Prisoners clean up

By Allison Winters

The Tombstone Epitaph

The City of Tombstone has completed more public works proj-ects in the past year by enlisting the help of inmates from the state prison in Douglas.

The inmates are helping clean the cemetery community and at an Oct. 17 City Council meeting, Public Works Director Alex Gradillas extended his thanks for their continued support and dedi-
cation to the project.

“The inmates are cutting all the grass and the weeds and removing the ivy from some of the tomb-
stones around the graves,” Gradillas said. “They’re also” filling back in some of the graves that have caved in.”

Former Councilwoman Anna Salcido has been a leader in the cemetery cleanup project.

“We are putting decorative rock in some of the old graves and we’re cleaning both the new ceme-
tyms and the old cemetery,” Salcido added.

“We’re just happy that she’s volunteering to do it,” Gradillas said, regarding Salcido’s assist-
cances to the project. “While we have inmates, it’s a good time for it to do.”

The City of Tombstone estab-
lished a work-crew contract with the Arizona Department of Public Works in 2014, according to Amy A. Swanson, public informa-
tion director for the ADP."They are regular workers,” Salcido said. “They’re brought here under the supervision of somebody. They work on all dif-
ferent things.”

The inmates have helped with water in the streets and in the streets, Gradillas said, anything that needs to be cleaned up and repaired.

“That’s why we get them,” Gradillas said. “It’s a big help to the city.”

Specifically, the group of work-
ners assigned to Tombstone is known as the “Papago unit,” in honor of the Arizona Department of Corrections contract with the prisoners to provide the inmates with real work opportunities in the community, Swanson said. “Inmates have learned necessary skills and have developed a work 
 ethic that can carry with them upon their release,” she said.

Inmates are assigned to such things as maintenance and painting — and with street repairs, she said.

“The inmates very much enjoy working in the community,” Gradillas said. “They’re doing something that needs to be cleaned up and they’re helping a community.”

“I’m an animal lover, and it hurts every time you have to put one down,” Alves said. “It’s not pleasant but it has to be done.”

When chemicals aren’t available, Alves said, the cats have to be put down with a bullet.

Alves said he hopes the trap-
neuter-release program will allow the community to put down feral cats without killing them.

Alves said that at the begin-
ing department’s small

Tombstone resident Shirley Bovis-DeJournett is working to estab-
lish a non-profit trap-neuter-
release program to help the cats.

DeJournett DeJournett said she hopes that the, nutshell organization, which would involve the cats and release-
ning them back into the wild, would allow the cats to live a natural life but pre-
vent them from breeding.

Cats can breed very quickly in the wild, Alves said.

“A lot of people don’t realize that two cats over a period of five years can turn into 30,000 animals,” he said.

Many of the cats that are put to death do not fit the description of pets, said Jerry Alves, Tombstone’s animal control officer.

“Some have been known to get extremely large and vicious and attack humans,” he said. “I’ve been bitten by feral cats before — it’s not a pleasant thing.”

Under the current system, the city stops feral cats and takes them to a shelter to find out if they’re tame, but if they remain feral after three days, “we have to put them to death,” he said.

Gradillas said he has never heard complaints from city employees, busi-
nesses or community members about the use of the inmates in the city cemetery.

Graves, p. 2
The Tombstone Epitaph.

Festival disputes famous fight

By Kate Stevens

The 2006 Clanton Days Rendezvous in Tombstone, where many of the members of the Clantons and the Earps get together every year, was a huge success. The re-enactment of the Gunfight at the O.K. Corral, which happens every year, continued this year. The Clantons and the Earps have a very long and complex history, and the Clanton Days Rendezvous is a way to commemorate the events of the past and honor the memory of those who lived in Tombstone.

Terry "Ike" Clanton, a descendant of the Clanton family, was one of the speakers at the event. He discussed the history of the Clantons and their involvement in the events that led up to the Gunfight at the O.K. Corral. He talked about the families and the feud that developed between the Clantons and the Earps.

Terry Clanton said that the re-enactment doesn't like to talk about it much, but he believes it happened another way. "I don't know why they can't get (the re-enactment) right," he said. "We always have fun doing it, but we never get it right.

During the weekend, there were many events including the re-enactment of the Gunfight at the O.K. Corral. The re-enactment was held at the historic O.K. Corral and included many actors dressed in period costumes. The event was a huge success and吸引了很多游客.

The Tombstone Epitaph.

in brief

State parks celebrate 50 years

Tombstone will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Arizona State Parks on Saturday, Dec. 9 with the "Music to the Ear" event at the Tombstone Courthouse State Historic Park.

The event will kick off at 7 p.m. with a concert organized by author Jane Yeorga, Marilyn Baker and Lori Bailey. The Tombstone Rodeo Band will perform a range of Western, regional and holiday music for the entire event. Admission is $5 per person or $10 per family of four.

The event will also feature a variety of other activities, including a guided tour of the park, a children's craft station, and a chance to see some of the park's most famous residents, including the railroad depot, the post office, and the jailhouse.

Admission is $5 per person or $10 per family of four, and older. Children ages 13 and younger are free when accompanied by an adult. The Arizona State Parks annual pass is also available for $45. For more information, call the Tombstone Courthouse State Park at (520) 957-3311.

--J.K.

Historic courthouse lights up night

The Tombstone Courthouse State Historic Park is lighting up the Christmas season with its annual lighting of the luminarias on Friday, Dec. 8.

The one-night event begins at 6 p.m. when 125 brown paper sacks filled with sand are lit up with candles. The lights will be turned on in a series of extensions and walks of the courthouse.

Visitors are welcome to enjoy fried foods, wine and festive beverages provided by the Tombstone Women's Club during the event.

A fundraising raffle sponsored by Friends of the Courthouse is also part of the evening festivities and participans can win a chance to win the Christmas gift, which will be announced at the event. Tickets are $1 each or $5 for six.

Admission to the event is the cost of the $4 park entrance fee for ages 14 and older. Children ages 13 and younger are free when accompanied by an adult.

--R.S.

Sudoku answers

6 3 1 7 9 4 2
8 4 9 2 1 5 7
7 1 5 3 6 2 8
2 8 3 4 5 7 9
9 7 4 5 3 6 2
5 2 9 7 8 3 4
4 6 2 1 8 9 3
3 5 8 9 7 1 4

--J.K.
Meth, ambulances top Leon’s list

By Jacqueline Kuder

Carlos Leon’s friends tell him for years he should run for a seat on the Tombstone City Council. But the time wasn’t right until this year, when Leon decided to run for the Ward 1 council seat.

Leon, a fifth-generation Texan, moved to Tombstone 30 years ago because of the job he had with Shriners Hospitals For Children. He is now a financial manager for Shriners, and he and his family have lived in Cochise County for 25 years now.

The 43-year-old said the timing was right to run for City Council this year, after friends and family kept telling him he would make a good councilman.

“I just never thought the timing was right, but this year my friends the decision to do it,” Leon said.

Beating Salcido with more than 60 percent of the vote, Leon chalked his victory up to the support from the community who are more than ready for change, he said.

“We put on a pancake breakfast every February to support community projects because Tombstone and Sierra Vista Tombstone doesn’t have any major grocery stores or doctor’s offices, he said, so a lot of the people help people who have medical problems.

Leon, a husband and a father of three, also wants to some how find a way to create a community transportation system between Tombstone and Sierra Vista. Because Tombstone doesn’t have any major grocery stores or doctor’s offices, said there isn’t a place in the city to support help people who have medical problems.

“Basically, I just want to be a voice for people and let them know if I can make a difference,” he said. “And I’d really like to think that the community for all their support.”

Schmidt plans to tackle road, sewer issues

By Rebecca Swivel

A few weeks after election results, Stephan Schmidt said his first year on City Council will be the biggest opportunity to step up and make any real change.

“I really want to make some changes, and I really want to try and help Tombstone,” Schmidt said.

The election process was an overall good experience for Schmidt, and he said he was impressed by how “clean” and smooth it all went.

There wasn’t any mud-slinging like there has been in past years, Schmidt said. When asked to describe himself, he said.

“It’s always important to be honest in everything I do,” he said.

The Lion's Club plans to serve up pancake breakfast, chili cook-off

By Rebecca Swivel

Lions serve up pancake breakfast, chili cook-off

The Lion's Club plans to serve up pancake breakfast, chili cook-off

The Lions Club is an international organization established in 1917, and members offer the opportunity to give something back to their communities. Today there are 45,000 clubs in 200 countries and geographical areas. Local chapters are located throughout each state, and are then divided into districts, according to the Lions International.

“Doing for others” are the words that guide the Lions in all of their charitable deeds, and will continue to do so in the upcoming year, and many more to come.

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Basketball team stays in the game

By Katie Miller

The Tommy M Golf Tournament

The Tommy M Golf Tournament benefited the Tommy McMurtrie Scholarship Fund.

By Katie Miller

The Tommy M Golf Tournament

Thanksgiving vacation was not a break for the Tombstone High School girls varsity basketball team. On Nov. 21, the team started its season with a 74-46 victory over Bunnell High School in the Classic at Palo Verde High School in Mesa.

The tournament, which began Nov. 21, featured 24 teams, including 12 from the valley, 10 from the east and two from the west. The #1 seed in the tournament played in the championship game, which was won by Tokay.

The tournament provided a chance for players to showcase their skills and compete on a higher level.

By Katie Miller

The Tommy M Golf Tournament

Starting the new season, the girls varsity basketball team has one goal in mind: state championship. They want to make it to the state, and senior Amanda Fuller “We really think we have a shot at the state title.”

The Lady Jackets have four returning players from last year’s state championship team. Three of them are seniors and are ready to lead the team.

“None of us really want to make it to state, so senior Amanda Fuller “We really think we have a shot at the state title.”

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