Couple tunes into the town’s soulful touch

By Mike Christy
The Tombstone Epitaph

Delbert Roach had to bite his tongue when his dad surprised him with a musical instrument one afternoon in 1945. While he had told his dad his desire to take music lessons the day before, Roach had also mentioned wanting to play the clarinet — not a clarinet like the one sitting in front of him.

“The clarinet was considered to be a girl’s instrument and the cornet was a boy’s instrument,” the young Roach said.

“Dad didn’t know the difference, but he did make it very clear to me not to pay $35 for that instrument and I was going to learn how to play it.”

It was a misstep that Roach later attributed to his father. With a flourishing white beard now grown in over his once 13-year-old face, Delbert — or “Doc” as most Tombstone citizens know him — has found no fault with the clarinet other than just the clarinet.

“They kind of erred in not to learn the clarinet, but I’m certainly glad I did that,” he said. “This same phone and clarinet are very close to the human voice, and therefore it’s a very pleasant thing to play.”

Finding inspiration in fellow saxophonist ASQ Gallusdi and Eddie Miller, Doc decided to expand his musical repertoire and become a jazz musician.

“That was the thing to do in those days,” he said, adding that he learned to play all jazz instruments.

“I hope people enjoy them. I’ve learned to play the baritone clarinet like the one sitting in front of me.”

For more on Delbert “Doc” Roach, 77, plays a tune on his soprano saxophone in his office at The Gift of Giving Thrift Store at 312 W. Allen St. The brainchild of Doc and wife Mary, The Gift of Giving encompasses the thrift store and the tutoring services of the Tombstone Academy for the Performing Arts.

Bar’s, dining up but retail lags

By Kevin Zimmermen
The Tombstone Epitaph

Within driving distance of Sierra Vista, Tucson and even Phoenix, Tombstone has more problems on its hands than just the clarinet.

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Financial audit hints at troubles

By Angela Mollis
The Tombstone Epitaph

An audit of the chamber of commerce’s financial records is currently under way, and missing financial records are leading to suspicions of fraud.

The man who was in charge of the chamber at the time says he has no idea what is going on.

“Do the auditors?” asked former Executive Director Pat Greene.

He said that there was no wrongdoing during his time in the chamber and any financial troubles were due to a lack of funds, primarily from the Tombstone Greyhound station and the city’s decision to withhold bed tax funds.

After the Marysville, Calif. native moved to Tombstone, Greene attributed a large portion of the city’s woes to the business managers who were run the business.

In 1981, Greene claimed after releasing the audit, “It was a mix-up that Roach later attributed to his father. With a flourishing white beard now grown in over his once 13-year-old face, Delbert — or “Doc” as most Tombstone citizens know him — has found no fault with the clarinet other than just the clarinet.

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In the fight to cure cancer, Big plans: Tombstone High School seniors reveal their post-graduation dreams.

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Community’s latest leaders threatened with recall

By Will Ferguson
The Tombstone Epitaph

Members of Tombstone’s city administration may find themselves hit by the recall campaign trail a year early.

Former Chamber of Commerce president Don Taylor recently proposed a recall of the city’s current administration.

Taylor, who said he was not ready to discuss his position at this time, wrote in a letter to a newspaper on April 27 that some city officials are using strong-arm tactics to dictate the town’s business climate.

His concerns were echoed by Lee McKechnie, owner of the Tombstone Valley Times, in a letter published in the same date.

McKechnie charged after releasing the letter of the city’s employees, Councilmember Jim Doherty, the city has been hamstrung by the administration.

Doherty, current Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, J.R. Botts and Mayor Jack Henderson decried the claims made by McKechnie and said Taylor is “hann ASSing” and it’s a shame.

They’re hann ASSing as it’s a shame. But that’s OK, it’s a part of being in politics,” Henderson said.

The proposal of a recall is a new chapter in an ongoing feud between the Tombstone’s current city administration and former council members of the Chamber of Commerce.

Doherty said the current administration has been at odds with Taylor and Pat Greene, former chamber executive director, since their resignation in January from the Chamber of Commerce. Both men resigned after Doherty encouraged inquiries into the chamber’s quarterly spending reports.

“The only one of the Tombstone Epitaph, Doherty wrote that, “ever the next few days, the remaining Board members uncovered more than $13,000 in outstanding Chamber bills, a $20,000 transfer from Broll’s to the chamber that had not been repaid and essentially empty checking and savings accounts.”

Botts and the current administration are in place because people of the town wanted officials to be more accountable.

“We heard an election like that, it was made pretty obvious that people wanted a different viewpoint. I’m not saying the way it was run before was bad, but I am saying it is being run more to the book now,” he said.

If voters choose to initiate a recall, it would take place in November. It would cost city taxpayers $5,000 to hold a recall election. In order for a recall to take place, Henderson said 10 percent of voters in a city ward have to sign a petition. In some cases, he said, the number of signatures required could be as low as 5.

“Unfortunately, they can do it for an anything number of reasons,” he said. “You would think it would be done for a serious cause or something. But that’s OK, it’s a part of being in politics.”

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Very few tourists will stay for a night or two. Into the heart of Tombstone, Tombstone from Wisconsin, the don’t usually stay overnight.”

Music

“Doc said, “I won’t give up,” said McAloon. “I want to start building this thing (a drum set and several pianos, are either donated or loaned, Mary said. “Ruin” by Mary Jo Burns, Oil. Through the years, I have just continued from page 1

Business

Historic Commission plans new processes

by Adrienne Melisson

The Tombstone Epitaph

“Looking West” is the theme for May’s exhibit for Tombstone. And judging by what the City Editor

Auditor” continued from page 1

Botts is challenging that claim. “Put Greene never ordered or bought any property from Deherty. Light projects,69

“The best way to do that is to spread out and get help,” Doc says of the 10 people who come seeking help. “What is donated in Tombstone, it’s beautiful things [to donate]. They’ve been unusually generous. They know they want to help. Mary continues as she sorts through an avalanche of donations. “It’s been a great life, and it’s not over yet.”

The show will be at the Tombstone Museum, Gallery, located at the corner of Fourth and Atherman. Also available for viewing and purchase is the work of more than 15 artists and 30 crafters from around the state. Gallery hours, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday. Admission, $5. 457-2300 for more information.

The Tombstone Epitaph.

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Julie Elites

Mike Christy

Ashley James

Chelsea Johnson

Diana Troncale

Teresa Botts

The Tombstone Epitaph.

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By Mike Christy / Tombstone Epitaph

Teresa Botts

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The Tombstone Epitaph.
**Business offers the fantasy of your personal gunfight**

By Chelsea Johnson

Stacy Foster has created The Ultimate Tombstone Souvenir, with the help of Bennie Solinsky and Bruce Bliss, a new business located on Allen Street that is now up and running.

“Stacy is the manager of Six Gun Solitare, he said. “She and Bennie and Bruce and I, we’re all the owners. Six Gun City burned down in December so we wanted to come up with an idea for something they could do, and I just came up with this idea.”

“I thought it’d be simple and put a few more ideas back to work.”

Solinsky, a graphic artist, said the trio came up with the idea after a December fire that burned Six Gun City burned down in December so we wanted to come up with an idea for something they could do, and it just came up with this idea.

Foster said he got the idea for the souvenir when he bought a couple of us back to work.

“Nothing will ever be the same as we devised this and just wanted to try something different in town,” said Solinsky.

“We’re doing great, and people are happy with it.”

The souvenir is a place where tourists, and anyone else interested, can be a part of their own personal Old West gunfight—free for only $5.

“What we do is we dress them up in 1880s Victorian costumes and give them a quick skin,” said Foster.

“They don’t have to do the acting or experience anything. We tell them exactly what they need to do, and they get to shoot over a mock gun that feels real.”

Solinsky said even though they don’t interact the people on what to do they can always act out of their own ideas.

“We do it pre-packaged on what they need to do at the table and if they want to do their own thing that’s welcome, too.”

Once the acting is complete and filmed, Foster edits the scene with old film clips, music, and adds sound effects.

“He then burns the mini-movie on a DVD for customers to take home. Foster holds a copy of The Ultimate Tombstone Souvenir, where photos, but we are giving them something else.”

“They get to actually kill a man in a gun fight, shoot a real cowboy pistol and take home a DVD to put on a shelf.”

Bliss, the cow boy actor that gets hired by these tourists, enjoys his new job as the man who dies many times.

“My role is a cowboy. The tourists get to play the gun fight with me,” said Bliss. “Well, they’ve been winning all night long so it’s a little upset. They win one last pull, though, and that’s it. It doesn’t bother me or my husband at all. I die on them and they stand up and shoot me dead.”

Foster said he got the idea for such a creative business venture because he thought it would be interesting to do.

“I thought it would kind of be the ultimate male fantasy where you could come to Tombstone and be a gun fight, but the customers have been learning more towards the kids who want to make a movie, express, Foster said.”

Taking Peter Thermaltich, a former major in the board with his wife and brother in law, “I love the Old West, and it’s like stuf ve ve be seen in Western movies.”

Foster was in the Army for 11 years and also served in Iraq, making Tombstone his home after he was medically retired due to an injury.

“Just stopped by to see it last year,” Foster said. “I loved it.”

Foster has future plans to possibly expand the company.

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**Fighting against cancer one step at a time**

By Melissa Guz

Of Tucson, however, are mandated to wear sunscreen while growing up.

Even so, Cook stresses that she is not impressed by the size of her cure because cancer. Instead, she said her experience was the one from her sister’s loss, as well as her efforts to fight cancer with others.

“My sister was the biggest inspiration of my life,” Cook said. “She made me realize how important it is to make love to her life and my sister’s husband’s death.”

As a result, she developed various fundraising activities such as ways of setting up postcards, asking friends and walking along the boardwalk.

“I had a 30-year-old cousin who died of breast cancer,” said Gloria Goldstein, the owner of Shady Lady, 404 E. Allen St. “Donna is a very close family friend and a very good cause (and if it’s just something I hope people will see and do something to help in the world,” said Goldstein.

Cook notes that last year was the year that Tombstone businesses that sponsor and supportees from local business.

“We’ve lived here for 41 years,” Cook said. “We don’t know what we’re going to do (especially in helping) a worthwhile cause.”

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**From treatment to tap, Tombstone’s water is leaking away**

By Natalie Schwab

The Tombstone Epitaph

Six billion gallons of water seep away every day in the United States due to leaks in infrastructure, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, and Tombstone contributes to that issue in a major way.

According to a report from Tombstone Public Works in December, the city loses 40 percent of its water from infrastructure to tap, due to leaks in infrastructure in addition to infrastructure issues as well as other issues. People can stop the water illegally.

Public Works Director Phil Komer does not think that number has changed since December, and other Tombstone officials confirmed that there are still leaks.

Infrastructure can’t fix all of this, he said when asked if there have been any changes in Tombstone’s infrastructure to fix, “I think we could fix all of this, if we had the money.”

“Infrastructure can’t fix all of this, if we had the money,” he said. “Ideas are being considered right now, but there are still a lot of leaks in the water system. We’re working on fixing the water system.”

Barnes said that Buffalo, N.Y., loses 40 percent of its water from infrastructure to tap, in that it’s the same thing.

Several areas in Arizona, six of which are Tucson, however, are mandated to limit water usage to 13 percent.

Fernanda Molina, conservation program manager of Tucson Water, said that Tucson’s number seems very high.

That’s basically half of their water goes to washers, which are not used as much as people used to use, she said. “But I think it’s still a very high number.”

Molina said that some of the water pipes in downtown Tucson are also 100 years old and had have been rehabilitated or plugged.

“Infrastructure replacement costs are going to go really really high, simply because there is a lot of really old infrastructure in pipes and reservoirs and valves out there,” she said.

The city of Tombstone applied for, and was awarded a grant from the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) last December, but those grants are to be used for preliminary engineering and not for construction.

The funds were used for the scenic study that was recently completed said Barnes.

Even so, those grants aren’t completely free.

“Almost all of the city money is for construction and that is new,” said Molina.

“Almost all of the city money is for construction,” she said. “We’ve been working and we’re trying to get the water to the citizens of the city,” she said. Holcomb said.

With WIFA will do loan the city money to do construction. Barnes said the city is going to submit another application to do additional work.

“This is probably one of the best ways of saving water around the country, if not the world, it’s the only way it’s going to happen,” said Molina.

So far, the city of Tombstone will simply have to fix the leaks one by one.

“We have a small force and we’re trying to get the water usage to the citizens of the city,” said Holcomb.
“The fly is a very strange insect, says Chris Clarke, a graduate student in entomology at the University of Arizona’s Department of Entomology. This is the first time I’ve ever seen this insect, and I’ve been around the country for 60 years.”

Clarke grabbed his shovel and black tarps and stepped into the back of the Fonz’s pickup truck as they began their search for one thing. Poop.

“Get in the back,” he called out the truck window to the driver of the Old Butterfield Stagecoach, driven by Lynn Honeycutt.

It’s a fun job, but without him and the other workers, the clean-up can’t take place after the animals, the town of Tombstone would be in deep doom—literally.

Horses and mule-drawn stagecoaches and carriages are a part of the Old West, and give Tombstone its authenticity. But when the animals aren’t picked up after, even the most sanitary and outgoing group can’t do the job.

The town of Tombstone is home to Tombstone’s Animal Control Officer, Debra Shambaugh. Stationed around town as Radar, there are lots on the books that require wherever a horse is, a clean up after it, though they aren’t very anxious.

“Sometimes there’s failure to clean it up,” she said. “I can fish them out even if they can’t clean it up.”

Clarke, a student for the Old Butterfield Stagecoach, gets a call from his driver whenever the horses drop a deposit to pick it up promptly. “Sometimes the biggest problem is the people who ride into town. Most of the horses ride into town independently.”

The reality is throughout my whole entomology friends group, no one can say that they’ve encountered these silly bags. They’ve encountered these silly bags, leaving them open so the flies can fly in and out of the bottom of it. Clarke has trained his horses to not step on any poop, but they aren’t very good at it. “They leave it there.”

Clarke has already trained his horses not to walk in the street. He takes them to a special location twice a day when they can clean up after it, though they aren’t very anxious.

The horse owner is the one responsible for cleaning after their animals. Owners who don’t clean up after their animals can be fined and even lose their permit.

Some people carry bags with them to clean up and they take it home because they want to take care of it.”

Clarke said. “They leave it there.”

Whether or not water-filled bags can deter the entire horse population, several fly-control methods have been tried, and many have not worked.

Honeycutt said, “I don’t believe it works. They aren’t very effective.”

Clarke mentioned that some办法are fly larvicide treatments, which disturb the flies. Clarke said. “I’ve had success with the bags by water. They don’t solve the problem entirely. But they are effective.”

While there are several myths to fight the war on infestation.

Not just the simple trick.

For the evening.

So they’ll fly in there, but they can’t figure how to get out of it. Honeycutt said.

Red Cape Theatre employee Morgan Jones puts sugar water in the bags, leaving them open so the flies will go in and out. While there are several myths and trends to repel annoying flies, the National Pest Management Association advises simply practicing cleanliness.

The bothersome housefly carries more than 100 types of disease-causing germs, and “vigilant attention” including taking care of trash and pet waste is the key to controlling them.

But instead, the average cost of a pack of Cooper’s Fogger 3.3L is the cost of a 75 pack of pushpins: $2.98. “Mama.” The relief of not swatting your hand every five minutes is priceless.