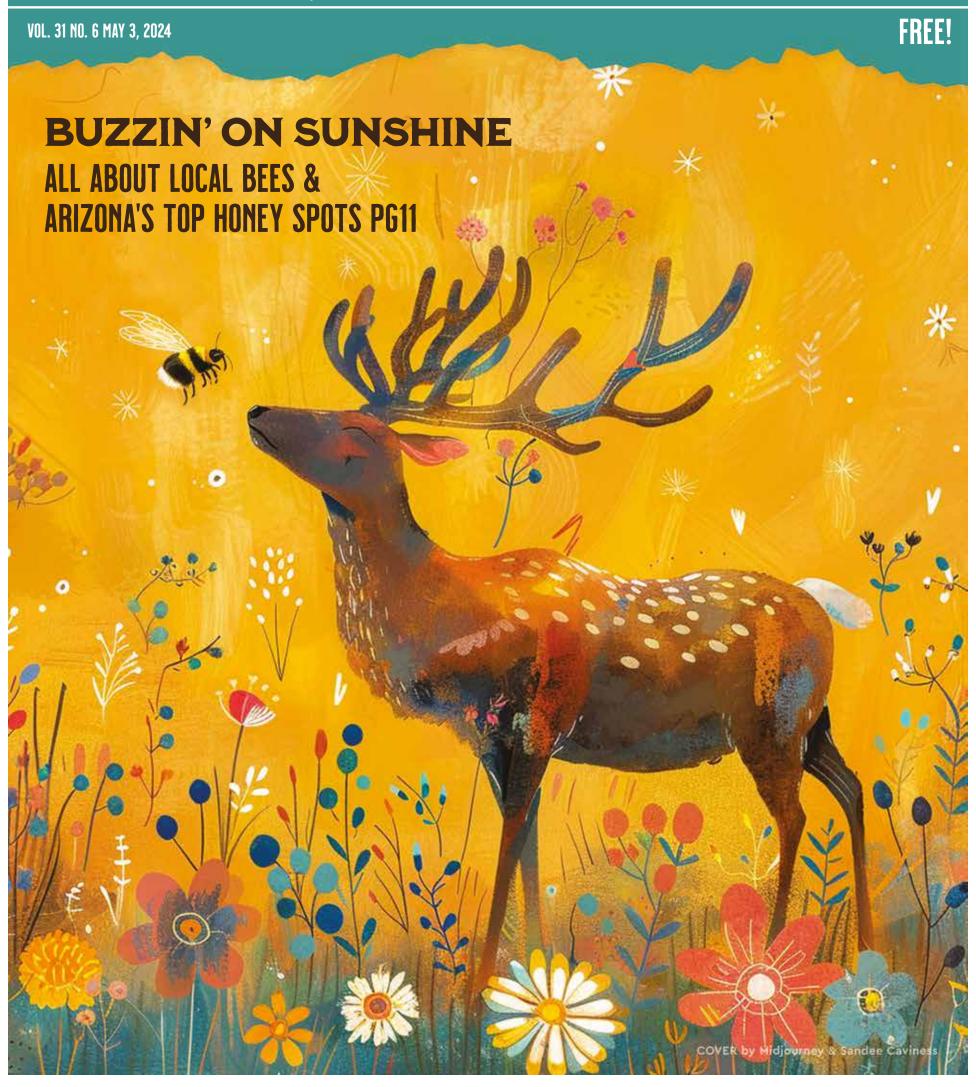
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR & STORY TIPS!

The Pinewood News is always interested in feedback and/or story tips from our readers and welcome comments on any subject or article published.

The Pinewood News will attempt to publish letters received, except for those that are an invasion of privacy or libelous. Letters must be signed and include an address and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

> Letters: PO Box 18977, Munds Park, AZ 86017 email: Hello@ThePinewoodNews.com

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COLDWELL BANKER NORTHLAND



\$400,000 95 E FOXBORO ROAD, 11

In serene Coconino National Forest, this 1.73-acre lot in Foxboro Ranch Estates offers a blend of tranquility and luxury with exclusive clubhouse access and all utilities ready.



\$375,000 259 E FOXBORO ROAD, 7

Nestled in Coconino National Forest, this 2.24-acre lot in Foxboro Ranch Estates offers luxury with no build time, exclusive clubhouse access, and proximity to Sedona.



\$350,000 307 E Foxboro Road, 4

Experience luxury at Foxboro Ranch Estates! 1.99 acre lot in Northern AZ with access to catch-and-release lakes, trails, and a log clubhouse near Schnebly Hill and Pinewood Golf Course..



\$349,900 18005 S DIXIE LANE, 48

Magnificent 1.8-acre lot in Foxboro Ranch Estates blends luxury with nature, offering access to private lakes, a clubhouse, and trails. Near Flagstaff and Sedona, utilities ready.



\$750,000 17745 S MAVERICK CIR

Spacious home with mountain charm and modern comfort: vaulted ceilings, stone fireplace, 4 bedrooms, loft with wet bar, 3 decks, paved driveway, and 2-car garage. Ideal for seasonal or full-time living.



\$1,249,000 1110 E LAKE MEADOW CIR

Luxury cabin on a quarter-acre near Lake O'Dell, with cathedral ceilings, fireplace, & expansive windows. Upgrades include central air, renovated kitchen/bath, new paint.



\$475,000 17295 S ZIA PLACE

Remodeled, metal roof, paver driveway, and 2 sheds. Split floor plan: primary bedroom suite, new kitchen, family room, laundry, and 2 beds. New bathrooms, flooring, windows, & paint.



\$650,000 17430 S MESCALERO DR

Spacious chalet on a large lot, 600 sq ft deck, vaulted ceilings, stone fireplace, renovated kitchen and baths. 50-year roof (2018), 3 bedrooms, loft, workshop. Don't miss out!



\$899,000 145 E VALLEY PL

Fully remodeled cabin with fresh paint, stainless steel kitchen appliances, elegant bathrooms, wood-burning fireplace, smart home tech, and floor-to-ceiling windows.



\$599,000 260 SANDIA CIR

Enchanting cabin nestled among pines, fully furnished with new TV, light fixtures, Trex deck, Ring cameras, and WiFi locks. Enjoy al fresco dining under the stars. A cozy, modern retreat.



SUMMER RENTAL! 22 E Oak DR, Munds Park

Summer rental: fireplace, vaulted ceilings, 2 bedrooms, sleeping loft, 2 baths, garage, AC, decking, sun room. Fully furnished.

Call Regina Bailey (928) 699-7069



\$799,900 17385 E MOUNTAINSIDE PL

Log-sided forest retreat in Pinewood County Club on nearly half-acre. Features west-facing decks, fenced backyard with firepit, stone fireplace, separate living areas, and gourmet kitchen.



928.606.1385

Becky McBride Associate Broker/Owner



Regina Bailey
Associate Broker
928.699.7069
Regina.Bailey@ProvidentAZ.com



Sonia Draper REALTOR® 928.699.8621

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Deavin Sedillo REALTOR® 928.679.5505 sedillo.d.r@gmail.com



Holly Zamora REALTOR® 928.853.7176 holly@jbreandco.com





Becky@flagstaffrealestate.com



COLDWELL BANKER NORTHLAND

Coldwell Banker Northland would like to welcome The Justin Bemis Real Estate Team to our Munds Park office. This team is already familiar and highly knowledgeable with helping sellers and buyers in Munds Park, AZ. They have some wonderful listings available including generous sized lots in Foxboro Ranch Estates. We are excited for this dynamic and passionate real estate team to extend their services to Munds Park, AZ. Keep an eye out for these amazing agents & their exciting community events!



Justin Bemis REALTOR® 928.300.1080 www.justinbemis.com

JUSTIN BEMIS

Originally from the Pacific northwest, my wife, three dogs and myself decided that Flagstaff Arizona was where we were going to land. From outdoor camping and adventure trips, skiing and snowboarding, golfing on some of northern Arizona's premier golf courses, what more can you ask for? With my passion for client relationships and real estate, let me show you why I love to call Northern Arizona home.



Cole Clark REALTOR® 928.853.9867 coleclarkaz@gmail.com

COLE CLARK

My commitment to real estate is about creating opportunities for everyone to experience the pride of homeownership. Passionate about making dreams come true, I bring a caring approach to every client interaction, ensuring open communication and dedicated listening so your desires are deeply understood. In the dynamic world of real estate, I strive to modernize and streamline the buying and selling process, providing tailored customer care and robust marketing to ensure a seamless experience that exceeds expectations.



Sonia Draper REALTOR® 928.699.8621 Sonia@Draper-Realtor.com

SONIA DRAPER

I'm Sonia! Many of the Munds Park locals already know me. I'm the newest team member on the Justin Bemis Team but I am not new to Munds Park or to selling real estate! I came across Munds Park several years ago, early in my career. I noticed how vibrant and fun this town was with all the festivities, walking trails, country club and golf course and it became such a special place to me. As I progressed in my real estate career I became the listing agent for Foxboro Ranch Estates. I have met the most amazing people in this area! It's a special place!



Skyler Nissl REALTOR® 928.853.1174 skylerlnissl@gmail.com

SKYLER NISSL

My eight years with a local auto sales company has taught me the expertise and diligence needed to form lifetime relationships and exceed client's expectations. As I have proven with my loyal clients in the auto industry, I will go the extra mile for my clients in their real estate endeavors. Nothing is more important to me than finding you the perfect home! I would love to share my passion and experience to help YOU. Whether you need a local hiking trail suggestion, a sunset picnic spot, or your next dream home, I am your dedicated expert!



Holly Zamora REALTOR® 928.853.7176 holly@jbreandco.com

HOLLY ZAMORA

In addition to my academic pursuits, I have enjoyed serving the community as a craft cocktail bartender and opening a personal training gym and yoga studio. Embracing a career in Luxury Real Estate, I am fully committed to applying my dedication to service and personal growth in this new field. I believe in embracing challenges, dedicating ourselves wholeheartedly to each endeavor. I aim to instill confidence and joy in your real estate pursuits through authenticity, compassion, and tenacity in every transaction.



Levi Strong REALTOR® 620.517.0249

LEVI STRONG

Born and raised in a small Kansas farming community, I gradually moved west and settled in Williams, AZ with my wife after eight years in Southern California. We enjoy hiking the Grand Canyon, mountain biking in Sedona, dining in Flagstaff, and paddle boarding in Prescott. I entered real estate to help people achieve their dreams of homeownership. Whether you're a first-time buyer or seeking a second home in Northern Arizona's cool mountains, I'm here to guide you through ${\it leviwestonstrong@gmail.com} \quad the \ buying \ or \ selling \ process.$



Rudy Carrillo REALTOR® 928.266.7564 rudy@realtyrc.com

RUDY CARRILLO

I worked as a salesman at a local dealership, where I enjoyed closing deals and formed lasting friendships with mentors who helped me grow personally and professionally. As a lifelong Arizona resident and dedicated agent, I am committed to helping clients find their perfect home anywhere in the state—from Flagstaff to Sedona—and will support you every step of the way.



Carson Yoder REALTOR® 970.739.3081 carson.yoder43@gmail.com

CARSON YODER

Hello, I'm Carson, your trusted realtor deeply connected to the beautiful landscapes of Flagstaff and its community. For the past three years, I've enjoyed exploring the breathtaking landscapes and meeting incredible people here. When not helping clients find their dream homes, I'm often camping under the starry skies or skiing at Snowbowl. My passion for real estate and dedication to this community drive me to turn your real estate dreams into reality.

LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS

MUNDS PARK COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Munds Park Community Watch Meeting

Date: Wednesday, May 16

Time: 6:30 PM

Venue: Pinewood Fire Department

Stay informed and engaged with what's happening in our community. This meeting will cover the latest updates on county affairs, fire safety, and important local happenings. It's a great opportunity to hear directly from community leaders and ask questions.

Participation Reminder: Your presence matters! Engage with your community to understand and influence the issues that affect us all. If you're not there, you'll miss out on having your voice heard.

We hope to see everyone there—let's make a difference together!

Munds Park Republican Women Meeting Notice

Regular Meetings: Second Thursday of each month.

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 9

Time: 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Speaker: April Smith from Free Enterprise.

For information and location details, please text 602-376-3332.

MUTS Volunteer Event is Saturday, May 11th.

Projects: Maintenance on Crystal Point Trail (non-motorized) and clearing debris other trails.

Meet at the Pinewood 240 Trailhead (in the Turnaround Area) at 8:15 a.m. We will finish our trail work around noon; afterward, a free lunch will be served.

Please R.S.V.P. prior to May 6th, at mundstrailstewards@hotmail.com

What to bring: Work gloves, long pants, sturdy shoes, sunblock, dress for the weather, and bring a smile. Water and trail tools will be provided.

Please check for updates because the events can change, be added, or postponed at mundsparktrailstewards.com.

NEW SIGNAGE APPROVED!

Update: In an effort to mitigate ongoing navigational errors that have led to semi-trucks being misdirected into residential areas, new measures are set to be introduced. Marc F. Della Rocca, Community Relations Manager for Coconino County Public Works,



announced that a sign will soon be installed on Pinewood Blvd. This sign is intended to alert semi-truck drivers that Munds Park is not a throughway, advising them to turn around before they venture too deep into the Park. Although there is no specific timeframe for the installation, the sign has been approved and is expected to be strategically placed to maximize visibility and effectiveness.

Background: The decision comes in response to incidents where semitrucks, misled by faulty GPS directions, ended up on narrow, residential streets, often during adverse weather conditions. This not only led to significant disruptions but also posed safety risks. Thank you to local voices like Mark Santarlasci prompting action from county officials. Despite the complexities involved in updating GPS mappings and the stringent regulations around new signage set by the Federal Highway Administration, local authorities are pushing forward with practical solutions to prevent future occurrences.

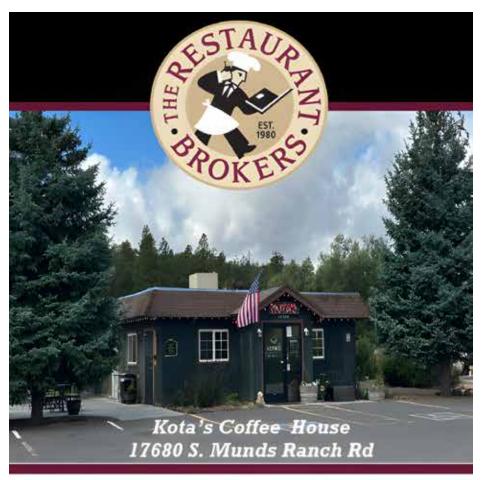
Coconino County Public Works continues to work on long-term strategies to correct GPS route suggestions and is in talks with mapping services.

\$19.3M GRANT BOOSTS HWY 89 FLOOD DEFENSES AFTER WILDFIRE

The U.S. Department of Transportation has allocated \$19.3 million to the Coconino County Flood Control District to enhance flood resilience along Highway 89, severely impacted by post-wildfire conditions following the 2022 Pipeline Fire. This project, critical for the principal arterial route connecting multiple major locations including Flagstaff and Grand Canyon National Park, will improve infrastructure to manage dramatically increased flood risks. Components of the initiative include new crossings and expansion of the Copeland Detention Facility to better control floodwaters affecting the highway and nearby communities. The project funding is part of a broader \$160 million investment in post-wildfire flood mitigation efforts, involving multiple state and federal partners.

Continued on page 7





Munds Park Coffee Shop & Cafe Avaialable!

Live the life! A VERY COOL and "oh so cute" little coffee shop in Northern Arizona is now available. This profitable business operates in a freestanding building with plenty of its own parking and a big 50-seat dog-friendly patio that their loyal clientele just loves. Literally the perfect place to enjoy your morning cup of coffee along with some of their fabulous homemade pastry joined by your best friends - both the two-legged and four-legged variety. Smell the FRESH AIR and RELAX!

DO NOT DISTURB EMPLOYEES & Call for Pricing!







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LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS

Continued from page 5

VERIFY YOUR INTERNET SPEED & SHAPE MUNDS PARK'S BROADBAND FUTURE!

Arizona's Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program, backed by a \$994 million federal grant, aims to ensure statewide high-speed internet coverage. The BEAD program not only promotes digital inclusion and economic development but also integrates efforts with other state and federal initiatives to enhance Arizona's digital infrastructure. A crucial component of this program is the Challenge Process, managed by the AZ State Broadband Office, which allows residents to verify and challenge their current internet service speeds through speed tests. This process helps to maintain an accurate broadband map reflecting true internet accessibility across the state.

Residents of Coconino County, and particularly those in rural or remote areas, are encouraged to participate in these speed tests to identify regions lacking adequate internet service. The deadline for these submissions is May 14, 2024. By taking and submitting three different speed tests on separate days, users contribute to the state's efforts to identify unserved (no internet) or underserved (below 100/20 Mbps) areas, which will be prioritized for funding to enhance internet services. This initiative is not only about improving broadband coverage but also about empowering communities by improving access to essential digital services and opportunities. For more detailed information or assistance, residents can visit the Coconino County Broadband website at coconino.az.gov/broadband.

APS ELECTRICAL UPGRADES COMING TO MUNDS PARK

APS customers in Munds Park will soon benefit from more upgrades to energy infrastructure to support reliable power to the area. Following harsh winter storms in 2022 and 2023, APS began a focused effort to strengthen the grid. Crews will be replacing aging power poles with new ones, stringing electrical wire and installing advanced technology to minimize power outages, particularly during times of extreme storm conditions.

"Over the past year, we've carefully inspected and identified opportunities to increase service reliability in Munds Park," said Joe Weathersby, APS Northeast Division Manager. "We appreciate the patience of our customers as our crews work hard during the next several months to make sure our electrical system is in top shape to serve you."

In addition to performing maintenance and replacing equipment, APS crews have patrolled power lines on foot and taken a bird's eye view from above using drones to target areas for the removal of overgrown, potentially hazardous vegetation and reduce the risk of wildfires.

Maintenance projects are set to continue through 2024 and customers who may be impacted will receive advanced notice from APS.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I have been challenging what I call the invalid floodplain maps in Munds Park since 2018. On April 24, 2024 the appeal process closed. The April 13 community meeting for the floodplain maps was very informative, but unfortunately it was held in the winter as was the 90 day appeal period. You may want to ask yourself why the appeal period was held in the winter by the County.

On April 19, 2024 Mr. Tim Smith of GSS Companies, Inc. who owns the 20 acre parcel south of Agee's went below the bridge and approximately 3/4 mile down Munds Wash and did not find a 2.5 foot narrow restriction that hampered drainage, according to the County. He did find issues on the west side and east side of the bridge that hamper drainage. There is a considerable amount of silt upstream and downstream of the Interstate 17 Bridge (4ft plus) for a distance of approximately 400 feet along with some boulders that have fallen in from the cliffs above.

The County and Fuller Engineering appear to have misrepresented the Interstate 17 Bridge drainage area which in turn damages property owners with the proposed floodplain maps. The County had all the same information we the people of Munds Park have and appear to have completely ignored it to publish invalid Floodplain Maps.

If FEMA refuses to stop the proposed floodplain maps along with investigating these allegations then one can only conclude that FEMA has an agenda other than helping us. This is because the proposed floodplain maps are definitely not realistic. If they are issued without an investigation into these matters then a reasonable person would assume FEMA is doing this for the purpose of increasing the Floodplain Insurance Program with invalid flood maps.

Thank you, Larry Hering - Munds Park Resident





Reliant Law Group invites you to a

LIVING TRUST & AVOID PROBATE SEMINAR



Troy FrodermanAttorney and Founder
Reliant Law Group, PLLC.

Learn how to keep your family and assets out of Arizona Probate Court

Reliant Law Group will walk you through an easy-to-understand seminar designed to educate you about how to protect your family and avoid the most common and costly estate planning mistakes.

You'll learn about.



Why most Arizona residents use a Living Trust to keep their assets out of Probate

Why it's important to have power of attorney documents in Arizona

Wills vs. Trusts - Why a Will is not enough to avoid probate in Arizona

If you have an existing estate plan or living trust that was created in another state - you'll learn how to make sure that your plan is up-to-date for Arizona.

Register today — Seating is limited —These seminars fill up quickly!

Call 602.325.8447 or email admin@reliant-gh.com to register.

JUNE 15 AND 16, 2024 | 3:00 PM

Kota's Coffee House

17680 S Munds Ranch Rd, Munds Park, AZ 86017

Happy Hour style charcuterie platters, cookies, coffee, and tea will be served.

JUST GIVE ME ONE MORE WEEK A Sobering Lesson in Estate Planning

In the peaceful community of Munds Park, a somber tale unfolded—a reminder of the importance of timely action in estate planning. It began with a client facing declining health, prompting the need for a trust. With family dynamics to consider, the situation required careful navigation to ensure fair asset distribution. A long-time Munds Park owner, Attorney Troy Froderman was asked to help get everything in order. Due to health issues, Troy would need to act fast.

Following a thorough consultation, Troy drafted a revocable living trust tailored to protect the estate from potential turmoil. However, when it came time for signatures, a hesitation arose. The client was struggling because he knew what he should do, but also felt the pangs of protecting certain family members from their own difficulties. "Many families have situations where showering someone with cash may actually cause them greater harm," Froderman explained. "This was just that sort of situation but my client had some real heartache over this reality causing him to hesitate. He asked for more time."

Tragically, within days, fate intervened—the client passed away, leaving behind a legacy mired in disarray. Now his estate is in probate court. Probate is expensive, subject to long delays, and charred with no certainty that the client's wishes will be honored.

For Froderman, this experience underscored the imperative of proactive preparation. He advocates for timely action in estate planning, urging residents of Munds Park to consider the following benefits of a revocable living trust:

Probate Avoidance

Establishing a trust circumvents the cumbersome probate process, ensuring efficient asset transfer to designated beneficiaries.

Family Harmony

Proactive planning allows for the mitigation of potential conflicts, ensuring fair and equitable distribution of assets according to the client's wishes.

Cost Savings

By sidestepping probate, families can avoid significant legal fees and expenses associated with prolonged court proceedings.

Privacy Preservation

Trusts offer a confidential alternative to probate, shielding the estate from public scrutiny.

The lesson is clear—do not delay in securing your legacy. Act now to protect your assets and ensure peace of mind for your loved ones. The consequences of procrastination in estate planning can be far-reaching, but with timely action, you can safeguard your family's future.

Please review the details displayed on the left and ensure your registration for Troy Froderman's Living Trust & Avoid Probate Seminar. Seating is limited.







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Pat & Bruce Moore - Marketing Pinewood / Munds Park for 45 years Northern Arizona MLS & Phoenix MLS

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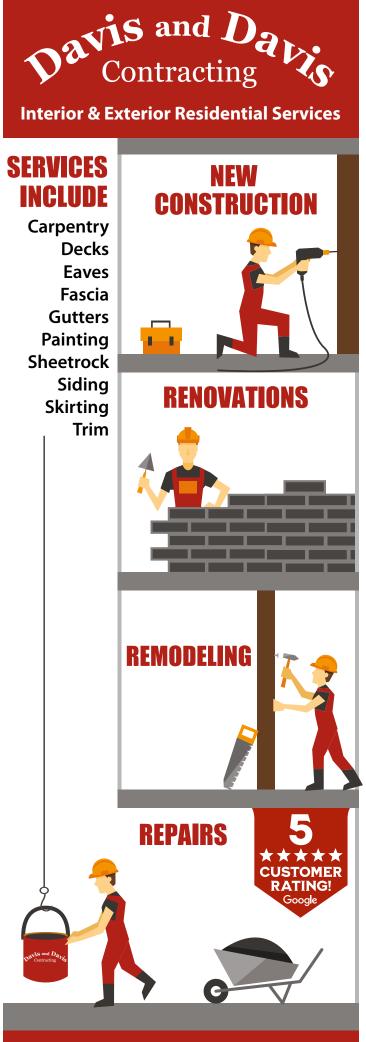
2836 E Gelding Drive, Phoenix

Mountain Dreams Realty is a family owned business that is able to provide low brokerage fees without sacrificing service. We believe our Clients & Customers should have the ability to sell their home with the same advantages offered by other companies without cutting into their **Profit Margin**

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BUZZIN' ON SUNSHINE

All About Happy Bees & Arizona's Top Honey Spots

By Kenneth Paul

In the beautiful landscapes of Northern Arizona, the hum of activity among the region's native bees forms a symphony of ecological interaction. Home to at least 369 species in the greater San Francisco Peaks area alone, these bees are essential to the proliferation of the local flora, making them the unsung heroes of pollination.

Evolved from carnivorous wasps approximately 125 million years ago, alongside the emergence of the first flowering plants, bees have adapted to feed on nectar for energy while collecting pollen to nourish their offspring. Their method of pollination is not just a mere transfer of pollen; it is an intricate dance of ecological interdependence that ensures the reproduction of myriad plant species.



The bees of Northern Arizona are remarkable for their diversity and specialization. Unlike the honeybees introduced from Europe, most of Northern Arizona's bees are solitary creatures. These native species do not form hives but are instead singular agents of pollination, foraging independently and nesting in various natural crevices. The female bees often lay their eggs in meticulously crafted tunnels or crevices in wood and stone, displaying a fascinating array of nesting behaviors tailored to their environment.

Interestingly, bees possess unique visual capabilities, with five eyes that allow them to detect polarized light and ultraviolet patterns, invisible to the human eye, that guide them to their floral targets. This feature is crucial, as many of Northern Arizona's bees are specialists that rely on specific plant species for survival, synchronizing their life cycles with the blooming periods of these plants.

Among the more social types are the bumblebees, distinguishable by their round, furry bodies and vivid bands of color. These bees form small colonies, each ruled by a queen, and are known for their relatively gentle nature towards humans. They live in seasonal colonies, utilizing their long, hairy tongues to sip nectar and carry pollen back to their nests to support their young.

Beyond the peaks and valleys of Northern Arizona, the Sonoran Desert region boasts an even greater diversity of bees, estimated to be between 600-700 native species. This incredible variety reflects the ecological richness and complexity of Arizona, which harbors the most bee diversity in the United States, possibly even globally.

Arizona's bees are not just numerous; they are specialists in their field. Evolved over millions of years, these native bees exhibit a profound connection with the local flora, outperforming the globally recognized European honeybee in the pollination of native plants and many crops. This specialization highlights a crucial ecological principle: the deep-seated interdependencies between native species and their natural habitats.

Supporting these vital pollinators is crucial. Simple steps, such as maintaining natural habitats in gardens and fostering native plant growth, can significantly enhance their populations. By understanding and appreciating the complex world of bees in Northern Arizona and beyond, we can contribute to sustaining the natural processes that these remarkable insects support.

DISCOVERING THE UNIQUE HONEYS OF THE SOUTHWEST

In the vast and varied landscapes of Arizona, where the desert meets lush groves, the bees work diligently, crafting some of the most uniquely flavored honeys in the world. Each variety is a sweet testament to the state's ecological diversity, offering more than just a taste—these honeys provide a sensory journey through the regions they originate from.

ORANGE BLOSSOM HONEY: Emblematic of nature's bounty, Orange Blossom Honey captures the essence of Arizona's springtime citrus groves. As the orange blossoms unfurl, bees busily convert their delicate nectar into honey, infusing it with the light, refreshing scent of citrus blooms. This golden, fluid gem is not just a delight on the palate but also a harbinger of the warmer months, carrying the subtle sweetness and zest of orange blossoms that elevate it beyond the ordinary.

Continued on page 23

THINGS TO DO...



The Market opens on Saturday, May 18, and will be held every Saturday through October!

SATURDAY, MAY 4

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo at Tlaquepaque Sedona with Live Music, Food, Entertainment & More!

The venue will come alive in high celebratory fashion with pulsating sounds of music and roaring applause, colorful dances, savory flavors and activities all day long. Celebrations will begin at 11 a.m. and will conclude at 5 p.m.

Do you have an event you would like to advertise?

Contact the Pinewood News at Hello@ThePinewoodNews.com

SATURDAY, MAY 11

Rimrock Community-Wide Garage Sale

Join residents and local businesses throughout Rimrock for a day filled with treasure hunting! Pick up a map for participating locations at Beaver Creek Realty either before the day, or on the morning of the sales.

Get Your Maps Here. Beaver Creek Realty 3325 E Beaver Creek Rd, Rimrock, AZ

SATURDAY, MAY 11 Verde Valley Wine Festival



Don't miss out on the Verde Valley Wine Festival at Riverfront Park in Cottonwood, AZ. Experience an extraordinary day celebrating Arizona's top wines and local beers amidst picturesque riverbanks. Savor

a selection of Arizona's finest wines, from velvety reds to crisp whites, expertly crafted by passionate local winemakers. Complement your tastings with delicious bites from local food vendors, all while enjoying live music and artisan crafts.

Riverfront Park 1284 E River Front Rd., Cottonwood 11 am - 6 pm

STARTING SATURDAY MAY 11



Splash Into Summer at Heritage Pool!

Dive into fun at the Camp Verde Heritage Pool! We're splashing into the season with weekend-only swims

starting May 11th. Then, make a big splash as we open daily from May 25th. Get your swimsuits ready for endless summer days at the pool!

Heritage Pool 290 Apache Trail Camp Verde

SATURDAY, MAY 25



Plant Sale & Garden Festival

Explore the Coconino County Master Gardener's Plant Sale at Colton Garden! Discover a variety of plants, starts, and used tools, along with tasty food. Get free gardening tips,

participate in fun activities, and try your luck in two raffles. Free entry and parking!

10 am – 2 pm Museum of Northern Arizona 3101 N Fort Valley Rd, Flagstaff





ENTERTAINING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1990

MAY REMINDERS!

APPLICATIONS FOR

Youth Drama Camps

Due May 24

APPLICATIONS FOR

Pinewood Players Scholarships

Due May 31

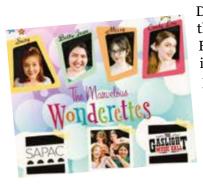
Community Rummage Sale

Saturday, May 25

Drop Off 6-8 am Sale Begins 8am - noon

For Applications & Information Visit www.PinewoodPlayers.com

PINEWOOD PLAYERS PRESENT 'THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES' AFTER SHOW CANCELLATION



Due to circumstances beyond our control the June production of The Andrews
Brothers has been canceled. At this late date it is not possible to replace the canceled play with another Pinewood Players stage production. However, Pinewood Players in cooperation with Pinewood Country Club and by special arrangement with The Gaslight Music Hall will present two special performances of The Marvelous Wonderettes.

This smash Off-Broadway hit takes us to the 1958 Springfield High School Prom. Betty Jean, Cindy Lou, Missy and Suzy are four girls with hopes and dreams as big as their crinoline skirts! We get to know them, their lives and their loves as the girls serenade us with classic '50s hits including Lollipop, Dream Lover, Stupid Cupid and Lipstick on Your Collar. In Act II the Wonderettes reunite to take the stage and perform at their ten-year reunion. We learn about the highs and lows the girls have experienced in the preceding decade and are charmed to find that no matter what life throws their way they will conquer it together. Featuring over 30 classic '50s and '60s hits The Marvelous Wonderettes will keep you smiling in this musical trip down memory lane. Audience participation will make this a unique, fun, experience. Be sure to grab a ticket before we sell out of the special performances on Saturday June 8th at 7 pm and Sunday June 9th at 2:30 pm.

Direction & choreography by Samantha Cormier, production possible with special permission from Broadway Licensing.

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THE NORTHERN ARIZONA SCENE





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Visit verdecanyonrr.com to book your seat!

JUNE 06, 07, 08 Flagstaff Rodeo!



Experience the thrill of a PRCA sanctioned rodeo! Dive into the action with bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, team roping, steer wrestling, tie-down roping, barrel racing, bull riding, and breakaway roping.

Join us in the majestic ponderosa pines at the Coconino County Fort Tuthill grandstands every June. With three evening performances, immerse yourself in the exhilarating atmosphere under Northern Arizona's starlit skies. Enjoy the spectacle of bright lights and perfect temperatures at our exciting Flagstaff, Arizona rodeo grounds.

Fort Tuthill Luke AFB Recreation Area 415 Battalion Rd, Flagstaff

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JUNE 8 & 9



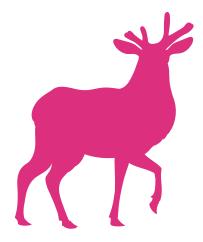
Jerome Music & Arts Festival

The Jerome Music & Arts Festival takes place all throughout town with over 50 artists and performers, it'll be a

special weekend to remember.

Come celebrate music and arts at several venues in Jerome. Also, enjoy food trucks, a kid's area, and all the local shops. The festival is free to the public and will be held in a "block party" fashion.

Starts at 11 am Jerome Arizona





EXPLORE NORTHERN AZ: QUICK SCAN FOR FUN!

VISIT PAGE 33 FOR INFORMATION ON UPCOMING 4TH OF JULY PARADES!

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HOMEMADE & WONDERFUL

CELEBRATE CINCO DE MAYO WITH A TASTE OF PUEBLA'S CULINARY FUSION: CHICKEN TINGA TACOS

By Sandee Caviness

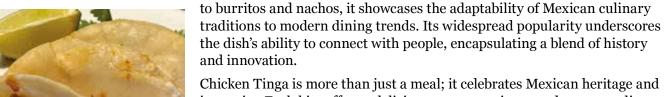
In the heart of Mexico lies the culinary treasure of Puebla, a region celebrated for its remarkable fusion of indigenous and Spanish influences, giving rise to some of the most iconic dishes in Mexican cuisine. Among these, Chicken Tinga stands out with its robust flavors and storied past, making it a perfect centerpiece for celebrations and everyday meals.

Originating during Mexico's colonial period, Chicken Tinga or "Tinga

de Pollo" reflects the culinary creativity of Puebla. This dish combines the native cooking traditions of pre-Hispanic times with ingredients introduced by the Spanish, such as onions and garlic. Initially crafted as a way to repurpose leftover meats, local cooks would simmer yesterday's chicken in a spicy, smoky sauce of tomatoes and chipotle peppers, transforming it into something extraordinary.

The essence of Chicken Tinga lies in its simplicity and adaptability. Its preparation involves stewing the chicken in a rich sauce until it's infused with the smoky heat of the chipotle and the tang of tomatoes, creating layers of flavor that are both complex and comforting. This practicality made it a staple for feeding large groups during gatherings, contributing to its role in community celebrations.

Today, Chicken Tinga has evolved beyond its traditional roots to become a versatile ingredient in various Mexican dishes. From tacos and tostadas



Chicken Tinga is more than just a meal; it celebrates Mexican heritage and ingenuity. Each bite offers a delicious taste experience and connects diners with Puebla's rich history, making it a staple dish worthy of intimate family dinners and grand festive occasions.

Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 cup roughly chopped sweet onion
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1–2 chipotle peppers in adobo sauce, chopped
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 3/4 cup canned crushed fire-roasted tomatoes
- 1/4 cup chicken stock
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 3 cups shredded cooked chicken (rotisserie chicken works!)

For Serving:

- 10 (6-inch) corn tortillas
- 2 ripe avocados, sliced
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
- 1/2 cup diced red onion
- 1/4 cup crumbled cotija
- 1 lime, cut into wedges

Continued on page 22



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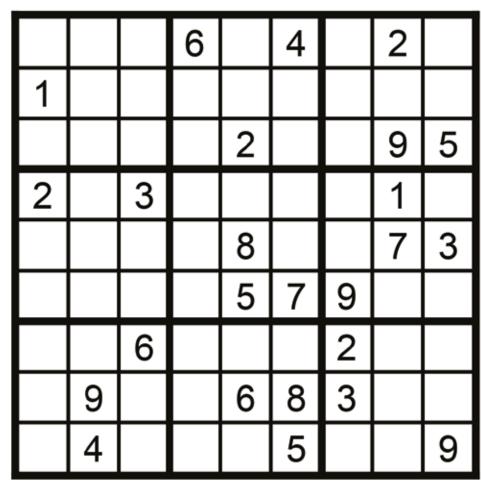
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SUDOKU

Created by Paul Mason • Solution pg. 38



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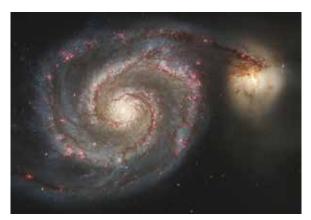
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STARLIGHT STORIES

THE MAY SKY





The Whirlpool Galaxy, M51 | Images by NASA and STScI

By Richard Pipkin

Let's start with some "star hopping" this month. This is a technique amateur astronomers use to find their way around the night sky.

Most people can find the Big Dipper which is high in the northern sky this month. Note that the handle of the dipper is curved; astronomers like to call it an arc which allows us to use the mnemonic, "Follow the arc to Arcturus, send a spike to Spica." If you're not sure you've found the right stars, Arcturus is very bright and almost due east early in the month moving higher in the sky and toward east-southeast as the month progresses. Spica is a little less bright but has a distinct blue color.

Arcturus and Spica make up the base of well-known asterism, the Spring Triangle. The third star of the triangle is Regulus. It's about the same brightness as Spica. It'll be about 65 degrees high in the south-southwest early in the month moving lower and westerly as the month progresses. You can verify you've found Regulus on May 15 when it will be close to the first quarter moon. Incidentally, all three stars of the triangle are double stars, but you can't see their companions with an amateur telescope. Stay with Regulus for a moment and see if you can connect it to five more stars that make up the well know Sickle asterism.

If you have access to binoculars or a telescope, a beautiful sight this month is the Rose Cluster also known as Messier 5 or simply M5. The Rose is a globular cluster, meaning a mass of several thousand stars of various colors in a tiny area of sky. The cluster will be due southeast on May 19 and about 45 degrees up.

Another globular cluster worth searching for is the Great Hercules Cluster (M13). The GLC contains roughly 100,000 stars. Again, this one is best viewed through binoculars or a telescope, but with a dark sky such as ours, it's possible to find it with the naked eye. Try searching late in the month. Look east-northeast to find the bright star Vega. Continue straight up about another 25 degrees and look for a small fuzzy patch of sky.

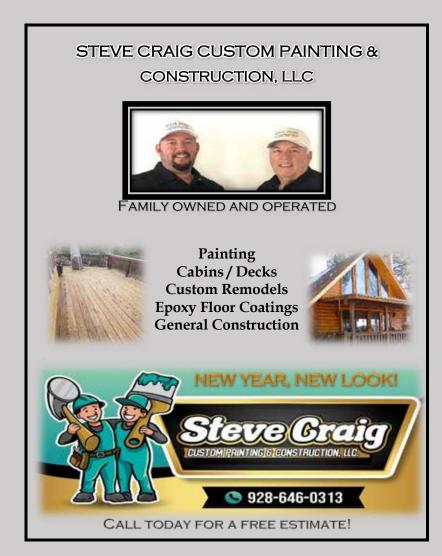
A few galaxies are also visible this month. Bode's Galaxy (M81) is visible to the naked eye. It will be roughly north-northwest and about 50 degrees up in mid-month. With binoculars you might also find the Cigar Galaxy (M82) just west and below Bode's.

A favorite galaxy with amateur astronomers and astrophotographers is the Whirlpool Galaxy (M51). This is a spiral galaxy, like our own Milky Way, around 23 million light years from us. The best way to locate the Whirlpool is to find Alkaid, the western-most star in the constellation Ursa Major. It will be due northeast and M51 will be around 5 degrees above the star.

Finally, the annual Grand Canyon Star Party this year will be June 1 through June 8 at the Canyon's south rim. I'll be one of 50 or so amateur astronomers attending. We will set up telescopes behind the Visitor Center where the public are invited to view various objects in the fabulously dark Grand Canyon sky. If you can get a hotel or campsite in the park, this is an event you won't want to miss.











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EXPLORE & LEARN! EXCITING SCHOLARSHIPS & CAMPS

PINEWOOD PLAYERS PREPARE FOR TWO YOUTH DRAMA CAMPS

Pinewood Players Summer Youth Camp will offer not one, but two great opportunities to sing, dance and have a ball with new and old friends!

KIDS CAMP: Ages 6-9 will be performing Pajama Party, by Christi Miller and Jay Ferguson.

Camp dates-weekdays, 9 am -12:30 pm, from June 18-June 29. Also on Saturday, June 22.

Performances: June 28, 7 pm, June 29, 2:30 and 5:30 pm.

Tuition is \$175 per child.

TWEEN CAMP: Ages 10-18, will be performing Dear Edwina, JR. presented through special arrangement with Music Theater International (MTI) All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. (www. MTIShows.com) written by Marcy Heisler and Zina Goldrich and directed by Jennifer Adams and Tina Scarpaci.

CAMP DATES: June 17-July 7, 2024

Monday, June 17 will be a full day audition session, 9 am-4:30 pm June 18-June 28, 1–4:30 pm. July1-5, 9 am-4:30 pm No session on July 4, 2024. Saturday, June 22nd, 1-4:30 pm. Performances: July 5, 7 pm, July 6, 2:30 & 5:30 pm, July 7, 2:30 pm Tuition is \$225 per child

Registration deadline for both camps is May 15, 2024. Tuition assistance is available for families who may need it.

Applications for both Camps are available now at pinewoodplayers.com.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US:

Nancy Cummings: ncummings67@me.com | (623) 680-9022

Lu Cross: lkcross67@me.com | (928) 890-9877

PINEWOOD PROPERTY ASSOCIATION 2024 SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year the Pinewood Property Owners offers two \$3000 scholarships to students who are full time residents of Munds Park, and who have recently graduated from a Flagstaff high school. These scholarships are available for either academic or accredited trade

school students. The scholarship may be extended for a second year provided the student maintains good grades.

Information and applications are available at lobar1@msn. com. Application deadline is May 31, 2024.

PINEWOOD PLAYERS SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Accepting Applications Now!

The Pinewood Players Scholarship Committee, chaired by Joy Stevens, is accepting applications for the 2024 Scholarship Award(s). Each year up to two \$2,000 scholarships are awarded to deserving students with strong ties to Munds Park who meet the program criteria.

For program information, instructions, and 2024 applications, visit www.pinewoodplayers.com and click the Scholarship tab to download the materials. If you know a deserving student, whether it's your child, grandchild or someone else, who may qualify for Pinewood Players Scholarship Award, please encourage them to apply.

The deadline for Scholarship applications is May 31, 2024



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DAVID & CARTER'S WILDLY WISE WOODLAND WORDS

By George Dee

In the great outdoors, where every leaf and pebble tells a story, David the Deer and his tiny friend, Carter the Caterpillar, are on a mission to teach young explorers how to enjoy nature responsibly. Join us as we look into their world, filled with tips and tales that make every outdoor adventure fun and friendly!

Planning Your Adventure Before you even lace up your boots, David has a tip for you: planning is key! Knowing the weather, understanding the trail, and preparing your gear are the first steps to a successful outdoor adventure. "Think of it as preparing for a treasure hunt," David says with a wink. "You wouldn't start one without a map, right?"

The Art of Treading Lightly As you walk into David and Carter's home, remember that the paths and trails are like the hallways in your

own home—meant to be respected and kept clean. "Walk softly and stick to the trails," advises David. "It keeps our home beautiful and safe for everyone who lives here." Carter adds, "And it's like following the lines in a coloring book—stay within the lines to create a perfect picture!"

Pack It In, Pack It Out One of Carter's biggest lessons is about taking care of trash. "Whatever you bring into the forest, make sure you take it back out," he says seriously, his tiny face determined. "This keeps our home clean and safe for all the animals and plants." David nods in agreement, "And it helps make sure the only memories you leave behind are footprints!"

Water Wisdom When it's time to wash up or get a drink, David explains the importance of being careful with water sources. "Always use biodegradable soap, and wash at least 200 feet away from streams and lakes," she instructs. Carter chimes in, "Water is precious to all living things here—including you! Keeping it clean is like keeping gold safe!"

Secrets of the Soil: Digging Right Nature calls—even in nature! David explains how to handle this delicately: "If you need to go number two, dig a small hole six to eight inches deep, and make sure it's 200 feet away from water, trails, or campsites." Carter giggles, "It's like burying treasure—only a bit smellier!"

Leave What You Find Both David and Carter are passionate about this rule. "If you find beautiful flowers, interesting rocks, or even my shed antlers, just look and admire, but leave them where they are," says David with a gentle nudge of his nose towards a blooming wildflower. Carter flutters up, adding, "Everything you see here has its place in

nature. By leaving things as you find them, you help keep the forest magical for everyone who visits after you."

Campfire Considerations David knows that many explorers love a good campfire, but he urges caution. "Use existing fire rings and keep your fires small," he advises. "This helps protect the forest and keeps fires manageable." He then points to a nearby pile of wood, "And always use dead wood from the ground. That way, you're not harming any living trees and never burn fires on a windy day!"

Wildlife Watching As a deer, David loves to watch humans from a distance and he suggests doing the same with wildlife.

"Watching animals in their natural habitat can be thrilling, but it's important to keep your distance," he explains. "If animals change

their behavior because of your presence, you're too close." Carter adds with a wise nod, "And remember, feeding wildlife is a big no-no. It's bad for their health and changes their natural behaviors."

Respecting Other Visitors "Share the trails and campsites with respect and kindness," David smiles, "Imagine how peaceful and enjoyable the forest can be when everyone is considerate." Carter spins a little silk sign that reads, 'Quiet Please!' and laughs, "We all appreciate the sounds of nature more than anything else out here!"

Leaving It Better Than You Found It As the sun sets, casting a golden glow over the landscape, David and Carter have one last piece of advice. "Always aim to leave the forest a little better than you found it," says David, his eyes reflecting the sunset. "Whether it's picking up a piece of litter or smoothing out your campsite before you leave, every little bit helps."

Join the Adventure Respectfully With their tips shared, David and Carter invite you to explore, discover, and cherish the natural world. "Remember, every time you visit the outdoors, you're a guest in nature's home," David says as he gently trots along a trail. Carter waves with a tiny leaf, "And every guest has the power to make a positive difference!" So, lace up your boots, pack your sense of adventure, and step into the wilderness with the respect and joy that David the Deer and Carter the Caterpillar have inspired. Happy exploring, young adventurers!



20 | MAY 3, 2024 PINEWOOD NEWS KIDS!

HIDDEN PICTURES IN SPACE! Solutions on page 22!





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WORD SEARCH

Search up, down, forward, backward, diagonal to find the hidden words.

Answers page 18B.

Adventure Trash **Trails Biodegradable** Soil **Nature** Wildlife **Campsites** Campfire Leaves Respect **Explorers Outdoors Footprints Treasure** Water **Flowers Forest**

Pebble



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HOMEMADE & WONDERFUL

Continued from page 15

Instructions

Sauce: Heat a large skillet over medium. Once warm, add the oil and onion. Sauté for 4 minutes or until tender, stirring occasionally. Add in the garlic and cook for 30 seconds more. Stir in the chipotles, oregano, and cumin, and toast for 1 minute. Add in the tomatoes, stock, and salt. Bring to a simmer, and cook for 7 minutes.

Blend: Place the tomato mixture in a high-powered or regular blender, and blend until smooth.

Chicken: Return the blended sauce to the pan over low heat. Add the chicken, and cook for 5 minutes. Taste and add more salt if necessary.

Serving: Prepare the garnishes. To assemble, top the tortillas with the chicken and garnish with the avocado slices, cilantro, red onion, and cotija. Serve with a lime wedge for squeezing.

Notes: For a quick and delicious meal, blend all sauce ingredients and add to the Instant Pot with about a pound of chicken breasts. Cook on high pressure for 10 minutes. Then, shred the chicken in the sauce and get ready to serve. Adjust the heat to your taste: one chipotle pepper for mild, two for medium, or three for hot. Lastly, char your tortillas over a gas flame or in a hot pan, then cover with a towel to steam. Enjoy your effortless, flavorful tacos!

Finally, we find the best place to buy fresh ingredients for Mexican food is Food City. The closest one is in Cottonwood. It's a bit of a drive but worth it!



Left to right; Michele Howell, Karen Pallanich, Deb Webster, Judy Florine, Char Lewis, Cindy Smith, Jane Conti

LADY NINERS VOLUNTEER AT FMSC

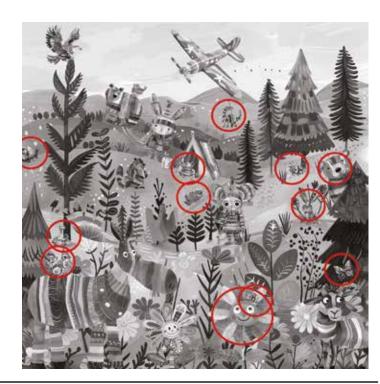
While the Pinewood Country Club Lady Niners are primarily a social organization around golf, the women in this group are also committed philanthropists. In February, a number of the members helped package and box meals at Feed My Starving Children, a charity that sends meals to the malnourished through schools, orphanages, clinics and feeding programs in more than 70 countries around the world.

The Niners also raise funds for charities closer to home through their annual Invitational tournament in July. The Niners donates proceeds from the event to a variety of charities including, Special Olympics of Arizona, United

Way of Northern Arizona, Hope Cottage and Solari Crisis & Human Services.

If you like to have fun with women who are making a difference in the world, consider joining the Lady Niners! For more information, please contact membership, Marilyn Koch at 602-989-5901.

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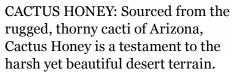
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BUZZIN' ON SUNSHINE

Continued from page 11

WILDFLOWER HONEY: Known locally as Desert Blossom, this honey is as bold and complex as the landscape from which it hails. Bees visiting the diverse wildflowers of the Sonoran Desert imbue this honey with varied undertones—from herbal to distinctly floral—creating a rich tapestry of flavors. Dark and full-bodied, Wildflower Honey is not only a culinary delight but also a mirror to the desert's vibrant flora, offering a taste that is as wild and untamed as the region itself.

MESQUITE HONEY: In the arid stretches where mesquite trees flourish, bees produce a honey that is light in color yet rich in history and flavor. Mesquite Honey, with its subtle smokey undertones, is a tribute to the resilience of life in the desert. This honey's delicate sweetness and hint of smoke make it a versatile ingredient that enhances both savory and sweet dishes, bringing a touch of the Southwest to any table.



This honey's mild sweetness is perfect for those who appreciate a gentler flavor, making it a versatile addition to various culinary applications. It stands as a sweet relic of the desert, rarely influenced by human intervention, offering a pure, unadulterated taste of Arizona's natural landscape.

CAT'S CLAW HONEY: Extracted from the yellow bell flowers that climb over sunny walls, Cat's Claw Honey is intensely floral and distinctly potent. This rare honey is collected annually, encapsulating the bold spirit of Arizona's flora in every drop. Its strong floral notes are a bold reminder of the beauty and diversity of the region's plant life, making it a favorite among those who seek a honey with character and depth.

Through these varieties, Arizona's honeys not only serve as delectable treats but also as ambassadors of the state's rich, ecological narrative. Each jar tells a story of survival, adaptation, and beauty, reflecting the

unique interplay between the bees and their native habitats. As we savor these sweet connections that between the bees and their native habitats. As offerings, we are reminded of the intricate sustain and enrich our natural world.



DISCOVER ARIZONA'S FINEST HONEY PROVIDERS

Verde Valley Honey

Tucked away in the scenic town of Rimrock, Verde Valley Honey is a locally owned gift shop that offers a vast array of honey selections. Here, visitors can discover honey sourced from the surrounding regions of Verde Valley and Flagstaff, as well as exotic varieties from distant locales such as Hawaii and New Zealand. Stacey, the proprietor, brings a rich heritage of beekeeping to her enterprise, with both her uncle and brother having been beekeepers. Her extensive knowledge of the different types of honey and their medicinal benefits enriches the experience for all who visit. Verde Valley Honey serves as a vibrant showcase for the natural sweetness and health-giving properties of honeys gathered both locally and globally.

Verde Valley Honey located at 3100 E. Beaver Creek Rd, Rimrock, AZ Follow them on Facebook at VerdeValleyHoney

Arizona Honey Market

In the heart of Scottsdale, Mark Fratu's Arizona Honey Market is a testament to the resilience and dedication required to master the art of beekeeping. Transitioning from a former investor to a full-time beekeeper after the 2008 economic downturn, Fratu now manages 15 hives, including Africanized bees, known for their vigorous honey production. His range includes seven varieties of raw honey, aged honey, plus bee pollen, honeycomb, and propolis. These products are a direct link to the Arizona flora, available at the Old Town Scottsdale Farmers Market and online, offering a taste of the region's natural bounty. Mark's commitment to natural beekeeping methods ensures a product that is as pure as the environment from which it comes.

Visit Arizona Honey Market online at www.arizonahoneymarket.com to explore their offerings.

Absolutely Delightful

Absolutely Delightful, founded by Eleanor Dziuk, bridges the gap between local beekeepers and the Arizona community. Representing 10 beekeepers, the company offers an array of honey, including unique infusions like cinnamon and lavender, alongside raw and whipped honey.

Find more at Absolutely Delightful Honey online at www.adazhoney.com.



Continued on page 27



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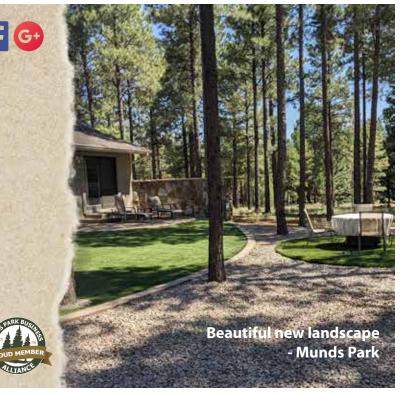
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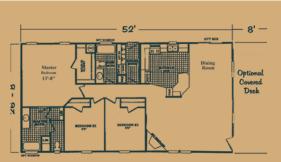
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SHAKEN & STIRRED IN PINEWOOD

THE COCKTAIL CONNOISSEUR'S CORNER

LIME, SALT, & EVERYTHING NICE: THE PERFECT MICHELADA



By Dick Trudeau

Kick back with a Michelada, that audacious cocktail that marries beer with a kick of fiery seasonings, etching itself into the soul of Mexican bar culture. Its beginnings are fuzzy, shrouded in the hazy recollections of spirited nights and spirited debates. One juicy bit floating around is that "Michelada" could be riffing on "mi chela helada," slang for a frosty brew.

Let's rewind to the 1960s, to General Augusto Michel from San Luis Potosí. Legend has it, this guy

spiked his beer with a zesty trio of lime, salt, and hot sauce, making waves among the thirsty crowds at local haunts. Then there's another twist — Michel Esper might have stirred the pot in the 1970s at the Club Deportivo Potosino, turning heads with his tangy version that folks dubbed "Michel's lemonade" or the "Michelada."

As this boozy brainchild ventured beyond its birthplace, it began to pick up local flavors. Drops of Worcestershire sauce, dashes of Maggi, and splashes of clamato juice began mingling in glasses, each recipe adding a new chapter to the Michelada's lore. Now, this isn't just Mexico's pride—it's a global phenomenon, a chilled salute to those scorching days and lively evenings.

The Michelada stands as a testament to chilling out and living it up, sliding onto tables alongside the zestiest plates, an echo of Mexico's vibrant culinary spirit.

Ingredients

- Margarita salt
- Chili powder
- Chipotle powder
- Clamato (or your favorite tomato juice)
- Fresh lime juice
- Worcestershire sauce

- Hot sauce
- Mexican lagers: Pacifico Clara, Corona or Modelo are excellent choices)
- Lime wedges
- Black pepper

The Method

- 1. Before anything else, give your mugs a quick rinse under cold water and stash them in your freezer for about 30 minutes for that frosty finish.
- 2. In a small bowl, blend 3 tablespoons of margarita salt with 2 teaspoons of chili powder and 1/2 teaspoon of chipotle powder.
- 3. Slide a lime wedge around the rim of each mug to moisten it, then dip the rims into your spicy salt mix.
- 4. Toss a few scoops of ice into each mug, filling them about halfway.
- 5. Pour about 1/3 cup of Clamato and 2 tablespoons of fresh lime juice into each mug. Elevate the flavors with a few dashes each of Worcestershire and hot sauce.
- 6. Pop open a few cold Mexican beers and pour them into the mugs, topping each one until it's full. Typically, three beers should suffice for four mugs.
- 7. Give everything a gentle stir with a cocktail spoon to blend the flavors seamlessly.
- 8. Cap off each drink with a fresh lime wedge and a sprinkle of freshly ground black pepper.

This Michelada recipe is a symphony of flavors that's as lively as it is refreshing. Perfect for Cinco de Mayo or any day that calls for a bit of chill. Customize the heat and seasonings to your liking and enjoy.





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BUZZIN' ON SUNSHINE

Continued from page 23

Beetanical Garden Farm

Bianca Olar's Beetanical Garden Farm, with over a decade in the business, focuses on preserving the pure flavors of honey without infusions, showcasing the natural taste of Arizona. Olar's commitment to authenticity is reflected in the pure honey harvested from the wild plants of the Sonoran desert.

Olar's commitment to authenticity is reflected in the pure honey harvested from the wild plants of the Sonoran desert.

This commitment extends to where her products are sold, including local farmers'

markets and select stores. Beetanical Garden Farm embodies a passion for natural beekeeping and the rich flavors that emerge from it.

Follow them on Facebook at Beetanical Garden Farm for updates and market locations.

The Golden Hive

Tracy Heirigs of The Golden Hive in Flagstaff brings nearly two decades of experience in selling bee-related products, from honey to candles and skincare items. By collaborating with local beekeepers and managing her hives, Heirigs offers a limited but high-quality selection of honey that captures the essence of Northern Arizona. The Golden Hive stands as a hub for bee enthusiasts and those curious about the benefits and beauty of bee products, available both at their Flagstaff store and online.

The Golden Hive is located at 8 W Route 66, Flagstaff

Learn more at The Golden Hive online at www.goldenbeeswax.com.

Bridle Path Beeyard

In the urban setting of Central Phoenix, Joc Rawls' Bridle Path Beeyard offers more than just honey; it represents a movement towards sustainable urban beekeeping. Since 2016, Rawls has been nurturing bees in his backyard, focusing on gentle bee management practices that have endeared him to eco-conscious communities. His approach not only supports local bee populations but also provides Phoenix residents with honey that's as local as it gets.

Visit Bridle Path Beeyard online at www.bridlepathbeeyard.com for more details on their products and mission.

These providers not only deliver exquisite honey but also embody the spirit of Arizona's diverse ecosystems, showcasing the importance of sustainable practices and local enterprise in maintaining the health and vitality of bee populations and their habitats.

We're thankful for the suggestion from one of our readers to explore the topic of bees, which inspired this article. For story ideas, contact us at Hello@ThePinewoodNews.com.



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RUMMAGE SALE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Pinewood Players Theater will be holding a community

rummage sale, Saturday, May 25th, in the Country Club parking lot. All proceeds will go to the General Fund to help with the improvements. Clean out your closets, garages, and storage sheds to donate items for the sale. Bring your items to the parking lot from 6 to 8 am, where volunteers will help you unload. Then, shop for bargains from 8 am until noon. Some items cannot be accepted for donation including mattresses, box springs, damaged or torn furniture, non-working appliances, water heaters, CRT tube televisions, older computer monitors, opened paint, fireworks, fuel, or other hazardous materials.

If you'd like to volunteer to help out at the rummage sale, please email fred@qrz.com or text 602-793-6637





BIRDS OF MUNDS PARK

NESTWATCH & THE BLUEBIRD TRAIL

By Margaret Dyekman

Some of you may remember articles I've written about the nest box trail at Pinewood Country Club. It still exists and is improving year over year. What is a nest box trail? It is a series of nest boxes located in an area where a person can move from one box to the next to check them, and in our instance they are boxes for Western Bluebirds.

A couple other people and I are taking turns monitoring these boxes each week and reporting our observations to NestWatch, a



Western Bluebird courtesy of Muriel Neddermeyer

nationwide nest-monitoring program designed to track the status and trends in the reproductive biology of birds. We attended training by a Flagstaff resident who has been involved in bluebird nest box monitoring for years, and we have all sorts of tools at our disposal now to make sure we do this right: the NestWatch app on our phones, and a lockbox with a mirror on an extension, screw driver, a map of the box locations, and written guides and photos to refer to. This past fall we numbered and GIS-mapped each box (there are 14), cleaned them, and made minor repairs to ready them for this spring's nesting season.

Each nest box is built to the specifications for Western Bluebirds, but sometimes we'll get House Wrens or Tree Swallows nesting in them, so it is important to know what each species' nest and eggs look to report correctly. NestWatch has wonderful information on its website about common birds and their nests and nesting periods. Bluebirds - Eastern, Western, and Mountain - are three species for which habitat loss has negatively impacted the population. As a result, many people and organizations have placed bluebird nest box trails on private and public lands to ensure the species continue to survive and thrive.

As of this writing, we've monitored the nest boxes three weeks in a row and will continue to do so through mid-summer. So far one nest box has four bluebird eggs, and several others have nesting attempts — a few twigs or nesting material in them but not a full nest yet. I suspect we'll find a few more nests and at least one of them will be from House Wrens, which are also a cavity nesters.

If you have a nest box on your property, whether it be for a Mountain Chickadee, Western Bluebird, or one of the other cavity-nesting species, you too can monitor and report on NestWatch. You'll have to take an on-line quiz and get certified, but once you do, you can report your observations and be a community-science contributor towards a better understanding of the reproductive biology of birds. If you would like to come along when I do my weekly monitoring, send me a text and I will be happy to show you how it's done.

You can reach me at margaretdyekman@cox.net or by text at 602-620-3210. You can read all about Backyard Birding in Northern Arizona at www.backyardbirdingaz.com and order the book online or get one directly from me. I welcome your questions, reports of sightings, and your suggestions for future articles.

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PAGES The PINES

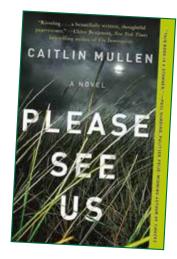
PLEASE SEE US

- By Caitlin Mullen
- Gallery Books, March 2020
- 352 pages

By Sandy Wright

There is a serial killer on the loose in Atlantic City.

We know this because we are introduced to the Jane Does numbers 1 through 6 during the first part of the book, as they are killed and left in the marshland behind the Sunset Hotel. Only one person even knows they're there, besides the killer.



That starts the ticking clock, although we're unaware of it.

Two other young women meet in Atlantic City during this uneasy time.

One, Lily, is just there for the summer, working at a casino spa, hoping to make some money and recover from a bad experience in NYC where she worked at an art gallery, until leaving after her boyfriend reveals his new lover in his artwork during a public art exhibit

The other, Clara, is a young girl with 'sticky fingers' who is working as a psychic on the Atlantic City boardwalk and trying to make enough money to pay the rent.

Neither woman knows that there is a killer loose, but, after a reading for a prostitute nicknamed Peaches, Clara begins to have disturbing visions, and suspects they could be related to recent cases of the women going missing in town.

When she meets Lily, who is working at a desolate casino spa, she becomes convinced that Lily can help her figure out who is appearing in her dreams; she just needs to find proof.

The two women find themselves unlikely allies. As they work together to find the truth, Clara and Lily become targets themselves.

The story is alternately narrated by Lily, Clara, the missing Jane Does, and Luis, a man working in Clara's building. This keeps the pacing moving and each voice is unique.

Atlantic City, with its crime, drugs and prostitution, adds its profile to the story itself. Decay is everywhere (the women, once killed, are left in the marshes, after all, to rot in the summer heat). The tone effectively creates a feeling of despair that is pervasive throughout.

Mullen writes beautifully about the marginalized and invisible lives of her characters. In Caitlin Mullen's hands, everyone has a voice, and the dead speak to us, weaving their way through the plot and theme of the book. This debut author introduced the living and the dead masterfully, by focusing, not on the depraved killer, but on the women whose lives he stole. They call to us to hear their stories. Hearing the murdered women speak about their current situations, what happened to them, and how they got here, in their own words was powerful. It added an emotional layer to the story, and put into stark perspective how poverty, abuse, gender, addiction, family connection and geography all become a heavier load than people can bear.

It's a dark and unsettling story. Please See Us wasn't a perfect read, but it was real, it was honest. And it was a fitting title.



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THE GREAT OUTDOORS

PROTECT YOURSELF, PROTECT A BEAR

AZGFD offers essential tips for avoiding conflicts

With Arizona's hottest months right around the corner, how black bears forage for typical food sources will become more challenging. As a result, the chances of them wandering into populated areas in search of an easier meal will be on the rise.

While bears are typically shy and tend to avoid humans, their excellent sense of smell can be problematic for both the animals and humans. Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) officials advise those living or visiting bear country to avoid feeding wildlife and to not leave trash, food or other attractants accessible (such as pet food or bird seed). Unfortunately, a fed bear is a dead bear.

"If a bear becomes habituated to getting food from trash cans and other human sources, it's only a matter of time before it loses its fear of humans and begins to actively search out human food sources," said Larry Phoenix, AZGFD regional supervisor in Flagstaff. "At that point, the bear becomes a threat to public safety."

Here are some tips to avoid attracting bears:

Keep them away from your home

- Keep all trash inside a secured area until collection day. If that's not
 possible, keep food waste in a bag in the freezer and place those in the
 trash as close to collection time as possible.
- Take bird feeders down at night.
- Keep pet and livestock food inside or remove all uneaten food.

When camping

- Keep your food and attractants secured and inaccessible to bears. Do not keep food in your tent.
- Don't burn left-over food or trash on the grill.
- Set up your campsite away from places where bears might forage for food, such as creeks, rivers and other bodies of water.

When hiking

- Don't wear scented lotions, deodorant or perfumes.
- Make noise or hike in groups.
- Hiking with a pet? Keep it on a leash at all times.
- In case of a bear encounter
- Do NOT run.
- Back away slowly while keeping your eyes on the bear.
- Make yourself look bigger than you are by flaunting your arms or pulling your shirt/jacket up higher than your head.
- Throw items and yell at the bear.
- If attacked, fight back.

Bear sightings in areas where there is human activity should be reported to AZGFD's dispatch center at 623-236-7201.

RATTLESNAKES RARELY THREATEN UNLESS PROVOKED

Leaving venomous reptiles alone reduces risk of being bitten

By Arizona Game & Fish

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

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



Photo by John Jengo. © 2021 by Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation.

Arizona has more rattlesnake species than any other state!

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

April is typically an active month for rattlesnakes, as they are coming out of hibernation.

Watch your step at home

Rattlesnakes can easily blend in with their surroundings, so a person should always be mindful where they are placing their feet and hands. Carry a flashlight at night, especially on warmer nights when rattlesnakes can be most active.

Stay on the trail

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

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

If a rattlesnake bite occurs:

- Remain calm and reassure the victim.
- Call 911 and seek medical attention without delay.
- Remove all jewelry, watches, etc. from the affected area.
- Immobilize the extremity and keep at level below the heart.
- Decrease total body activity as is feasible.

What NOT to do if a rattlesnake bite occurs:

- Do NOT apply ice to the bite area.
- Do NOT use an incision of any kind.
- Do NOT use a constriction band or tourniquet.
- Do NOT administer alcohol or drugs.
- Do NOT use electric shock treatment.

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

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









1255 E. BIG BEAR

Welcome to Chalet Garsol, featuring 3 large bedrooms, a primary suite on the main level with en suite, and a loft that doubles as an office or sleeping area. This chalet includes expansive decks, an Isokern fireplace with a French antique mantel, engineered wood flooring, and a gourmet kitchen equipped with Quartz countertops, a GE Cafe range, and a built-in beverage refrigerator. Additional amenities include a dog run, central A/C and heat, and a large backyard shed.

CALL DEBI BRIGHT



1255 E. BIG BEAR

Welcome to Chalet Garsol, featuring 3 large bedrooms, a primary suite on the main level with en suite, and a loft that doubles as an office or sleeping area. This chalet includes expansive decks, an Isokern fireplace with a French antique mantel, engineered wood flooring, and a gourmet kitchen equipped with Quartz countertops, a GE Cafe range, and a built-in beverage refrigerator. Additional amenities include a dog run, central A/C and heat, and a large backyard shed.

CALL DEBI BRIGHT



17955 GOLDEN LAKE TRAIL

Charming log-sided cabin near National Forest features an open floor plan, 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, and proximity to Lake O'dell. Highlights include two large decks, central propane heat, two fireplaces (woodburning and propane), distressed wood flooring, and a fenced backyard. The primary suite on the main level boasts a fireplace, access to the covered deck, double sinks, and a walk-in closet. Includes a spacious loft, furnished interiors, and is ready for viewing.

CALL DEBI BRIGHT



1385 BIG BEAR TRAIL

Welcome to your mountain retreat in Munds Park, a picturesque community. This fully furnished chalet offers 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and a large bonus room ideal for an office or game room. It features a spacious living area with a stone fireplace, rustic wood details, and a well-equipped kitchen. Newly added air conditioning and a deck enhance your comfort. Located in the Animal Hill area, enjoy easy access to outdoor activities. A perfect turnkey paradise!

CALL ELIZABETH HAUSMAN



17810 S WALAPAI ROAD, 62

Explore this updated townhome with easy paved access, ideally located near the Country Club, park, and tennis courts. Enjoy a south-facing covered deck with views of the golf course and stunning sunsets. Features include a primary suite on the main level, updated kitchen and baths, newer carpet, and convenient main level washer and dryer. Upstairs, find another large bedroom and an extralarge loft with a skylight and walk-in closet. Sold mostly furnished: see exclusions list.

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405 E OAK DRIVE

This is a two bedroom, 1.5 bath with brand new carpet, newer dishwasher and garbage disposal. Also a newer roof. All electric split floor plan, open kitchen. Property is ready for your occupancy. Covered and exposed front deck for those cool summer days. Carport with an entrance right into the utility room. A couple of sheds off the backside.

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MUNDS PARK 4TH OF JULY PARADE

Sponsored by Pinewood Property Owners' Association

Sign up for the Munds Park 4th of July and be a part of this special event!

There is a 150 vehicle limit, so please pre-register!

Name:

Vehicle License:

Munds Park Address:

Phone Number:

Type of Entry: (check one)

□ ATV □ Truck □ Truck w/trailer □ Other:

Approximate number of persons on vehicle/trailer:

Return form to Pinewood Fire Station at any time or Munds Park Post Office during open hours. You may also mail to Friedlund PO Box 17011 here in the park or use the electronic form on www.pinewoodppoa.org.

For Information Call: Len Friedlund at (928) 600-3896

MUNDS PARK JULY 4TH ELECTRIC **LIGHT PARADE!**

Please join us for the 4th annual Electric Light Parade, July 3, 2024. Group assembles at 7:pm in the parking lot next to the Chevron and the parade begins at 8:pm.

All lighted motor vehicles are invited to attend. All vehicles must be street legal with licensed drivers. Parade route will be printed in the Pinewood News June 21 & July 3rd issue. Be sure and check the Munds Park Facebook groups and the Pinewood News for any late breaking updates.

Flashlight Volunteers: We request the assistance of flashlight volunteers to ensure smooth traffic flow and safety along the route. Spectator Safety: In the spirit of safety, we encourage all spectators to bring a flashlight or other lighted item. Let's illuminate the way together and make this event a shining success. Please remember to keep children and pets under close supervision throughout the evening. Get ready to be dazzled at the 4th Annual Electric Light Parade!



PINEWOOD NEWS 4TH OF JULY PARADE FLOAT CONTEST!

The winners of our 2nd Annual Pinewood News 4th of July Parade Float Contest will be showcased on the cover of Pinewood News and will enjoy a special feature story celebrating their creative masterpiece! Get ready to see your artistic talents highlighted in our community's favorite publication!



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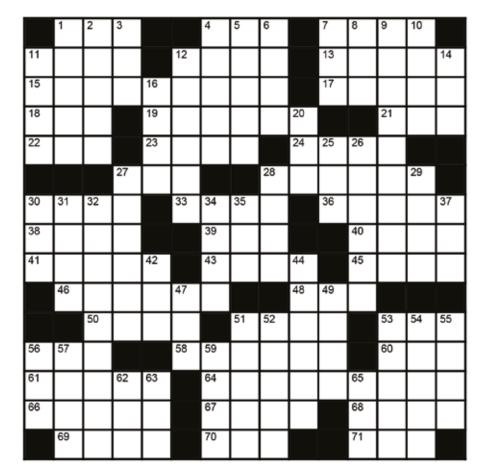
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Created by Paul Mason • Solution pg. 38



Across

- 1. Battering device
- 4. Big laugh
- 7. Meat loaf serving
- 11. "Oh, ___!"
- 12. Kosher
- 13. Dog-
- 15. Relating to heaven or the sky
- 17. Wife
- 18. Be sick
- 19. Pester
- 21. Bank offering, for short
- 22. Attorney F. ____ Bailey
- 23. Marine eagle
- 24. "What are the _
- 27. "Welcome" site
- 28. Exclusive
- 30. Hodgepodge
- 33. Burrow
- 36. Pigpens
- 38. Covet
- 39. Reply to a captain
- 40. U.N. agency 41. Specialty
- 43. Audition
- 45. Dork
- 46. Soak thoroughly
- 48. Embrace
- 50. European tongue

- 51. F.B.I. operative
- 53. Bird call
- 56. May honoree
- 58. Mom or dad
- 60. Floral necklace
- 61. Calculus calculations
- 66. Contour feather
- 67. Heroic tale
- 68. Border lake
- 69. Ear-related
- 70. Cozy room
- 71. Barely get, with "out"

Down

- 1. Rope fiber
- 2. Sufficient
- 3. ___ Day
- 4. Long (for) 5. Arm bones
- 6. Smooch
- 7. Clinch, with "up"
- 8. -tzu
- 9. High point of 1918
- 10. Grizzly
- 11. Breakfast, lunch or dinner
- 12. Scarcity
- 4. Genetic stuff
- 16. Perlman of "Cheers" 20. "My

- 25. Old PC platform
- 26. Overly attentive
- 27. Mid-May honoree
- 28. Attends
- 29. Calendar span
- 30. Have
- 31. Placed
- 32. Amount by which a number rises
- 34. Pledge
- 35. Heavy-duty cleanser
- 37. Ground cover
- 42. Lt.'s inferior, in the Navy
- 44. "Much obliged!"
- 47. Mushroom with a brown cap
- 49. "Do ___ others as..."
- 51. Vineyard fruit
- 52. Honeydew, e.g.
- 53. Store employee
- 54. Eagle's nest
- 55. Hip
- 56. Navigator's need
- 57. Black-and-white cookie
- 59. Blown away
- 62. "Gimme ___!" (start of an Iowa
- State cheer)
- 63. Amniotic
- 65. Churchill's sign



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MAY HOROSCOPE BY CAKE!

Human beings have been measuring and studying celestial bodies since the dawn of civilization. Astrology helps us understand our life paths and experiences by observing the movements of the planets. Although not fortune-telling, it can be a predictive tool and provide insight into personal issues, patterns, fears, and dreams. Through observing the cyclical movements of the planets, we can gain a better comprehension of the cycles and patterns in our lives.



ARIES, FIRE SIGN, MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

In May, try to plug into community spirit, sharing talents for mutual care. Consider connecting with diverse individuals and embrace spontaneity. It is a good time to follow your intuition

for remarkable experiences. This period is a good time to lean into leisure over work - focus on your personal needs. Harmony will prevail in relationships despite any ups and downs throughout the month. Overall, May holds the promise of productivity and personal growth for Aries, so seize the opportunities that come your way and make the most of this transformative month.



LEO, FIRE SIGN, JULY 23 - AUGUST 22

Throughout May, dive into the exhilarating journey of chasing new dreams and carving out your life's legacy. Exciting career opportunities await, so keep your heart open and let your creativity shine. Embrace any new experiences and joyful moments

that lie ahead. Prioritize leisure over work, favoring outdoor activities for happiness and tranquility. May may bring a hectic pace, but it's a month of love and celebration, possibly featuring joyful news.



SAGITTARIUS, FIRE SIGN, NOV 23 - DEC 21

This month, prioritize your well-being as the foundation for navigating life's complexities with grace and resilience. Personal growth and heightened awareness await, particularly in your relationships. Manage your feelings delicately, using them as opportunities

for inner growth and understanding. May is inviting you to embrace positive changes and new adventures. By staying grounded and flexible, you'll find harmony amidst life's fluctuations.



TAURUS, EARTH SIGN, APRIL 21 - MAY 20

This month, prepare for a surge of refreshed energy and enthusiasm, driving you towards exciting new adventures. Prioritize your finances to pave the way for greater financial freedom, clearing the path to a future where scarcity is not your baseline.

Embrace a strong craving for love and closeness, remember to give space to your partner and cherish your time together. Renewed vitality and opportunities for growth may arise during this time. This month promises prosperity and stability - life is falling into place around you.



VIRGO, EARTH SIGN, AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 22

During this period, embrace the opportunity to shake up old beliefs and expand your life's principles. Dream big and explore new perspectives as you consider your greatest contribution to the world. Challenges may arise in your career, requiring patience and

perseverance to overcome obstacles and gain valuable experience. Stay patient and keep up the good vibes in your career - success is just around the corner.



CAPRICORN, EARTH SIGN, DEC 22 - JAN 20

Throughout may, try to approach challenges with a playful spirit, finding joy in the journey towards your goals. In the coming weeks, expect a boost in self-esteem and strong ambitions, driving you towards success. Focus on maintaining balance between your

health and work, finding harmony amidst any activity. As summer approaches, prioritize tackling urgent matters to ensure a well-deserved vacation. Embrace the steady energy of this season, directing your actions towards creating a comfortable life. Always remember to take breaks and prioritize your well-being.



GEMINI, AIR SIGN, MAY 21 - JUNE 21

In May, try to prioritize your spiritual well-being and introspection for stronger connections. During this time, consider shifting your focus on healing and empathy to rebuild relationships. The month places a spotlight on relationships, fostering harmony and

emotional stability. Embrace any opportunities that arise for growth and travel. Remember to stay grounded, rely on intuition for resolutions, and trust your instincts throughout the month. This month is a good time to prioritize career and family, navigating any potential obstacles with diligence and trust.



LIBRA, AIR SIGN, SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22

This month it is encouraged to take a journey into your past for healing and emerge with resilience to rebuild. Expect an increase in love and passion, whether you're in a relationship or single. Prepare for an adventure beyond the familiar, where new experiences

await and discoveries abound. May invites you to wander with curiosity and embrace the unknown. Remember to be mindful of your physical and emotional balance. Take time to recharge and nourish yourself.



AQUARIUS, AIR SIGN, JAN 21 - FEB 18

May invites you to embrace the thrill of experimentation and exploration. Amidst conflicting emotions, especially in matters of the heart, seek balance through self-reflection and meaningful connections. Despite any potential turbulence, trust in your

decision-making abilities and unique perspectives to navigate challenges. Stay attuned to your well-being amidst heightened energies throughout the month. Trust your intuition for insight and creativity, guiding you towards clarity and positive outcomes.



CANCER, WATER SIGN, JUNE 22 - JULY 22

This month, try to find a balance between socializing and introspection, catering to your need for connection and personal reflection. Focus on your health and address signs of burnout with care, seeking support from your community. Together, navigate

challenges and understand the healing power of belonging. Recognize your skills and embrace opportunities for success in career and education. Luck favors hard work, with favorable outcomes in business and employment.



SCORPIO, WATER SIGN, OCT 23 - NOV 22

In May, relationships take the spotlight as you navigate the complexities of connection. Throughout this period love and romance flourish, offering opportunities for cherished moments and special getaways. You may also find success awaits with innovative

ideas and abundant opportunities, but remember to stay grounded to avoid overexertion. The month ahead has all of the potential to be a prosperous and fulfilling period. Remain open to unexpected opportunities that may arise, leading to further growth and fulfillment throughout the month.



PISCES, WATER SIGN, FEB 19 - MARCH 20

This month, expect an abundance of love and tenderness, fostering new connections and nurturing existing relationships. Your innate charm will draw others to you, offering security and support. Embrace the opportunity for introspection and focus on the

future rather than dwelling on past regrets. Be mindful of fluctuating emotions and take care of yourself amidst financial concerns and potential tensions in life. Despite challenges, the month holds promise for relationships and personal growth, with opportunities for insight and creative expression on the horizon.

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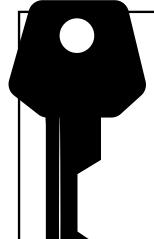
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MUNDS PARK COMMUNITY CHURCH

NO DITCH IS TOO DEEP

By Pastor Steve Bowyer

How much trouble can we get into where no one can help us out? I thought I was there last year as I was sliding out of control down my street headed for the dead end and the ditch that awaited my big GMC SUV.

Here we are late April, early May, and the deep snow is a distant memory. We always seem to get some flurries and some snirt (something between sleet and snow) all the way through Memorial Weekend. But the deep stuff is done for the year.

2023's snow totals were ridiculous. We received somewhere around 200 inches. In March we had one of those massive flash floods behind the church due to the snow melt and some substantial rainfall. One morning I got a call from Steve Lemons, who lives in the house behind Agee's, saying that the water was rising fast. I had better get down there to see what needed to be done.

I knew I was in trouble as soon as I hit the gas. I had pulled out of my driveway, it was slick, I was not thinking about the road conditions. There is no more helpless feeling than being a passenger in the driver's seat totally out of control of your sliding vehicle heading for the upcoming ditch. My big GMC did not stop until it hit the deep end on the side of Green Mountain. I was stuck. Deep in and no way to get myself out.

Fortunately, I have another friend, Dan Wittig, with a big diesel Ford truck and he knows how to use it. After a couple of tugs, he had me out and back on my way to the church to check out the flood. If he could not have pulled me out, then I was stuck waiting for a tow truck. And who knows how long that would have taken.

Sometimes we make poor decisions that get us in trouble. How much trouble can we get into that no one can get us out of? Well, a lot. But there is no trouble that Jesus cannot pull us out of and get us back on our way. It may seem impossible to recover. But Jesus specializes in the impossible.

This is a well-known story that comes from John chapter 4. Jesus and the disciples were traveling by foot. It was mid-afternoon. It was hot. Jesus stayed behind by a well and disciples traveled on to get some supplies. A woman came to the well to draw water.

She came in the heat of the afternoon because she wanted to be alone. She did not want to be seen. Everyone else came in the cool of the early morning. But if she arrived when they were there, they would ridicule her. She was ashamed of her poor life choices that left her in life's ditch where it seemed no one could pull her out.

She encountered Jesus there and He asked her to draw Him a drink. It caught her off guard, but she agreed. Then, He confused her by saying if

she would ask Him for a drink of His water, she would never thirst again. What?

She quickly realized three impossibilities with Jesus' statement.

"Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?" (John 4:11-12)

The first impossibility was that a Jewish man would have nothing to do with a woman like this. Normally, there would not be a word nor glance shared in an encounter. Much less, would a Jewish man ask this woman for a drink from her ladle.

The second impossibility she noted was that Jesus had nothing with which to draw water. I do not know how long His arms were, but they certainly were not long enough to reach the water at the bottom of this well. So, how could He think He could give her anything to drink.

And the third impossibility was Jesus offering water from Heaven. He was a man, sitting by this well, on earth, in Samaria. That was definitely not Heaven by anyone's consideration. She challenged Him, by asking if He actually believed He was a better, a godlier man than Jacob who dug that well

She eventually figured out what Jesus was talking about. She was not just thirsty for water that day. She was also desperately thirsty to be loved and accepted for who she was regardless of her past. She had sought acceptance from multiple men by marrying five of them and at that time had given up on marriage and was living with a sixth man as if he could be the one. She had come to believe that it was impossible to find that kind of acceptance from any human, much less to be accepted and saved by God.

But Jesus specializes in the impossible. It is impossible to make enough poor life-decisions to get in so much trouble, so deep in a ditch that Jesus cannot pull you out. And He does not even need a big diesel, super-duty, four-wheel drive Ford truck to do it. He will find you, fix you, and send you on your way to a glorious future no matter your past if only you will ask.

Do not let your past prevent you from letting Jesus change your future. He will not change your past. He will redeem it and make your future glorious.

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David, Michelle and Bailey your pup sister Farnell



Cheryl and Robert Rydzynski, along with Moryha and Mike Banks, live in Munds Park, cruising the Eastern Caribbean on Norwegian Cruise Line. The picture was taken in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands!

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