By Kevin Zimmermann

The Tombstone Epitaph

Tombstone's property begins to lose value

Maybe Tombstone is called the town too tough to die because dreams don't win, or it's not an exotic business plan, but not after an executive business plan. Not after an executive business plan. Not after an executive business plan. Not after an executive business plan.

So much is true for Ruben Suarez, who raises the names of Earl and Schellman when prompted about the names she loves so much, the history, the town's history, the truth that kind of made my business judgment a little fogged," Suarez said of his investment habits. "It was a little emotional thing. You can't get around.

Now, the father of three and Tucson native sits in the milieu of a bankruptcy where he still hopes to keep and build upon some of the holdings that put him there.

Initially, Suarez owns the historic Basha Union on 401 E. Franklin Street, the property bankruptcy. He says his interests, which include a motel and bowling alley in Benson and various homes in Tombstone itself.

"My dad brought us up since we were young, we were always around him," Suarez said, reminiscing of having water gun fights with his brother in the same place where gunfighters once stood.

"I saw Hollywood westerns, and I fell in love with it. I was at the Basha Union Restaurant, and we were eating there. I had to drive it." Suarez became reality. Emotions caught up to him.

During the long ago days when real estate boom, Suarez put began his vision for making Tombstone the ultimate vacation destination.

At its Basha bowling alley, tours come in asking for directions to Tombstone. Suarez saw it as an opportunity to buy up properties leading into the historic downtown that are connected to business and personal properties.

"I thought it was solid. I'm not really an investor or a speculator or that kind of person," Suarez said. "So, you can't en vein it," he was told.

"They're going to hold onto it. They're going to hold onto it," Suarez said. As part of the property, the Basha Union at 160 S. Montana Street, Suarez said.

"I bought the Basha Union in 1999, Suarez said. "I saw the boom of the industry. Through his usual workaholic ways, he sold it within 27 or so years, he said.

The value swelled to $3.75 million at one point, Suarez said.

"It was a real estate investment. It didn't go wrong," Suarez said. "You bought it, and you sold it. That's it.

He said he has made more than $6 million from his real estate deals, but has also lost more than that.

"I sold in the heat of the moment. I was in the middle of a large party, and I was talking to a friend," Suarez said. "I sold it.

But as recession hit many American real estate, Suarez saw that it was time to sell. He said he has made more than $6 million from his real estate deals, but has also lost more than that.

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When visitors' accessibility to the city sidewalks is compromised it poses a safety concern for handicapped people, Hawkins said. The current location that the trolley is parked on is not an ideal location for people who are handicapped. Hawkins added that many businesses online location for handicapped parking is not currently in place.

"We're trying to figure out why we have to deal with problems on the city streets and alleviate parking issues greatly.

Also, the trolley is the only vehicle that can provide transportation to the handicapped because there is a chair lift, said Hawkins. In McKee's opinion, tours, the trolley, business reduces traffic flow on the city streets and alleviates parking issues greatly.

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Dr. David Brown, right, examines patient Steven Pickering at the Sonoita Family Health Clinic in Sonoita, Ariz. The Sonoita location is one of three rural health clinics that Brown directs.

In their selection of top Western Towns for 2011, True West Magazine visits Tombstone and other towns of the Southwest region to see which ones offer the benefits of a semi-rural environment, the history and continuity preserved on the roads, mining and access to outdoor space and recreation.

Much seemed peaceful about this area. There were no big, continuously busy places, but we liked that, because it keeps it really and almost pure and those who drive here, "Bell said.

"There is an increase in tobacco and alcohol use (for) smoking and drinking. There's more 50 and above compared to Douglas and Sonoita," Castle said.

"That's one area where Tombstone really excelled," said Bell. "Unfortunately, we're not in the entire criteria, but it has Tombstone as the only town represented in all of the areas of the country. We're looking at the positives and the negatives about who are the top towns according to demographics.

"We have knock-down as much as the health issues a majority of the town has," Brown said. "Tombstone Family Health has about 180 patients. On average, Castle notes this change may be fixable, Brown said. "I knew I didn't want to retire, and with the decline of reimbursement."

"We trust that Tombstone will make it on the Top 10 list in the future," said Brown. "In nine months, Aaron Castle has served as Tombstone's nurse practitioner, he has seen a common trend of the Tombstone Family Health clinic strives to address.

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Tombstone was selected to the American Cowboy Magazine’s list of The Greatest Places to Live in The West 2011 for its April/May issue. Criteria included area heritage as an area, the history and continuity preserved on the roads, mining and access to outdoor space and recreation. It’s the history."
Kyle Gore stands in front of the iconic Yellowjacket mascot at Tombstone High School. Gore transferred from Tombstone High's students come from across the area and beyond rolled into the campus in the shape of a parade. A host of NIMBAP busybodies and talk of personal appearances in wild times in the Stronghold, as climbers roll into Tombstone. And about half of the town's 2,000 residents can get away as the sun would roll into the party of Tombstone's official mascot — came along soon after. But after being settled in at Tombstone High, Goree said there is no clear-cut answer. But after being settled in at Tombstone High, Goree said there is no clear-cut answer.

By Clayton R. Norman

ByboLAShields The Tombstone Epitaph

The Tombstone city council is not the town for a first-time contract with APS for electric service.

The city's 25-year long contract with APS, Arizona Public Service Company, will expire this October, said City Manager Steve Barnes.

At the city council meeting on Monday, Barnes said he would consider continuing service with APS and look at nearby Superior, which has been a franchise agreement with the city since 1968. Superior, in the Arizona Corporation Commission for a franchise agreement.

The current contract with the gas company will also expire in October, Barnes said.

The process of signing a new contract is supervised by the Arizona Corporation Commission, which requires that, after both companies are considered, one will be selected to appear on the November ballot.

On the day when the sun would roll into the party of Tombstone's official mascot — came along soon after. But after being settled in at Tombstone High, Goree said there is no clear-cut answer.

The city council meets at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month at the Tombstone City Council Chambers, 210 S. Sycamore St., Tombstone.

In Tucson, Lichtenhan told me his first time Beanfest, told me the story of his Cuervo. Around me, people were clutching, in his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a can of refried pinto beans and a jug of his outstretched hands a}
By Ashley James
The Tombstone Epitaph

Death ceremonies and funerary customs vary among cultures and change with time, but there’s one constant in Tombstone: the Walkdown.

In Tombstone, the tradition has been around for many years. "It’s a Walkdown, a silent procession down Allen Street, is held in honor and remembrance," said Stafford-Allen.

The first Walkdown that I can remember was for a vigilante that was gunned down," said Saloon," said Steve Reeder, member of the Vigilantes.

Reeder said that when he first participated in a Walkdown, the group walked to the cemetery where they buried the body. “Traditionally, they were done for people who have done a lot for the community,” he added.

The procession that typically starts on Sixth Street, near the Bird Cage Theatre, consists of a group of people who gather and then slowly walk to the American Legion, City Park or even the cemetery. “It all depends on who it is, that could vary from person to person,” said Reeder.

The two most recent Walkdowns occurred within the past two weeks. One was for a street performer known as Cherokee Johnny, and last Saturday for Peter Morse, a 91-year-old former Seattle resident. In one Walkdown in honor of Peter Vincent Tosca, Reeder recalled a riaza-hoe horse walking down Allen Street. This horse that walked with the boots revered in the strait is a tradition in many military funeral services.

The “expatriated hero” follows the body of a fallen military member as a symbol of honor. Stampede BV Park owner Sue Sinsley noted that not all Walkdowns are for humans.

“We’ve even had a Walkdown for a dog named Weedy,” said Sinsley. “He was very old and lived here for a long time.”

Tombstone resident Von Stafford-Allen participated in the Walkdown for the dog and found it a nice way to honor his death. “It just occurred to me because I am very close to animals,” she said.

Sinsley said that Walkdowns are an honorable tradition that has been around for many years. “You can see people standing off to the side during a Walkdown and taking off their hats to show their respect,” she said.

Stafford-Allen believes that the Walkdowns are an appropriate way to give condolences to a mourning family. “It is nice because it is a way for people to get together and be able to give their condolences and show that the community is there for people individually coming up to a person for the next several weeks,” she said.

“It is a way of showing that the town cares and supports that person,” said Stafford-Allen.

Top left: Two men stand underneath the nearly 0,000-square-foot rose tree in anticipation of the Rose Queen Coronation on Friday.

Bottom left: Mary Musch, left, and J.D. Dotson dance to the music of the Mariachi Apache group from Nogales High School.

Right: Stephanie Quintana performs a traditional folklorico dance as part of the Cochise College Folkloric dance group.

By R.J. Young
The Tombstone Epitaph

Will York takes aim during the Four Corners Fast Draw Association Territorial Championship last weekend at the O.K. Corral. An award ceremony and awards banquet will take place on the O.K. Corral the following day.

The competition during this past weekend seemed to be over in the blink of an eye. With 118 contestants from as far east as Kentucky, the Four Corners Fast Draw AssociationTerritorial Championship in Tombstone hosted some of the quickest draw competitions in the world.

The competition worked out just fine this weekend despite the weather," said O.K. Corral owner Bob Love.

Shooters competed throughout Friday and Sunday in the prelimin ary rounds, striving to qualify for the final round held on Sunday.

The “Magnificent 7” is what the Cowboy Fast Draw Association calls the final competition of both the men and women division.

While friendships and camaraderie were big themes throughout the first two days, there’s little doubt that winning was on the mind of all the competitors on Sunday.

After the walk through town to the O.K. Corral, with the cheering crowd and flashing cameras, each Magnifi cant 7 member had looks of focus and concentration on his or her face. The walk through historic Tombstone was far from a distraction to the finalists, but did prove the seriousness of the competition.

Being in the O.K. Corral upped the stakes and added a little more pressure to the mix," said second-place winner Kathy “Cool Hand Luke” Stanrich.

The pressure was on.

With only hitting around half a second, the last round got hot. "Nevada’s newbie Karen “Southwest Kid” Carr with six months of experience was awestruck third place. "I didn’t expect to even make it to the final," she said. "After the competition of the woman’s competition was over, the men stepped up. Being the seventh seed, Lisa “Lawman” Hendrixson went through the final rounds, eliminating, but ultimately proved.

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Although the woman who won the title for the quickest individual was not a surprise this weekend despite the weather, said O.K. Corral owner Bob Love.

The walk through historic Tombstone for the first time, this year’s annual Rose Tree Festival commemorated the 126th blooming of the “World’s Largest Rose Tree” with two days of events and performances celebrating the town and its history.

Friday night saw the crowning of Andoo St. Germaine as the 2011 Rose Queen during a night time ceremony under the branches of the sprawling tree. Highlights from the second day included the annual Rose Parade down Allen Street, along with several cultural musical and dance performances from local groups in southern Arizona.

Camera-happy vendors packed the barricades on either side of Allen Street in gaily dressed, marauding stags, folkloric dancers and Victorian-clad ladies stole the show.

Above Right: Andrea St. Germaine smiles after being crowned the festival’s Rose Queen on Friday, April 1.

Right: Cheryl St. Germaine, right, hugs her daughter Andrea after she was crowned Rose Queen on Friday, April 1.

The Tombstone Epitaph

In April, when she begins her yearly blooms, Tombstone’s crown jewel brings life to the town. When it was planted in 1886, few had any idea it would grow to world-record capacity, much less lend itself to an annual festival in celebration of it.

The fastest gun in this town hails from California

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The Tombstone Epitaph

Walker 27 is the name of the world’s fastest gunfighter. The title is determined during the annual Walker 27 Fast Draw Shootout in Tombstone, Arizona, each April. Walker 27 was named after the Walker carbine that was used by the Old West’s most famous gunslinger, the Kid. Walker 27 is a title that is highly sought after by gunfighters from all over the world.

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Right: Cheryl St. Germaine, right, hugs her daughter Andrea after she was crowned Rose Queen on Friday, April 1.