hands-on activities.

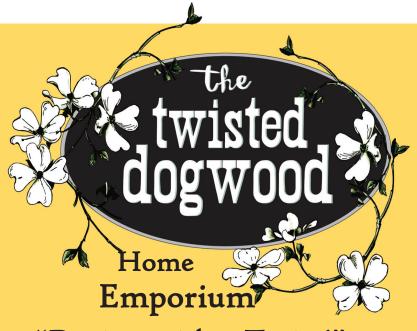
For more information and to stay up-to-date with the Webb Center's schedule of virtual events and live performances visit dewpac.org.











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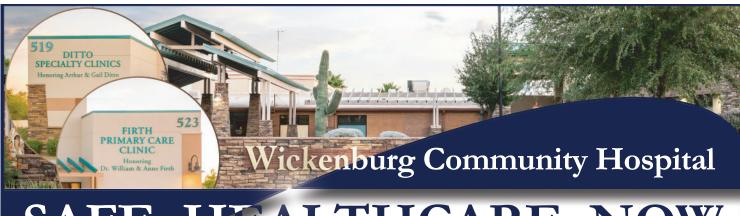
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Trails maps in high demand

The first of three Wickenburg trail system maps has turned out to be a top seller.

Town of Wickenburg Public Information Officer Tonya Forbrook said only a few copies remain of the Vulture Peak area map. The map is available at the Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce/Visitor Center and Town Hall for \$12.

She said a funding request has been made for the other two maps - the San Domingo and Box Canyon maps.

The Vulture Peak map covers Vulture Mine Road, the area around Gates Road, comes up U.S. 60 and cuts off near Wittmann. The Box Canyon map covers the north-northwest area of Wickenburg and includes Red Top, the Red Top trail system and the Box Canyon area.

The San Domingo map goes to the Morristown area. It includes Castle Hot Springs, near State Road 74, goes through San Domingo Wash up to Constellation Road and back to U.S. to 60.

Forbrook said the three maps have

purple stars to help them line up with one another. The trail systems around Wickenburg are too extensive to put on one map.

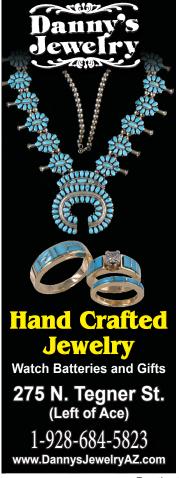
The Town's Recreation and Natural Resources Department and the Trails Advisory Commission collaborated with the Chamber of Commerce, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Arizona State Land Department, and Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department to put the maps together.

The maps make a clear distinction between trails for motorized use and those for hikers, bicyclists, and horseback riders.

It also includes names for places familiar to local residents. They point out natural arches and mountain names. Washes are included. It includes recognizable features such as a large row of mailboxes on Vulture Mine that could be used as a meeting point.

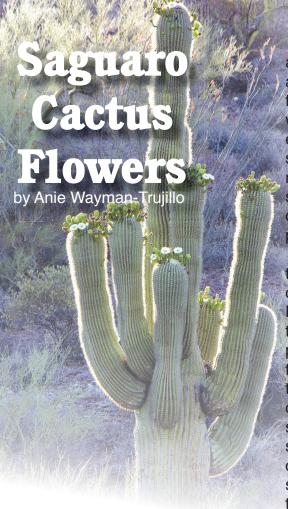
"A lot is where to drive, where to park and where you can access the trails," Forbrook said.











Spring in the Arizona desert after a wet winter can bring a carpet of colorful blooming flowers, but in years of drought where little or no ground color is expected, desert flower enthusiasts might still anticipate a magnificent spectacle of blossoms when the iconic saguaros of the southwestern desert display their blooms.

The largest cactus native to the U.S., the Saguaro can only be found in the Sonoran Desert. Recognizable by their towering silhouette back dropping against a desert sky, these giants have been known to grow over 50 feet tall, live over 150-200 years, and weigh several tons, most of which is stored water weight. Composed of wood ribs covered with a spiny pleated succulent flesh, the cacti absorb moisture and

food and store it in its widespreading roots and towering limbs. In the spring these giants utilize stored nourishment to yield showy delicate flowers from the end of March till June.

Before the flowers bloom, small green buds amass at the end of the arms and top of the cactus. Blossoming intermittently, they bloom at dusk, producing 3 inch white and yellow flowers that emit a strong sweet smell like ripe melons. Each flower lasts about 24 hours, before it wilts and dies, only to be replaced the next night with additional blooms.

During any one season, a single Saguaro can produce over 100 blooms in several weeks. Not only providing a stunning image, these blooms also play an important part in the natural process of providing food for

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desert habitat.

The sweet smell attracts bees, bats, and birds that pollinate the flowers, which then turn into distinctive, vivid red fruit. When the fruit ripens it splits open, displaying what looks like a scarlet flower made of juicy red pulp. Sometimes called the "truffle of the desert" for its exotic taste, the fruit provides liquid and food for the desert creatures as well as being harvested by humans for cooking.

Another distinctive attribute of these flowers is the belief that, unlike traditional wildflowers that bloom abundantly in wet years, saguaro flowers have been noted to produce fewer blooms in wet years, and produce more flowers in dry years.

With studies on this phenomenon ongoing, a 2019 study

published in the American Journal of Botany suggests "at high precipitation, higher temperatures were correlated with delayed onset, date of peak bloom, and end date. These conditions were also related to decreased duration, lower peak bloom, and higher total bloom. At low precipitation, higher temperatures were correlated with advanced onset, earlier peak onset, advanced end dates, increased duration, and higher peak and total bloom." Kevin Hultine, Ph.D., with the Desert Botanical Garden suggests that "cold winter temperatures (specifically frost) will inhibit or delay flowering for at least a year".

With this being one of the driest winters on record, and temperatures staying above the frost range, this spring might be the perfect time to set out into the surrounding desert areas to view these spectacular blooming giants. It is important to remember that Saguaros are protected under Federal law and the Saguaro flower is the official state flower of Arizona and should be looked at but not disturbed or picked.

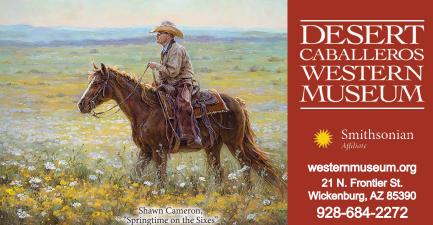
"A Spring Breakfast"











TOUR DE RANCH

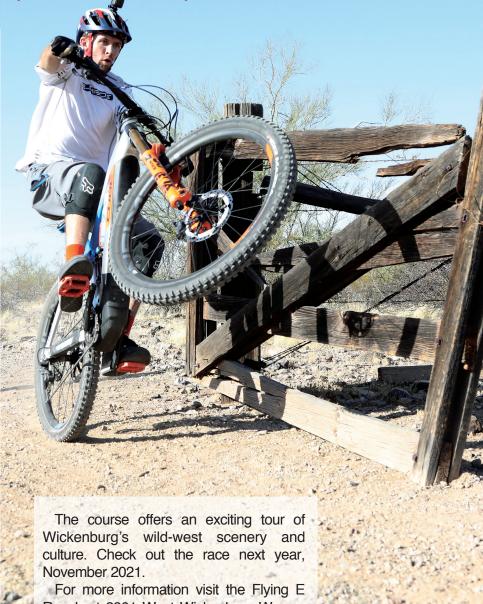
owbells jingle and bicycle tires spin kicking up clouds of dust at the yearly Tour de Ranch Mountain Bike Races held at the Flying E Ranch.

The races begin with staggered starts of six waves, with the expert men taking their marks first at the starting line. Competitors race by foot down a rocky path to their bicycles at the bottom of a hill and trek through a sandy wash to an 8.5-mile-long course. Expert-level riders complete two laps of the course (17 miles), while intermediate riders complete one lap. One-hundred-and-seven riders participated in the 2020 race, nearly double the number of participants in 2019.

For 49-year-old Mesa local bicyclist Kenny Wentworth, this competition was more than just a race. It was a way for him to commemorate his son who passed away in 2014. Wentworth's son was a professional motor cross athlete and the best way to honor him was through carrying on the passion for riding.

Wentworth placed first in the Intermediate EBike Division, completing his lap in 38 minutes and 31 seconds. With beads of sweat dripping down his temples and tears in in his eyes, Wentworth was victorious in his first ever mountain bike race.

"The ride was really fun," Wentworth said. "It was super challenging. They made the track technical. In the washes, you had to be on your toes - but it was fast and flowed well."



For more information visit the Flying E Ranch at 2801 West Wickenburg Way or call (928) 684-2690.

Jeanie Hankins photo

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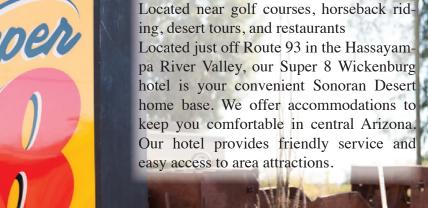
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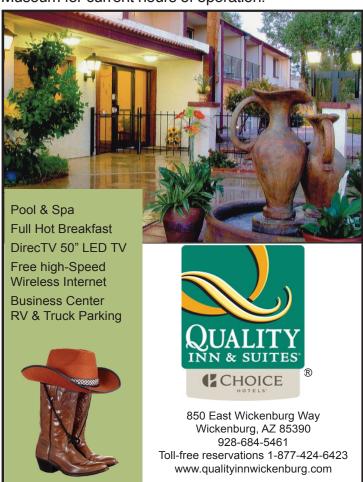


Desert Caballeros Western Museum is hosting the 16th annual 'Cowgirl Up! Art from the Other Half of the West' Invitational Exhibition and Sale. For 16 years, Cowgirl Up! has attracted emerging and established women artists from all over the West who depict the Western lifestyle in painting, drawing and sculpture. Each year, more than 300 applicants are reviewed; this year, over 60 were selected as representative of the West's top female fine art voices today for the largest exhibition yet.

Cowgirl Up! is much more than a show. It's a crossroads where artists, collectors and art enthusiasts come together to explore what it means to be a Western artist. CU! artists ride the range of techniques, styles, and mediums, from traditional to contemporary. All of the art is available for purchase, meaning that each sale supports the endeavors of women artists working today and of the Desert Caballeros Western Museum. CU! art can be bought throughout the run of the exhibition at the Museum or online at westernmuseum.org

The exhibition opens March 26 and paintings and sculptures will remain on exhibition throughout the run of the show, which closes on Sept. 5. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily and from noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday. However, these hours are subject to change due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please contact the Museum for current hours of operation.





Tracks to the past . . . Locomotive 761

In the late 1800s, Wickenburg waited about 30 years, to get its railroad through town. That railroad is still active in 2020, and its history is lovingly preserved right downtown.

A railroad became a necessity after the discovery of gold by Henry Wickenburg in 1863, giving rise to the lucrative Vulture Mine. In the early days, gold ore from the mine had to be transported 700 miles by wagons to San Francisco. Eventually, that journey was reduced to 70 miles when the Southern Pacific Railroad entered Arizona from California in Yuma. Wagons carried gold from the Vulture Mine to a new line in Maricopa, Arizona.

It wasn't until January 16, 1895, that a branch line connected Wickenburg with Phoenix, Prescott and other parts of the country. That line was called the "Peavine Line." The railroad soon became the center of life in Wickenburg.

By July of that year, a depot was constructed to shelter passengers, house a telegraph office, Wells Fargo office and freight on Railroad Avenue, now Frontier

Street. It soon became the heart of social life and spawned businesses and homes in what is now downtown. A symbol of the importance of the railroad can now be found with the display of the retired Atchison Topeka and Santa Fe steam locomotive No. 761 and 1900 Series Southern Pacific Drover Caboose next to the Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce in the old depot building.

No. 761 was built in April 1900 by Baldwin Locomotive Works in Philadelphia, Pa., as part of a group of 10 locomotives. It was a large mainline freight locomotive, used all over the AT&SF system. It ended its career with AT&SF as a switch engine in Las Vegas, New Mexico.

No. 761 was donated to the Town of Wickenburg on May 24, 1955. It was moved to its current location next to the historic train depot in 2003. That was also the year the caboose was purchased by the Wellik Foundation from the State of Nevada Railroad Museum in Boulder, Nevada. The caboose was at one time painted yellow. Its interior paint is original. Historically, the "Drover Car" was behind the cattle car. Cowboys stayed in the caboose and man-

aged the herd.

Wickenburg's caboose ran the route between Montana and California. Near No. 761 and the caboose is a lifesize sculpture of a teacher arriving in Wickenburg by train. Visitors can read about the history of the railroad in Wickenburg and information about the train and caboose from panels next to the displays.









Pleasant Harbor at Lake Pleasant

Living the Life!

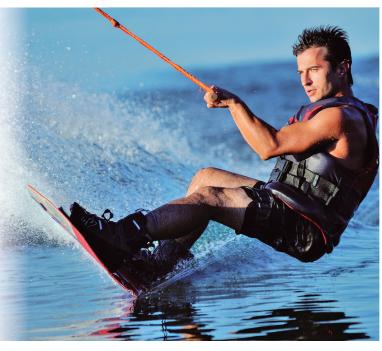
There's no better place to be than at the lake. With a continued focus on social distancing and many looking to safely enjoy the outdoors, Pleasant Harbor at Lake Pleasant is the perfect getaway. A short drive from Wickenburg, this one-stop lakeside destination is located in the City of Peoria and is open to the public 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Pleasant Harbor is a full-service marina, featuring Dillon's Bayou restaurant, boat and slip rentals, as well as hydro flying, Jet Ski, kayak, paddle boat, as well as sail boat rentals and training. Additionally, the marina features H2-Whoa! - the world's largest floating water slide and is home to The Phoenix, a 150 passenger boat cruise providing tours of majestic Lake Pleasant.

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For more information about Pleasant Harbor RV Re-

sort and Marina, visit www.pleasantharbor.com or call Pleasant Harbor RV Resort at 623-235-6140 or the Pleasant Harbor Marina at 623-235-6130.





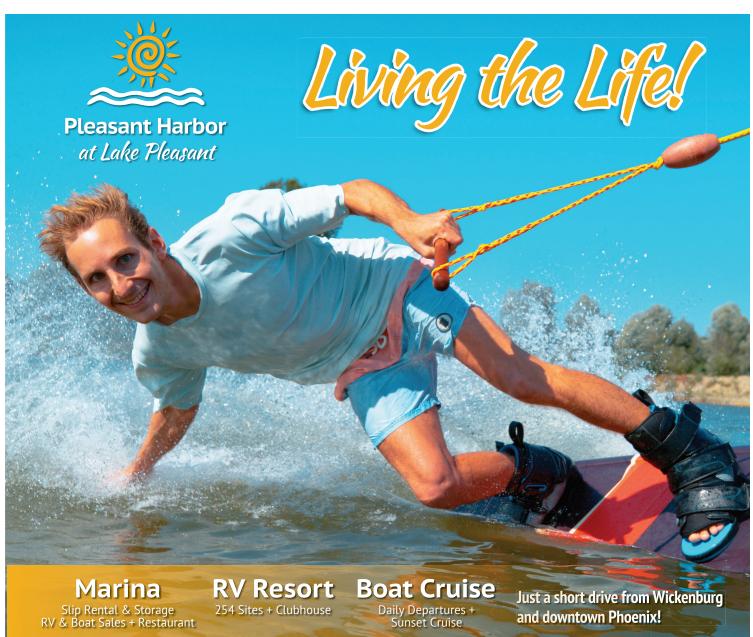




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Western Heritage

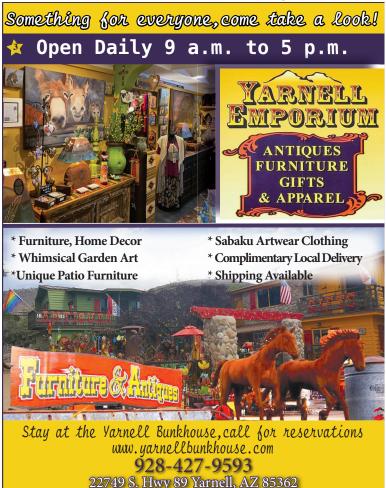
By Anie Wayman-Trujillo

ucked away at the end of historic Whiskey Row in Prescott Arizona, the Western Heritage Center, an Arizona Western Heritage and Cultural Destination sits as a place for historians, visitors, and residents to come and learn about the culture, history, and heritage of Yavapai County.

Located in the historic Sam Hill Warehouse that was founded in 1877 and rebuilt in 1908 after being destroyed by the great fire of 1900, the Center houses some of the most historic and informational exhibits chronicling the history of Yavapai County and demonstrating what contributed to the establishment of one of the most desirable places to live in the United States.

The vision of Dennis Gallagher, founder and CEO of the Prescott Western Heritage Foundation, the need to provide the Center, "a legacy that everyone could come to, at no-cost, enjoy and learn about the heritage of the First Territorial Capital and Yavapai County" was paramount.

To make this dream a reality Gallagher started



Two Doors North of Cornerstone Bakery



working with local historians, community leaders and interested parties who agreed with the vision and understood the significance of opening up such a center.

After several years of laying the ground work, including obtaining 501c3 status, in May of 2019, the Center opened to rave reviews.

Unlike most museums that focus on one subject matter, the Center's emphasis is on semi-permanent stand-alone exhibits that showcase aspects of western tradition and point visitors to the many different museums and resources that are located in the area.

Currently, 22 entities are showcased at the Center. Displays that inform on the likes of the World's oldest rodeo, The Desert Caballeros Museum, legendary Sheriff's like Virgil Earp and other law enforcement, mining, the history of film making in Yavapai County, the ranching community, including exhibiting the 2021 Yavapai County Cowbells quilt, that is raffled off in the fall, and one of the most visited exhibits about Teddy Roosevelt's calvary unit, the "Rough Riders".

"We were fortunate to have two families, whose ancestors rode with the Rough Riders and wanted to loan us items to display" states Gallagher.

The Center is also in the process of finishing a video that chronicles the trip the Rough Riders took in 1898 from Prescott to Cuba, where they fought in the battle of San Juan Hill. When finished, the video will be shown at the Center.

The Foundation annually recognizes an individual or organization to receive the Western Heritage Foundation Award for its preservation and promotion of western heritage including the Desert Caballeros Western Museum in 2019. Scholarships are also given yearly to deserving students who have a passion for preserving our western heritage, whether through art, music, crafts, and rodeo.

To visit the Center check out their website at www. visitwhc.org for days and times open and to learn about ways you can donate and become a member.







A real ghost town – Vulture City

xplore over a dozen restored buildings and walk through one of the richest gold mines in Arizona history at Vulture City Ghost Town.

Established in 1863, Vulture City was built to provide housing for local miners. The population soon grew to over 5,000 residents. Over a 70-year span, the mine produced thousands of ounces of gold and silver and is believed to have founded the town of Wickenburg.

In 1942, the mine was shut down by the War Production Board, which ordered the closing of all non-essential mines. The town was completely abandoned after World War II. Now, the ghost town is a tourist attraction, wedding venue and haven for ghost hunters. Part of the above-ground mine is in op-

eration and producing gold.

Vulture City has been featured in several different paranormal television shows including Ghost Brothers, Ghost Adventures and Destination Fear. Paranormal investigators Jay and Marie Yates from the Travel Channel's "Haunted Case Files" host Vulture City Ghost Legends Tours throughout the year. They claim to have encountered the ghost of a 10-year-old girl named Izzy who died on site as well as Joseph, a 19-year old male who was hung from the "Hanging Tree."

One morning, Jay tried to unlock the door of the brothel for daily tours and the bed had been moved in front of the doorway overnight by an unknown force. Tourists have even captured full-figure apparitions on video and still photos.

Property owners Ron Prat and Robin Moriarty have spent the last three years working to restore the western wonder. "Almost every single building, you couldn't walk through," Moriarty said. "There were artifacts scattered everywhere." The couple hired specialists to rebuild the structures using remaining original materials from the site. The brothel still has its original hard-wood floor from 1884.

Vulture City Ghost Town is open seven days a week. Adventurers can enjoy a self guided tour or a 2-hour guided tour on weekends. Overnight stays are also available. Gold panning and blacksmithing classes will soon be available onsite.

Stop by Vulture City at 36610 355th Avenue. For more info visit info@vultureminetours. com or call 877-425-9229.

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For 42 years, MY FATHER'S RETIREMENT RANCH has been THE place for Seniors to RETIRE and experience RESORT LIVING!

My Father's Retirement Ranch is and always has been very proactive when it comes to Seniors' Health and Wellness. We understand how vulnerable men and women in this age bracket can be. Our staff undergo regular training in order to stay on top of the latest information and methods that will benefit each of our Senior Care residents. The Ranch takes this responsibility very seriously.

There is much in life we take for granted and some of this is diminished in the "Golden Years". It matters that knowledgable staff is on site offering assistance with daily tasks including hygiene.

Medication management is often one of the most seriously neglected areas in a seniors' life. An incorrect dosage can become a huge negative factor in the health and wellness of a senior's life. It's OK to need help, guidance and assistance! It's not OK to refuse or ignore the assistance you need. Life CAN be better - even with challenges! Seniors' Health & Wellness is a priority for everyone at The Ranch.

Our staff includes a full-time

Activities Director, as we believe in well-rounded programs to benefit mind and body. Taking advantage of Arizona's wonderful weather, fresh air and sunshine, our sweeping green lawns are perfect for outdoor walks and activities. A favorite pastime are daily trips to visit "Sedona" with a handful of carrots and apples. Her 4 alpaca friends often accompany her. On the way to the pasture are horseshoes, picnic tables, and the Clubhouse where activities, games and events are happening. The heated pool and spa are busy spring, summer and fall with fun and exercise. Just past the pasture is the resident vegetable garden that is a delight to the gardeners and kitchen staff alike. There are adult tricycles for residents to ride throughout the property. There are physical therapy and exercise rooms conveniently placed for residents' use while working with Licensed Therapists and Caregivers. Our management team encourages daily practice of planned routines emphasizing fall prevention and balance. A partnership with the staff from Snap Fitness is an ongoing, extremely beneficial program for our residents. In addition, delicious, balanced meals are an important aspect of daily life at the Ranch. We strive to include individual likes and dislikes as well as physician ordered dietary plans.

What will you do when you cannot do what you are doing now? It is important to be where you need to before you need to be there. It's wonderful to feel safe and secure – to know where any needed help will come from – to know that friends and professional help are nearby! It's amazingly comforting to have a Call Button within your reach that brings someone you know and trust. These considerations are significant in Seniors' lives.

We have many programs in place to help seniors achieve their full potential. It is prudent to produce plans now while you still have viable options, so why wait?

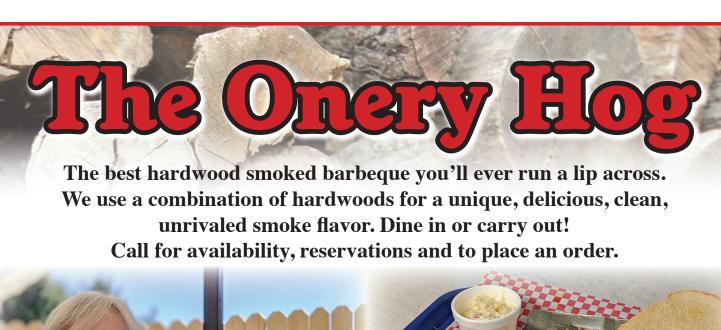
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- Professional Help is Right Here so You Feel Safe and Secure with the Comfort of a Call Button within your Reach Bringing Someone You Know and Trust!
- The Ranch is a Wonderful, Comfortable, Joyful and Happy Place to call "Home!"







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