By Matthew Casey

The Tombstone Epitaph

The stormy relationship between a councilman and the city’s overly zealous traffic enforcers continues to rage.

McKechnie and Doherty both got into the thick of things during Helldorado Weekend on Oct. 22.

Ward 2 Councilman Jim Doherty, owner of Helldorado Town and Tombstone Trolley Tours, used to be friends and business partners when Doherty worked for McKechnie’s Tombstone Trolley Tours. “He (Doherty) was the ideal employee,” said McKechnie. “He treated the business like it was his own.”

But McKechnie said Doherty “changed” after being elected to the city council in November.

“Doherty became a controller, and his heat got turned on,” said McKechnie.

The relationship between Doherty and McKechnie, by all accounts, has soured this spring when, after what McKechnie termed a series of injunctions, McKechnie and Doherty filed against McK- enchie’s Tombstone Trolley Tours. “He (Doherty) was the ideal employee,” said McKechnie. “He treated the business like it was his own.”

According to the latest injunction, filed in Cochise County Superior Court, McKechnie alleged there were five instances during HelldoradoWeekend on Oct. 22 and 23 when McKechnie sought confrontation with Doherty.

“During the day, I was walking down the boardwalk in Allen Street and Mr. McKechnie barged my shoulder with his body and cursed me,” councilman Doherty wrote that a similar incident took place the week before.

“So I was watching the parade and getting into a fight. Mr. (McK- enchie) came up on my left side and ended our gases and I (Councilman Doherty), would you like to be in the situation like it was his own.”

“As my wife and I was walking home on Front Street, Mr. McKe- chnie fired his gun in the air and screamed at me, ‘Hey you bald- headed hooligan, why don’t you come over for the show?’”

Doherty declined to comment for this story. “I’d rather you put someth- ing positive in the paper than the in- volving nonsense,” he said before Tuesday’s City Council meeting.

This is the second harassment in- junction Doherty filed against Mc- Kechnie since May. McKechnie also filed two harassment injunctions against Doherty. All three previous injunctions were dismissed or withdrawn, according to Cochise County Superior Court documents.

Their feud stems from disagree- ments when Doherty worked for McK- enchie’s Trolley Trolley Tours. “He (Doherty) was the ideal employees,” said McKechnie. “He treated the business like it was his own.”

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OK Ale more than adequate

By Andrew Schaeffer

The Tombstone Epitaph

It is easy to see that Tombstone is more than just a collection of a few buildings that always seems to be at the center of a traffic jam, but there are many more things that have made this town famous.

“Electric Dave” Harvan, the owner of a modest brewery in Bisbee, has won the hearts of many beer drinkers with his dark craft beer. He has even been featured on the front page of the local Epitaph.

“I don’t know how big it’s going to get, but I’m pretty excited about it,” Harvan said.

For starters, Dave was originally a Voting Rights Act advocate who worked with the carrying out of the act's requirements.

In the 1990s, he was the first to be a massive redistricting in Arizona, but the history of the Dave and Harvan winner turned back to the underground economy. Grover Cleveland's name, for one thing, is unique and memorable.

But commission officials said the limits letters to 300 words. The Epitaph encourages letters to the editor, but reserves the right to edit for style and space. Please make sure your name and address are on your letter. The Epitaph will not publish anonymous letters.

“Everyone in Tombstone drinks so there’s a big market up here,” Harvan said. “We should be making it profitable.”

Harvan makes the drive up Highway 80 to the “town too tough to die” in less than 10 cases of his beers in tow.

“I personally delivering to Tombstone,” he said. “I can walk up the streets with my beers, do my job and then hang back again.”

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Sky is the limit for deserted Tombstone airport

By Andrew Schaeffer

The Tombstone Epitaph

A deserted 4,430-foot stretch of paved runway leads to the Tombstone Municipal Airport. The airport, tucked away behind the town’s main drag and easily overlooked by drivers, is little more than a shadow of its former self.

Across a vast, open space, the signs that once advertised the facility are faded and weather-worn. A large concrete block, partially covered in graffiti, sits at the end of the runway, a testament to the airport’s neglect.

The airport, originally built in the 1940s, was once a hub of activity. It served as a vital link for the town, providing transportation for business and personal travel. However, with the advent of commercial airlines, the airport fell into disuse, and its facilities deteriorated over time.

According to Mayor Jack Henderson, the airport is no longer a viable option for commercial flights due to its small size and lack of facilities. However, he believes there is potential for the airport to be used for other purposes, such as hosting small hangars or用于 other low-cost aviation activities.

The airport’s current condition is a result of years of neglect and a lack of funding. Despite its potential for economic benefit, the airport has not received the necessary resources to maintain its facilities.

However, Henderson is hopeful that the airport could be transformed into a more usable space with the right investment. He envisions a future where the airport becomes a hub for aviation enthusiasts, small plane pilots, or a potential site for a small airport museum.

In the meantime, the airport serves as a reminder of the town’s past and the potential that lay dormant when it was once a thriving hub of commerce and transportation.
Boardwalk this way, and will remain so; officials stress need for authentic look

By Robert Alcaraz
The Tombstone Epitaph

For the most part, Tombstone’s cowboys like drugging their boots along the aged and tattered boardwalk that flows along Allen Street. Surrounded with the scent of old tobacco and saddles with the ever-atmosphere of alcohol, the Tombstone boardwalk preserves the 1880s vibe, according to locals.

George Barnes, manager/city clerk of Tombstone, says that even though the boardwalk shows that “authentic” look, it is regularly maintained.

“We go in and fix whatever needs to be fixed on a regular basis,” says Barnes, who would actually like to replace all of the old wood. “We don’t have that kind of money.”

According to Barnes, approximately $10,000 is spent annually on maintaining the overall appearance and safety of the boardwalk.

“When the wood sags from the heat or when boards blow over, we always go in and replace them with new ones,” says Barnes.

As a result, many Tombstone locals feel the boardwalk resembles the way it looked in the old days.

Shawn Everitt, an employee of Simply Picatas, works directly behind the aged wood and says that she wouldn’t want the boardwalk any other way.

“When the wood sags, it makes the city look older and authentic; we are a town trying to be in the 1880s, so I think it fits this purpose pretty well,” Everitt said.

But in 2010, Everitt, who was lesioned to replace all of the old wood, said she had to let the city know.

“When we replace the city, it always replaces it exactly,” she says, “Just a few feet away. So, we will have all the new boards yet still make it look great.”

Despite some of the criticism from city citizens, like Garett Bowers, say that the tattered boardwalk is a health hazard.

“I would die if we had one,” she said. “I see people tripping over it all the time.”

Bowers said that although the town’s authentic feel, maintenance is “absolutely necessary.” Examples of maintenance, she explained, is leveling the boardwalk and being aware of what’s coming out of it. According to Barnes, street sweepers will be narrowed to make way for the weekly maintenance that happens every two weeks.

“This is going to be a relief and a half dollar that will bring the boardwalk onto Front and add more foot traffic,” says Barnes. “They (boardwalks) will be just like in the old days.”

Yesterday’s Times is an authentic look of the boardwalk even though it is in a potential safety hazard.

“More dirt on the street because Tombstone has not made the top ten list for western towns.”

Carey Granger Employee at Good Enough Mine Tour

“More reasonably priced restaurants.”

Hal Clougherty
Employee at Cochin of Tombstone

A good city government that works with the town.”

Justin Read
Clark at Tombstone General Store

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End to town’s water issues remains a pipe dream

By Jasmine Woeberly
The Tombstone Epitaph

Taylor Young’s classroom looks different than it has the last few years.

Arizona State Standards keep the topics the same, but the approach changes because seventh and eighth grade classes at Huachuca City School are all boys and all girls.

The students last year suggested to teachers that there might be some benefit in single-sex classrooms.

“This came right from the students,” Young said. “They investigate the pros and cons and they came back with some stuff and took their ideas and were really successful in that.”

After teachers adapted the idea over the summer, Huachuca City School implemented single-sex classrooms this school year.

“The two sexes separated, you can gear your lectures,” Young said. “You don’t have to worry about how I’m going to speak to just the girls or the boys. It allows a little more freedom.”

Most of the parents and students the teachers at the school can’t recall someone else being pulled out of the city for sex.

“Some things have never changed though, according to educators.

Research wise, we’ve looked at both single-gender classrooms or schools say that participation by those most timid students rises significantly in these single-gender classes and that disciplinary issues are also down because of this change.

But a study published in Science in September, “The Paradox of Single-Gender Schooling,” takes the theory that Huachuca City School and all these other implementations and puts it on its head.

The study reads that single-sex classrooms are “deeply misguided, and often justifiably viewed by weak, chary-peeked, or misconstrued scientific claims rather than by valid scientific evidence.”

“We’re trying to better our students. We’re not trying to harm them or cause them a disservice. We jumped with it and said let’s give it a shot because we want to help them out to better their education.”

Taylor Young
Seventh grade teacher
Huachuca City School

Positive results sometimes do not account for students being more advanced when entering or switching out but final performances are rated, according to the study. Paradoxically, as the study calls it, how boys are thrusted by loud, energetic teachers whereas girls respond to a gentle touch, is being implemented in sex-separated schools – a detriment, the study said.

But the study also noted that it displays “institutional sexism – as choice” by driving an arbitrary line of sex, which pushes boys and girls apart of a good learning environment and creates arbitrary lines of division based on sex.

This switch to same-sex schools is part of a national trend.

In 2012, about a dozen public schools nationally offered same-sex classrooms. This school year that has shot to 59 public schools, nearly 350 of which are coed schools that offer single-sex classes, according to the National Association for Single-Gender Education.

But Taylor Young isn’t sure this is what that teachers see at Huachuca City School.

“We’re trying to be in the 1880s vibe, the Tombstone boardwalk preserves the 1880s vibe, the aged and tattered boardwalk that flows along Allen Street.

George Barnes, manager/city clerk of Tombstone, says that even though the boardwalk shows that “authentic” look, it is regularly maintained.

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A section of damaged pipe in Miller Canyon on Sept. 12. Repairs to resume water flow from the canyon are ongoing.