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A community publication of Copperarea.com



Winkelman Preparatory Academy plans expansion

By Mila Besich
Copper Area News

When the school year first started in August of 2023, 16 young girls began attending the Winkelman Preparatory Academy in Dripping Springs. The new private school offered a different choice from the local public school available for students in the Copper Basin region.

The development of a private school wasn't the first plan of Jeremi and Rebecca Brewer, but they saw a need for additional education choices and they opened Winkelman Preparatory Academy for girls.

Winkelman Preparatory Academy was founded and developed by Rebecca Brewer PhD and her husband, Jeremi Brewer PhD. The couple has founded and owned many businesses, globally. Always with a focus on education, they have helped to build different curriculums to support entrepreneurs and business leaders. After selling their previous business, they returned to Arizona and invested in a local meat processing facility. As they began visiting and working in the area, they realized they wanted to live in the area full time and raise their

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Students pictured are, from left, Dalilah Adkins, Lucy Hernandez, Cherish Allen, Juliann Brewer, Baylee Fuller and Micheal Hernandez.

The Copper Basin News

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

—David Brinkley



COPPER CORRIDOR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Superior Farmer's Market

Superior Farm-to-Fantastic Farmer's Market will be open October through May at the Food Court on Main St. from about 10 a.m. to about 1 p.m. on Saturdays providing fresh produce, baked goods, desert items, art and gift items. Updates and more info are on our Facebook page.

Slow Down - School in Session

Please slow down, school is in session. Please slow down when you think children might be present, and please pay attention. The speed limit is 15 m.p.h. in school zones.



Wednesday Night Tacos at San Manuel Elks

The San Manuel Elks Lodge will have Wednesday Night Tacos, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. Orders to-go may be called in after 5:30 pm at 520-385-4041. We look forward to seeing you.



Bob Jones Museum Hours

Bob Jones Museum is open on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, from noon - 3 p.m. It will be closed the week of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's.



Grief Support Group in Oracle

Join our grief support group for help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. At a GriefShare group, you'll find understanding, guidance, relief and a safe place to navigate the challenges of grief. Come join us on Thursdays at 6 p.m. - 8 p.m., from Nov. 2 - Feb. 1 at the Oracle Assembly of God Church, 1145 N. Robles Rd in Oracle. Contact us by email at tina.griefshare@gmail.com. Visit online at griefshare.org.

Superior Library Hours

Superior Public Library hours of operation are: Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. There is a one hour time limit on Public PCs if others are waiting. Be sure to check out our Facebook page for what's new. Contact us at 520-689-2327 if you have any questions.

Donations Sought

The Hayden Library is now accepting donations of yarn. The library will be hosting Crafting Socials in the coming months to make lap blankets as donations for those in need. Drop boxes are inside the library or, if you bag the yarn, inside the book return. Like to crochet or knit? Join us for our crafting days. The next one is on Friday, Sept. 22. For more information, call 928-200-2997.



Eagle One Veteran Outreach

Visit Eagle One Veteran Outreach Center online at hohp4heroes.org. Eagle One provides veterans a place to learn about and apply for all services available to them.



Tri-Community Food Bank Open

The Tri-Community Food Bank located at 108 Redwood Drive in Mammoth continues to be in business. We are observing social distancing. Hours are 9 a.m. to noon Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. To be eligible you must show proof of address that you live near or in Mammoth, San Manuel, Oracle or Dudleyville and have an income within the federal poverty guidelines. The thrift shop is closed and is not accepting donations. Call 520-487-2010 for more information.

JANUARY

31 Karaoke at Leo's Center in Superior

Come to Karaoke at Leo's on Wednesday, Jan. 31, at 7 p.m. at Leo's Community Development Center, located at 52 N. Pinal Ave., Superior.

FEBRUARY

2 First Friday Social at Superior Seniors

Superior Senior Center's First Friday Social will be held Feb. 2, 10 a.m. to noon, with lunch, games and gift bags. A \$5 donation is appreciated. Call Carol at 689-5182 if you need a ride.

10 Valentine's Dance Fundraiser at the OCC

The Oracle Community Center will be having a Valentine's Dance and Dinner on Feb. 10, 2024, 5-8 p.m. There will be live music from Your Money's Worth Band, spaghetti dinner, dessert bar, prizes, photo booth and BYOB. Cost is \$12 per person. All proceeds go to the OCC.



22 Town of Winkelman Rabies Clinic

The Town of Winkelman would like to notify residents of the Animal Rabies Vaccination Clinic that is to be held on Thursday, Feb. 22. Dr. Samantha Cabbage and her team will be set up at the Winkelman Fire Department starting at 4 p.m. Alongside them will be Winkelman Animal Control Officer Rafael Tores with tags and registration forms that pets are required to have. Dogs must be on leashes and you will need to bring past vaccination information and rabies tags. If there are questions you can call the Winkelman Town Hall at 520-356-7854. Thank you.

24 San Manuel Community Meeting

The San Manuel Revitalization Coalition community meeting for May will be held Saturday, Feb. 24, at the San Manuel Community Center, 111 W. 5th Ave. from 10 a.m. to noon. Bring your friends and neighbors!

MARCH

15 Tri-Community Clean Up Event

Thanks to Jeffrey McClure and Pinal County Development Services, a free residential and alley clean up event will be held for Oracle, San Manuel, Mammoth and additional areas within District 4 Tri-Community on Friday and Saturday, March 15 and 16, from 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. Bring items to the Old San Manuel Transfer Station, located at 31256 S. Erikson Ave. in San Manuel, 85631. Accepted items are: bagged household trash, green waste (tree trimmings, grass, plants, etc), tires, furniture, appliances, debris from home improvement projects, metal and concrete. Limitations may apply and no commercial loads allowed. Not accepted items are: batteries, oil, paint, anti-freeze, motor oil, gas, biohazards, herbicides, pesticides and commercial wastes (contractor, business waste and debris). Questions? Call Jason Jordan at 520-705-8824.

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OBITUARIES

Maria Monsterrat Perez Fernandez



Our beloved mother, grandmother and sister, Maria Monsterrat Perez Fernandez, was called to heaven on Jan. 18, 2024.

Mary or Mrs. Fernandez, as most knew her as their elementary school teacher, was born April 2, 1937, in Jerome, Arizona. She was one of two daughters born to Sabino and Maria (Perez) Carbajal. At a very young age, Mary and her sister

Nela (Vera) lost their mother. Their mother's sister, Reyes Benavidez, raised Mary and Nela as her own children.

Mary enjoyed growing up in Jerome, AZ and it was there she met the love of her life, Mike Fernandez. After finishing high school, and upon Mike's return from the military they had a plan to run off and elope. They married on May 11, 1957, and had three children Michael, Edward "Skeeter", and Maria "Terry". The family moved to Superior after Terry was born. Mike began work at the mine and supported Mary to begin her studies at Arizona State University to become a teacher. She graduated in May of 1973 and began teaching third grade the same year. She later went on to earn a degree in interior design and a master's degree in education. Mary was also a member of

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

Mary loved teaching and interacting with her students. Many will recall being called a "cabeza de huevo" as a term of endearment. Her favorite project at school was to teach her class to dance and host a Baile Folklórico show every school year. She would often tell her grandchildren that being a teacher "has to be a job you do because you love it." She retired from Superior School District after 32 years of teaching and substituting.

Mary loved visiting and chatting on the phone with friends and family. She often cooked and baked for her grandchildren either sending food or luring them in for a visit.

Mary is survived by her daughter, Maria Fernandez (Mike); brothers, Tony Benavidez and Pete Benavidez; grandchildren, Orlando Tameron, Niki Fernandez (Michael) Senyssa Beard (Drew) and Nico Manriquez; 25 great-grandchildren and eight great-great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her husband, Mike Fernandez; sons, Michael and Edward "Skeeter"; grandson, Michael Fernandez II; and sisters, Nela Vera, Carmela Cervantes and Natalia Perkins.

Services were held Jan. 26 at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Superior and interment followed at Fairview Cemetery in Superior.

Theresa Ramirez



On Jan. 5, 2024, Theresa Ramirez passed away peacefully surrounded by her daughters in Mesa at the age of 63 years old. A long-time resident of Mesa, she was born in Superior, Arizona to Albert and Lupe Gutierrez on Jan. 3, 1961.

Theresa was an amazing mother, daughter, sister, grandmother, friend, teacher and, most importantly, a mentor. She was

a proud graduate of Arizona State University earning her bachelor's degree in education. She then furthered her education at Northern Arizona University where she received her master's degree. Teaching was her utmost passion as endorsed in her 27-plus years of influencing hundreds of students in the Phoenix and Mesa School Districts.

Theresa's children and grandchildren were the loves of

her life. She was tremendously proud of them. Her time spent with them was a blessing and profound at every single memorable moment.

Theresa is preceded in death by her father, Albert Gutierrez, and sister, Stephanie Boykin.

She is survived by her daughters, Tammi Ramirez, Samantha (Trinidad) Carrillo, April Ramirez and Amanda (Johnny) Murrietta; grandchildren, Marie Ramirez, Emily Ramirez, Trinidad (Chacho) Carrillo, Henry Murrietta and James Murrietta. She is also survived by her mother, Lupe Gutierrez; and brothers, Albert Gutierrez, Joseph (Charlene) Gutierrez and Robert Gutierrez.

Services for Theresa Ramirez will be held at Christ the King Catholic Church, located at 1551 E. Dana Ave in Mesa on Feb. 3 at 10:30 a.m. Burial will take place at Queen of Heaven Cemetery, located at 1562 E. Baseline Rd in Mesa. Following the graveside services, there will be a gathering at Versailles Reception Hall, located at 1422 E. Main St. in Mesa.

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

Queen Creek Bridge replacement project begins on US60

SUPERIOR – The Arizona Department of Transportation is replacing two bridges on US 60 east of Superior with spans designed to handle passenger and commercial

traffic for decades to come.

The combined \$44.7 million project will require multiple full highway closures on US 60 between Superior and Miami for blasting operations as crews work to construct new bridges over Queen Creek and Waterfall Canyon.

Motorists should plan for as many as three closures a week, starting at a date to be determined within the next several weeks, and continuing until autumn. The closures, when required, will occur from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

During the closures for blasting, crews will work to shift the highway 65 feet to the east and align it with the new Queen Creek Bridge. Also during the closures, crews will reconstruct the Waterfall Canyon Bridge just east of the Queen Creek Tunnel.

During the closures, motorists will detour on state routes 77 and 177 through Winkelman. This will add up

Continued on page 11

OBITUARIES

Christina 'Tina' Maria Young

Christina Maria Young, age 45, passed away peacefully on Monday, Jan. 15, 2024, at her home in Mammoth, Arizona. She was born May 3, 1978, in Tucson, Arizona to the late Theodore I. Molina and Rosalia Young.



She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Alejandro and Amparo Young.

Christina will be truly missed by her fiancé, Mark Burnham; her three children, Alejandro, Joseph and Mari; her six grandchildren, Alejandro, Alakai, Alazae, Alejandra, King, and Queen; her brothers, Teddy and Daniel; and sister, Aleah. Christina will be missed by many close cousins, families and friends.

Funeral services for Christina "Tina" M. Young, will be held on Feb. 2, 2024, at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Mammoth. The Rosary will be at 10 a.m. and the Mass will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m.

George Aragon Noriega

Our father, George Aragon Noriega, passed away peacefully Jan. 23, 2024, at his home in Superior with his family by his side. He was born Dec. 6, 1930.

He enjoyed hunting and fishing, and in his later years he enjoyed spending time with his beloved chihuahuas, Cocoa and Pepe.

He believed in the value of hard work. Our dad retired from Kennecott Copper Company after 43 years of service, then he worked for Asarco Copper Company for another 12 years before fully retiring.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Alice Bustamante, and his daughter, Virginia Noriega, and is survived by his children, George Jr. (Teri), Stella (Manual Ruiz), Eddie (Yolanda Ramirez) and Armando; and six grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.



This aging bridge east of Superior will be replaced. Construction begins soon.

ADOT | Submitted

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New welding facility open for regional learning in Superior

By Nathaniel A. Lopez
Copper Area News



Welding principals pictured from left are Superior Town Manager Todd Pryor, Rebuild Superior Inc. Chairman Manny Guzman, Superior Mayor Mila Besich, Welding Instructor Stanley Shepard, Resolution Copper's Bryan Seppala and Superior Enterprise Center Director Arlynn Godinez. Debbie Torres | CANP

It's official.

On Jan. 23, members of Superior Town Council, Rebuild Superior, Resolution Copper, Superior Chamber of Commerce, Central Arizona College and Cobra Valley Institute of Technology all gathered at the Superior Enterprise center for the ribbon cutting of the Enterprise Center's welding facility and program.

Beginning the ceremony was Rebuild Superior's president Manny Guzman, who said, "This has been a long time coming with a lot of partners involved to be able to inaugurate this space. I think it was two years ago that we celebrated returning the building to the town government and the people of Superior. It is a blessing to be here to restore it to its place. This is the first time in 24 years that a course for credit is being offered at this complex, so let's celebrate that."

"Today is a culmination of so many wonderful things," said Superior Mayor Mila Besich. "In 2016, we had a very bold, bright and visionary council, and an amazing town manager, and we said that, not only did we want to solve our problems that we had, but we wanted to do something big and bold for our community, for people that have been here for many generations, and those that are new to our community. We set up a vision, that we would care about education, Pre-K through 20, that there would always be opportunities for lifelong learning.

"We decided that we would open a multi-gen center, and Todd boldly told us, 'You have about \$4 million to play with, and that's only if you can get Resolution [Copper] to play with us and be our partner.'"

Continued on page 11

Ash Wednesday

"Dust thou art and to dust thou shalt return."

February 14, 2024

Downtown Kearny

**Ashes Dispensed:
10:30am-3pm**

Kiosk staffed by
Good Shepherd
UMC, Kearny



Superior Enterprise Center Director Arlynn Godinez and Welding Instructor Stanley Shepard, both pictured in the center, cut the ribbon at the new welding center in Superior. The center will provide welding education for the entire region. Debbie Torres | CANP

LOST's 2024 Hashbrowns, History and Hiking events scheduled

The Legends of Superior Trails Inc (LOST). has announced the schedule for

its upcoming 2024 Hashbrowns, History and Hiking events. Each event begins

at 8 a.m. at the Superior Chamber of Commerce, located at 165 Main Street in Downtown Superior. The event ticket is \$30 and includes a hearty breakfast, historic presentation and guided hike.

The first event is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 17, 2024. The topic is the history of US 60 and the Apache Trail. The presentation and guided hike will be given by Rick Powers who is the author of an Images of America book about the Apache Trail. He is a local transportation historian. The hike will be on the Queen Creek Canyon segment of the LOST. This segment is part of the original US 60 Highway which was the first million-dollar-a-mile highway built in America. Seating is limited for this event; please reserve your seats by registering online at: <https://bit.ly/3u4GpXC>

The second event in the series is

scheduled for Saturday, March 2, 2024. Arizona State University Geology Professor Dr. Steve Semken will be making a presentation on the Geological History of Superior. A guided hike will follow this presentation onto the Queen Creek Canyon segment of the LOST. Seating is limited for this event; please reserve your seats by registering online at: <http://bit.ly/Feb20HHH>

If you prefer to reserve your seats over the phone, please call Mila at 520-827-0676 or you may email LOST at lostinsuperioraz@gmail.com.

The Legends of Superior Trails Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit organization devoted to building, maintaining and promoting trails in Superior and the surrounding Tonto National Forest. You can learn more about the LOST on their website: superioraztrails.com or their Facebook page @LOSTInSuperiorAZ



LOST's Hashbrowns, History and Hiking event in 2023. This year's first hike explores the history of U.S. 60 and the Apache Trail.



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*Membership eligibility required. Some benefits require registration/activation. Terms and conditions apply. See credit union for details.

Valentine's Dinner

AT THE BUCKBOARD CAFE

February 14, 5-9 pm



On the Menu ...

Seared Pork Loin

Encrusted with Cranberries & Herbs

Served with Chutney

Garlic & Boursin Mashed Potatoes

Steamed Broccoli • Potato Roll

Chocolate & Strawberry Trifle Dessert

Complimentary Glass of Wine (21 & over)

\$22 per person

Call for Reservations

520-827-0080 or 520-689-5800

1107 W. Hwy. 60, Superior

SPORTS

Lady Lobos dominate Cicero Prep; Lobos post win over Joseph City



By **Nathaniel A. Lopez**
Copper Area News

It was a week of ups and downs for Hayden.

On Jan. 20, the Hayden girls basketball team traveled and took on Mogollon. It was a tough loss with a final score of 11-68.

The Lady Lobos kicked off action last week with a home game against Dischii'Bikoh. It was a good game, but the girls fell short with a final score of 20-33.

The following day the girls played against Cicero Prep.

The Lady Lobos dominated the court, and claimed the win, with a final score of 32-6.

The next day, the girls traveled to take on Joseph City, where they suffered a tough loss of 5-57.

On Jan. 20, the Lobos traveled and took on Mogollon. It was a close game, and the boys almost claimed the win, but fell short by a few points. The final score of the game was 45-48.

The Lobos started last week with a win against Dischii'Bikoh. The game had a final score of 57-41.

The next day, the boys hosted Cicero Prep. It was another close game, but the Lobos fell short by 5 points, with a final score of 50-55.

The following day, the Lobos played an away game against Joseph City, which ended in a win, with a final score of 59-53.

The teams hosted Superior on Jan. 30. Information on those games was not available at press time.

Both teams are scheduled to compete in the 1A Copper and East Regions Super Regional Tournament.

San Manuel to compete in Super Regional

By **Nathaniel A. Lopez**
Copper Area News

The season is winding down for the San Manuel basketball teams. After a light week, the two varsity teams will be heading to the 1A Tucson Southeast/Northwest Super Regional Tournament.

On Jan. 20, the San Manuel girls basketball team met up to play against Desert Christian. The girls posted 30 points, but the Eagles were able to score 49 points.

On Jan. 24, the Lady Miners traveled to take on Duncan. It was a close game, but the girls fell short by 9 points. The final score of the game was 20-29.

The San Manuel boys basketball team also took on Desert Christian Jan. 20. It was a tough game for the boys, which ended with a 31-82 final score.

Last week the only game the boys played was at Duncan. It was a closer game, but the Miners still fell short, the final score of the game was 39-46.

Good luck, teams, in the Super Regional.

Valentine's Dance

Oracle Community Center

Saturday, Feb. 10, 5-8pm

Live Music with

Your Money's Worth Band

• Spaghetti Dinner

• Valentine's Dessert Bar

• BYOB

\$12 per
person

(Benefits the OCC)

Tickets available at the door or online at
OracleCommunityCenter.org
685 E. American Ave., Oracle



Augustine Romero shoots the ball at the game in Duncan.

S. Rodriguez | SMHS

SPORTS

Superior celebrates Senior Night

By Nathaniel A. Lopez
Copper Area News

Despite losses to Mogollon, the Superior ladies' and men's basketball teams celebrated their senior athletes and honored their parents.

The home game was only one of the games in this busy week for the Panthers.

The Superior girls basketball team began their week with an away game against Fort Thomas. The girls suffered a tough loss with a final score of 16-63.

Later in the week they played against Mogollon at home. It ended with a final score of 10-38.

The next day, the girls traveled to take on Patagonia Union. It was another tough loss for the Lady Panthers with a final score of 18-47.

On Saturday, Jan. 27, the girls traveled to take on Duncan. The score was not available at press time and will be in next issue.

The Panthers had another tough week. The boys began last week with a game against Fort Thomas, which ended with a 39-81 final score.

Later in the week they hosted Mogollon; that game ended with a 36-54 final score.

The next day, the Panthers traveled to take on Patagonia Union. The boys put up a fight, but the game ended with a final score of 33-47.

The following day, the boys traveled to take on Duncan. Results were not available at press time and will be in next issue.

The teams finished out their season yesterday with home games against Hayden. Results from these matches were also not available at press time.



Superior's Antonio Lopez (#20) shoots the ball.
Debbie Torres | CANP



Superior honored its seniors at the Mogollon games last week. Pictured from left are Sussan Mancinas, Yeritzel Romero, Eli Smith, James Vasquez and Jared Toner. Not pictured is Kayleigh Rogers.
Debbie Torres | CANP

Lady Bearcats fall to Globe

By Nathaniel A. Lopez
Copper Area News

Last week the Ray Lady 'Cats had a light time on the basketball court.

The girls traveled to Globe to take on the Lady Tigers. The girls put up a fight and were able to score 39 points, but they weren't able to stop the Lady Tigers from scoring 57 points. The game ended with a tough loss.

Ray's teams were on the road Monday to play against BASIS Phoenix. Results of those games were unavailable at press time.

Both teams are scheduled to take part in the 1A Tucson Southeast/Northwest Super Regional.

COPPER CORRIDOR CHURCH DIRECTORY

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Carlos Gonzalez
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Domingo 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Lunes 6 p.m.
Miercoles 6 p.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

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Scripture Study 11 a.m.

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Family Life Christian Center

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Pastor Sandy Van Gorp
520-689-2202

Sunday Prayer 9:15-9:45 a.m.
Worship 10 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study
& Prayer 6 p.m.

Everyone is Welcome • Assembly of God

First Baptist Church

103 W. Galiuro, Mammoth

Pastor Joe Ventimiglia
520-487-0311

Bible Study – 9 a.m.
Sunday Worship – 10 a.m.
Prayer Meeting Tues. – 3 p.m.
Movie Night Last Friday of the Month – 6 p.m.
"Fellowship on the Hill"

Kearny Church of Christ

103 Hammond Dr., Kearny

Minister George Randall
520-363-7711

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

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Living Word Chapel-Kearny

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with the Living Word

Pastor James Ruiz
520-896-2771

Join us Sundays at 11 a.m.
402 Danbury Rd., Kearny

For more information, visit us online
at www.lwconline.org
Follow us on Facebook/Instagram @LWConline

Living Word Chapel-Oracle

Love, Empower & Transformed
with the Living Word

Pastor James Ruiz
520-896-2771

Join us Sundays at 8:45 or 10:30 a.m.
3941 W. Hwy. 77

For more information, visit us online
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Oracle Assembly of God

1145 Robles Rd.
Oracle

Pastor Nathan Hogan

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Kids Ministry 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study for
Adults 6 p.m.

Oracle Church of Christ

2425 El Paseo
Oracle

Richard Ferris
520-818-6554

Sunday Bible Study 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

Oracle Seventh-Day Adventist Church

2150 Hwy 77
Oracle

Pastor Maweth Zonke
707-515-5259

Saturday Sabbath School 9:30 a.m.
Saturday Worship Service 11 a.m.

Oracle Union Church

705 E. American Ave.
Oracle

Pastor Dr. Ed Nelson
520-784-1868

Sunday Service 10 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 11 a.m.
Thursday Prayer Time 11 a.m. to Noon
www.oracleunionchurch.com

Pathway of Hope Foursquare Church

3270 E. Armstrong Ln., Tucson
(Behind Golden Goose)

Pastor Karen Kelly
520-344-4417

Saturday Worship 9 a.m.
A House of Prayer, Healing & Salvation
www.pathwayofhope.net
pastorkaren@pathwayofhope.net

Presbyterian Church of Superior

100 Magma Ave., Superior
520-689-2631

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

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

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

11 Church Ave., Superior

Fr. Peter Nwachukwu
520-689-2250

Daily Mass 8 a.m.
Sunday 8 & 10 a.m.

Confession: Sat. 4-4:45 p.m. or by req.
www.stfrancissuperior.org

San Pedro Valley Baptist Church

Dudleyville Road, Dudleyville

Interim Pastor Mat Echols

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.

Set Free Church

302 Danbury, Kearny

Pastor Daniel Sostre
480-645-7687

Sunday Service 10 a.m.
Followed by Fellowship Luncheon
Food Boxes Upon Request
760-238-0474

Sinners Welcome

Superior Harvest Church

Hill St. & Stone Ave., Superior

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

Sunday Morning Service 10 a.m.

Victory in Jesus

Vista United Methodist Church

JOIN US ONLINE

Sunday live at 10 a.m. (Or stream anytime)

www.vistaumc.org
Facebook/Vista UMC

Community, Friendship & Faith
Fred Baum, Pastor
520-825-1985

To be included in the weekly church listing, please call
520-363-5554 or 520-385-2266 or email us at
cbnsun@minersunbasin.com.



Four Miners place in Salpointe Wrestling Invitational

By **Nathaniel A. Lopez**
Copper Area News

On Jan. 19 and 20, the San Manuel wrestling team competed in Salpointe Wrestling Invitational. It was a tough two days of wrestling, but the Miners

didn't fall short.

Four of their wrestlers were able to leave with hardware. Aiden Lazoya took fourth place at 215 lbs.; Jakob Tafoya took fifth place at 157 lbs.; Priscilla Molina took fourth at 120 lbs.; and

Carla Flores took third at 150 lbs.

The Miner wrestlers competed in the Mogollon Wrestling tournament over the weekend. Results were not available at press time and will be in next week's issue.

WELDING CENTER OPEN

Continued from page 6

She continued, "Our council wanted to, at first, build a new building out by the current school district, and Todd told us very soon, 'You don't have the money to do the Earth work', and we started down the road building our partnership with Resolution, which officially began right before Valentine's Day in 2019, with agreements that were really unique and bold for any mining company to contribute to. We started designing a multi-gen center, and it was going to go to our Junior High, where town hall is at now. And COVID happened. And rapid inflation happened. And this dream pretty much almost fell off the rails. We almost didn't think it was going to happen.

"When council took another bold move, and suggested let's talk to Mr. Cardon, and see if he would sell us the (old high school) building,

and here we are today on what is a new ribbon cutting, and there will be several because the building isn't done yet, but our commitment and vision is to empower our local residents, to help our young people to be able to stay here. As Manny said, our community has not had access to skilled job training without having to travel outside of this community for 24 years.

Besich called for a round of applause for everyone who made the new welding center a reality.

Closing out the speaking section of the ceremony was the Enterprise Center's Director Arlynn Godinez.

"To build something like this, as impactful as this," she said, "there are so many people to thank, because it wouldn't come about without the partnerships we've developed.

In developing this program we worked with Central Arizona College and Cobra Valley Institute of Technology. We started small, we started with just 10 participants, but our vision is much larger than that, and with the partnerships we've developed, and the core that we've developed, I think the sky is the limit. This is just one aspect of a greater vision that we have, our hope is that we can be the hub for workforce development for the entire region, and that's what we're going to work tirelessly to do."

Another ribbon cut, celebrating Superior's and the region's continuing quest for a thriving and prosperous future. Congratulations to the Town of Superior and the Superior Enterprise Center on the welding program and facility, continue to do great things!

QUEEN CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Continued from page 5

to one hour to the trip between Globe and Superior. By providing consistent days and times for these full closures, ADOT is providing a reliable schedule for those who travel between the Superior and Globe areas.

Toward the end of the project, a multi-day closure of US 60 will be required to finish realigning the highway with the new Queen Creek Bridge.

The new Queen Creek Bridge will span 763 feet and feature one lane of travel in each direction with 4-foot-wide shoulders. The replacement structure for the Waterfall Canyon Bridge will span 107 feet.

Once the Queen Creek Bridge is completed, crews will dismantle the existing structure, which opened to traffic in 1949. While the bridge remains

safe for traffic, it has reached the end of its lifespan and doesn't meet current standards for bridge design.

For safety reasons, construction will require closing some areas used by hikers, rock climbers and other recreational areas. In the Queen Creek Bridge area, trails will close from Magma Avenue in Superior to the west of the Claypool Tunnel. The trail through the Claypool Canyon Bridge, will remain open until later in the project when active construction begins in this area.

In the Waterfall Canyon Bridge area, the US 60 pullout east of the Queen Creek tunnel will close during the project. Other nearby pullouts may close intermittently.

For more information, please visit azdot.gov/US60QueenCreekBridgeProject.



Public Notice

ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY ENTITY INFORMATION ENTITY NAME: ARQNOW, WELDING & FABRICATION LLC ENTITY ID: 23630120 ENTITY TYPE: Domestic LLC EFFECTIVE DATE: 01/16/2024 CHARACTER OF BUSINESS: Other - welding, fabricating and equipment repair MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE: Member-Managed PERIOD OF DURATION: Perpetual STATUTORY AGENT INFORMATION STATUTORY AGENT NAME: Mark Renner PHYSICAL ADDRESS: 1127 S. Vista Rd., APACHE JUNCTION, AZ 85119 MAILING ADDRESS: 1127 S. Vista Rd., APACHE JUNCTION, AZ 85119 PRINCIPAL ADDRESS: Att: Mark Renner, 1127 S. Vista Rd., APACHE JUNCTION, AZ 85119 PRINCIPALS Member: Mark Renner - 1127 S. Vista Rd., APACHE JUNCTION, AZ, 85119, USA - rennermarkd1965@gmail.com - Date of Taking Office: ORGANIZERS Mark Renner: 1127 S. Vista Rd., APACHE JUNCTION, AZ, 85119, USA, SIGNATURES Organizer: Mark Renner - 01/16/2024

MINER Legal 1/31/24, 2/7/24, 2/14/24

Public Notice

Notice To Heirs And devisees Of Informal Appointment Of Personal Representative/Donald Cornelius Smith

Windtberg Law, PLC 7600 N. 15th Street, Suite 150 Phoenix, Arizona 85020 Phone: (602) 753-0706 office@wlawaz.com Marc Windtberg - 24802 Attorney for Cynthia Borden In The Superior Court Of The State Of Arizona In And For The County Of Pinal The Estate Of Donald Cornelius Smith, Deceased, No. S1100CV202102425 Notice To Heirs And Devisees Of Informal Appointment Of Personal Representative To the heirs of Donald Cornelius Smith ("Decedent"), You Are Hereby Notified that: 1. This notice is being sent to those heirs who have, or may have, some interest in the estate of Decedent. 2. The Decedent died on February 23, 2021. 3. Cynthia Borden filed an Application for Informal Probate and Appointment of Personal Representative in the above-named Court requesting that Cynthia Borden be appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Decedent. 4. On January 4, 2024, the Court appointed Cynthia Borden as Personal Representative of the estate. 5. Bond, if required, has been filed with the Court. 6. An heir or devisee of the Decedent wishing to contest the probate has four (4) months from the receipt of this notice to commence a formal testacy proceeding. 7. The papers relating to the estate are on file with the Court and are available for inspection. Dated this 23rd day of January, 2024. Windtberg Law, PLC By /s/ Marc Windtberg 7600 N. 15th Street, Suite 150 Phoenix, Arizona 85020 Attorney for Cynthia Borden

MINER Legal 1/31/24, 2/7/24, 2/14/24

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CLASSIFIED**1. Automobile****1. Automobile****1. Automobile****10. Business Services****Public Notice**

NOTICE (for publication) ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION HAVE BEEN FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION FOR I. Name: Real Estate Heavyweight LLC File No. 23623025 II. The address of the known place of business is: 1733 S. Desert View Pl. Apache Junction, AZ 85120 III. The name and street address of the Statutory Agent is: Seph Brown 1733 S. Desert View Pl. Management of the limited liability company is reserved to the members. The names and addresses of each person who is a member are: Seph Brown, 1733 S. Desert View Pl., Apache Junction AZ 85120 member
MINER Legal 1/17/24, 1/24/24, 1/31/24

Public Notice

NOTICE (for publication) ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION HAVE BEEN FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION FOR I. Name: D & R Cleaning LLC File No. 23622319 II. The address of the known place of business is: 2873 S Mariposa Rd Apache Junction, AZ 85119 III. The name and street address of the Statutory Agent is: Dayana Gonzalez 2873 S Mariposa Rd Apache Junction, AZ 85119 Management of the limited liability company is reserved to the members. The names and addresses of each person who is a member are: Dayana Gonzalez 2873 S Mariposa Rd Apache Junction, AZ 85119 member
MINER Legal 1/17/24, 1/24/24, 1/31/24

Public Notice

John L. Lohr, Jr. (SBN 019876) Jackson D. Hendrix (SBN 036452) HYMSON GOLDSTEIN PANTILIAT & LOHR, PLLC 14500 N. Northside Blvd. Suite 101 Scottsdale, Arizona 85260 Telephone: (480) 991-9077 Email: jll@hgplaw.com jhendrix@hgplaw.com Minute@hgplaw.com Attorneys for Plaintiff IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF PINAL JORDAN RIVER INVESTMENTS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; Plaintiff, v. MYRTLE ZELICHOWSKI, A Widow; THE ESTATE OF MYRTLE ZELICHOWSKI, if deceased; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF MYRTLE ZELICHOWSKI; DORIS ZELICHOWSKI, A Widow; THE ESTATE OF DORIS ZELICHOWSKI, if deceased; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF DORIS ZELICHOWSKI; RICHARD ALLAN ZELICHOWSKI, an individual, a known heir of the ESTATE OF DORIS ZELICHOWSKI; THE ESTATE OF RICHARD ALLAN ZELICHOWSKI, if deceased; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF RICHARD ALLAN ZELICHOWSKI; JAMES EDWARD ZELICHOWSKI, an individual, a known heir of the ESTATE OF DORIS ZELICHOWSKI; THE ESTATE OF JAMES EDWARD ZELICHOWSKI, if deceased; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES EDWARD ZELICHOWSKI; JANET LYNN GRAHAM, an individual, a known heir of the ESTATE OF DORIS ZELICHOWSKI; THE ESTATE OF JANET LYNN GRAHAM, if deceased; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF JANET LYNN GRAHAM; PATRICIA BONCOS, an individual, a known heir of the ESTATE OF DORIS ZELICHOWSKI; THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA BONCOS, if deceased; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA BONCOS; SUSAN SKINNER, an individual, a known heir of the ESTATE OF DORIS ZELICHOWSKI; THE ESTATE OF SUSAN SKINNER, if deceased; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF SUSAN SKINNER; CITY OF ELOY, an Arizona political subdivision; PINAL COUNTY TREASURER, an Arizona political subdivision; JOHN DOES I through V; JANE DOES I through V; BLACK CORPORATIONS I through V; WHITE PARTNERSHIPS I through V; and GREEN LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES I through V, Defendants. Case No. S1100CV202302607 SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION THE STATE OF ARIZONA TO THE DEFENDANT: MYRTLE ZELICHOWSKI, A Widow; THE ESTATE OF MYRTLE ZELICHOWSKI, if deceased; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF MYRTLE ZELICHOWSKI; DORIS ZELICHOWSKI, A Widow; THE ESTATE OF DORIS ZELICHOWSKI, if deceased; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF DORIS ZELICHOWSKI; RICHARD ALLAN ZELICHOWSKI, an individual, a known heir of the ESTATE OF DORIS ZELICHOWSKI; THE ESTATE OF RICHARD ALLAN ZELICHOWSKI, if deceased; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF RICHARD ALLAN ZELICHOWSKI; JAMES EDWARD ZELICHOWSKI, an individual, a known heir of the ESTATE OF DORIS ZELICHOWSKI; THE ESTATE OF JAMES EDWARD ZELICHOWSKI, if deceased; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES EDWARD ZELICHOWSKI; JANET LYNN GRAHAM, an individual, a known heir of the ESTATE OF DORIS ZELICHOWSKI; THE ESTATE OF JANET LYNN GRAHAM, if deceased; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF JANET LYNN GRAHAM; PATRICIA BONCOS, an individual, a known heir of the ESTATE OF DORIS ZELICHOWSKI; THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA BONCOS, if deceased; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA BONCOS; SUSAN SKINNER, an individual, a known heir of the ESTATE OF DORIS ZELICHOWSKI; THE ESTATE OF SUSAN SKINNER, if deceased; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF SUSAN SKINNER A lawsuit has been filed against you. A copy of the lawsuit and other court papers were served on you with this Summons. If you do not want a judgment taken against you without your input, you must file an Answer in writing with the Court, and you must pay the required filing fee. To file your Answer, take or send the papers to Clerk of the Superior Court, 971 Jason Lopez Circle Building A, Florence, Arizona 85132 or electronically file your Answer through one of Arizona's approved electronic filing systems at <http://www.azcourts.gov/e-filing/information>. Mail a copy of the Answer to the other party, the Plaintiff, at the address listed on the top of this Summons. Note: If you do not file electronically you will not have electronic access to the documents in this case. YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to serve upon the attorney for the Plaintiff an answer to the Complaint which is herewith served upon you, within twenty (20) days, exclusive of the day of service, of this Summons and Complaint upon you, if served within the State of Arizona, and within thirty (30) days, exclusive of the day of service, if served without the State of Arizona. Ariz.R.Civ.P. 4, A.R.S. §§ 20-222, 28-502, 28-503. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTICED that in case of your failure to appear and defend within the time applicable, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. YOU ARE CAUTIONED that in order to appear and defend, you must file an Answer or proper response in writing with the Clerk of this Court, accompanied by the necessary filing fee, within the time required, and you are required to serve a copy of any Answer or response upon Plaintiff's attorney. Ariz.R.Civ.P. 10(d); A.R.S. § 12-311; Ariz.R.Civ.P. 5. REQUESTS FOR REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES MUST BE MADE TO THE DIVISION ASSIGNED TO THE CASE BY PARTIES AT LEAST 3 JUDICIAL DAYS IN ADVANCE OF A SCHEDULED COURT PROCEEDING. REQUESTS FOR AN INTERPRETER FOR PERSONS WITH LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY MUST BE MADE TO THE OFFICE OF THE JUDGE OR COMMISSIONER ASSIGNED TO THE CASE BY PARTIES AT LEAST TEN (10) JUDICIAL DAYS IN ADVANCE OF A SCHEDULED COURT PROCEEDING. The names and addresses of Plaintiff's attorneys are: John Lohr, Jr. (SBN 019876) Jackson D. Hendrix (SBN 036452) HYMSON GOLDSTEIN PANTILIAT & LOHR, PLLC 14500 N. Northside Blvd., Suite 101 Scottsdale, Arizona 85260 SIGNED AND SEALED December 29, 2023: REBECCA PADILLA, Clerk By: MMASTERS Deputy Clerk
MINER Legal 1/10/24, 1/17/24, 1/24/24, 1/31/24

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20. Help Wanted**20. Help Wanted****20. Help Wanted****20. Help Wanted**

Ray Unified School District #3
Position Announcement
Until Filled

Position Type: Maintenance/Groundskeeper

Supervisor: Maintenance Supervisor

Requirements: U.S. Citizenship, H.S. Diploma or G.E.D.
To maintain facilities in a cost efficient and safe manner that ensures the highest level of appearance and healthful conditions.

Summary: Perform duties including maintenance, custodial, grounds keeping and delivery tasks. To include maintenance repairs including electrical, plumbing, carpentry, and vehicular.

Hours: 10 hours a day/4 days a week with Healthcare Benefits

Salary: \$16.15 an hour

Applications can be picked up from Susann Hillman at the District Office, Monday through Thursday
6:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. or rayusd.org.

Help Wanted

The Hayden-Winkelman Unified School District 41# is now accepting applications for the following positions:

- Middle School Head Baseball Coach
- Full time Bus Drive / Maintenance
- Part-time Bus Drivers

Please apply as soon as possible. Positions are open until filled. Applicants must pass fingerprint clearance for the position. If you are interested in being part of our winning team, apply now. Applications are available at the HWUSD District Office at 824 Thorne Avenue. For more information, please call 520-356-7876.

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CLASSIFIED

Deadline Friday 5 pm

**20. Help Wanted****20. Help Wanted****20. Help Wanted****20. Help Wanted****44. Yard Sales**

Ray Unified School District #3 Position Announcement

Position Type: Elementary Teacher (1st Grade, 3rd Grade, and 4th grade)

Date Posted: 01/17/2024

Location: Kearny, Arizona

Closing Date: Until Filled

Position Goals: While under the direct supervision of the Principal, the Teacher will provide sound and consistent instruction to students, modifying curriculum as needed, to support academic growth that enables each student to reach their full potential.

Description:

- Contract: 10-Month Position/150 days/4-day work week
- Start Date 07/30/2024

Qualification:

- Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college/university
- Valid Arizona Teaching Certification in Appropriate Area
- AZ IVP Fingerprint Clearance Card (required)
- Must be qualified to teach assigned grades and/or content

Salary: Teachers Salary Schedule

Benefits:

- Arizona State Retirement (ASRS)
- Medical, Dental, Vision Insurance
- Paid Time Off
- Life Insurance
- Wellness Program

To formally apply for this position, please visit the Ray Unified School District's website, District Office, or Administration.

The physical demands that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential duties and responsibilities of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform these essential duties and responsibilities. While performing the duties of this job the employee is regularly required to move about the field, gym, weight room, classroom and campus and talk and hear. The employee is frequently required to use hands and fingers to feel objects, tools, controls and to reach with hands and arms, bend stoop, kneel and crouch and occasionally lift or carry up to 50 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, and the ability to adjust focus.

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- **PRICE REDUCED – 1028 Webb Dr.** 3 bdrm 2 bath home. Many extras with block wall, garage, added family room, remodelled kitchen and baths, and ceramic tile flooring. Must see! \$259,000
- **919 W. 5th Ave.** 3 bdrm 1 ba home. Great home with lots of possibilities. Concrete driveway, block wall, extra parking in back. **SALE PENDING** \$144,500
- **PRICE REDUCED – 907 W. Webb Dr.** 3 bdrm 2 ba home. Includes extended family room and side utility area. Update kitchen and bath. extra sheds and fenced back yard, \$205,000
- **308 5th St.** 3 bdrm 2 bath home Must see this great home. Low maintenance front and back yards, extended concrete driveway, laminate and carpet flooring. Garage/workshop, fenced back yard, remodeled kitchen and bathrooms. \$265,000
- **922 W. 4th Ave.** 3 bdrm 2 ba home with enlarged living room and added family room and utility room. Great home with all appliances and some furnishings available. Lg. workshop and 2 sheds in back. Nice ramada also. Must see! \$207,500

MAMMOTH

- **726 Hwy 77** Commercial Building and Auto Repair Building with car lifts inside. Great location! Great opportunity! \$325,000
- **723 Hwy 77** Large store on Hwy 77. Includes all equipment walk-in refrigerator. Previously a liquor and food store. Great location and great price. \$250,000

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Public Notice

**NOTICE OF INITIAL HEARING
REGARDING: PETITION FOR
FORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND
FOR APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE**

CASE NO. PB2023-004059

SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA
IN MARICOPA COUNTY PROBATE
COURT ADMINISTRATION In the Matter
of DOROTHY STRINE-PENL WARNING
This is a legal notice; your rights may
be affected. Este es un aviso legal. Sus
derechos podrian ser afectados. You
are not required to attend this hearing
except as provided in A.R.S. § 14-
5401(D). However, if you oppose any
of the relief requested in the petition
that accompanies this notice, you must
file with the court a written response
at least 7 calendar days before the
hearing date OR you or your attorney
must attend the hearing by following the
instructions provided in this notice. Any
written response must comply with Rule
15(e) of the Arizona Rules of Probate
Procedure. If you do not file a timely
response or attend the hearing: (1) the
court may grant the relief requested in
the petition without further proceedings,
and (2) you will not receive additional
notices of court proceedings relating to
the petition unless you file a Demand
for Notice pursuant to Title 14, Arizona
Revised Statutes. 1. Notice is given that
CATHI AUSTIN has filed the following:
PETITION FOR FORMAL PROBATE
OF WILL AND FOR APPOINTMENT
OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE 2.
COURT HEARING. An initial hearing has
been scheduled to consider the Petition
as follows: DATE and TIME: Wednesday,
February 28, 2024 at 10:15 AM JUDICIAL
OFFICER: Commissioner Joseph
Rhoades PLACE: 101 W. JEFFERSON
STREET, PHOENIX, AZ 85003 -
COURTROOM 514 TELEPHONE NO:
(602) 372-0756 Pursuant to A.R.S. §
14-1306(A), if duly demanded, a party is
entitled to trial by jury in any proceeding
in which any controverted question of
fact arises as to which any party has a
constitutional right to trial by jury. Any
interested person, including the Petitioner
and the Petitioner's attorney, may attend
the Initial Hearing virtually unless the
Court has specifically ordered that
person to attend the hearing in person.
To attend the hearing virtually, use Court
Connect as described in Section 3 below.
If the Court has specifically ordered you
to attend the Initial Hearing in person,
you must do so by appearing at the
location stated above at the time of the
Initial Hearing. 3. COURT CONNECT
/ MICROSOFT TEAMS If you have a
camera-enabled computer, smartphone,
or tablet device, you should go to tinyurl.
com/bazmc-pcc01 a few minutes before
the Initial Hearing is scheduled to begin.
For the best experience, download and
install the Microsoft Teams application
on a camera-enabled computer,
smartphone, or tablet device using
either of the following methods prior to
the time set for the initial hearing:
Go to the following link: [https://www.
microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/
microsoft-teams/download-app](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/microsoft-teams/download-app) If you
have a camera-enabled device, but do
not want to install the Microsoft Teams
application, you may use a web browser
simply by typing tinyurl.com/bazmc-
pcc01 into your browser a few minutes
before the Initial Hearing is scheduled to
begin. Please note, however, that you
will not have access to all the features
if you use a web browser rather than
the Microsoft Teams application. If you
do not have a camera-enabled device,
you can still attend the Initial Hearing
by phone by calling: Courtroom Phone
Number: 1-917-781-4590 Courtroom
Conference ID#: 465 286 133# For more
information about Court Connect, please
see [https://superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/
court-connect](https://superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/court-connect)
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Ray Elementary's Spelling Bee winners are, from left, Katelynn Acevedo, Alicia Rivera and Michael Hernandez.

Katelynn Acevedo wins Ray Elementary School's Spelling Bee

Have you ever wondered why there are Spelling Bees?

According to the Scripps National Spelling Bee program it all began nearly a century ago with nine newspapers which joined together to host a spelling bee, in order to promote literacy. Their site, easily found by typing 'spellingbee.com' into your favorite browser, is full of interesting information on many aspects of the not-for-profit Spelling Bee that so many schools participate in.

Who were Ray Elementary School's winners? First place was won by

Katelynn Acevedo; second place, Alicia Rivera; and third place, Michael Hernandez. The three alternates will be Alexiana Valdez, Jamey Wernett and Erianna Armenta.

Other students participating in the spelling bee were: Ben Wade, Dariani De Los Reyes, Areli Hernandez, Alexa Granillo, Brailee Cook, Gabriella Ashley, Samayah Jackson, Dominyc Gallego, Kristian McLaughlin, Camilla Garcia, Ethan Meza, James Richardson and Bella Martinez!

Congratulations, students!



Painting clay creations at the Hayden Library



Youngsters made their clay pots a couple weeks ago. Now they are ready to paint them.

James Carnes | CANP

WINKELMAN PREP

Continued from page 2

two daughters. The two purchased the ranch previously owned by Joe and Jolene Philips, and currently they raise 4,000 chickens, producing eggs and poultry.

As they became more involved in the community, Rebecca applied to be the superintendent for the Ray Unified School District. While that opportunity did not come to fruition, she decided to open a private school for girls. The couple had home schooled their daughters, and had other parents asking if their students could attend her home schooling. The school had their first day in August of 2023 in the farm house on the 200-acre property.

There is not a cost for students to attend the private school because parents and guardians can use their State of Arizona Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA) to pay for tuition for the school.

“We are not operating this school to make a profit. We are building this school to provide options for other students,” explained Jeremi.

The curriculum does meet the State of Arizona academic requirements, but students can learn at their own pace, till they are proficient in the required skill they are also not required to pass standardized testing as required at public schools. The school will still administer the test, but is also focusing on preparing the students to take the college entrance exams such as the SAT.

Having a school on a working farm means that students are learning on real time such as learning how to figure out averages by measuring the weight of eggs and also learning business skills. The students are growing gardens and hiking in nature to learn more about life sciences such as biology and geology. They also have Spanish classes, piano and financial education. Winkelman Preparatory stresses critical thinking and its curriculum is designed to teach to the individual student, not the masses. Each student moves on to the next level as they reach mastery of the subject.

“We also want to create new opportunities for the students and expose them to different careers and experiences.” The 16 students in grades five through high school are fundraising for a trip to visit Washington D.C. to visit the Nation’s Capitol.

The success from this first year of operation has led the couple to purchase a building in Kearny where they will plan to expand the school to accommodate 60 students.

Both boys and girls will be eligible to attend the school. The school will follow the school calendar for the local public school.

Winkelman Preparatory Academy is not affiliated with any religious organizations. The location of the new school location will be announced soon and those interested in applying for the new school can contact Jeremi and Rebecca at 480-226-3197.

