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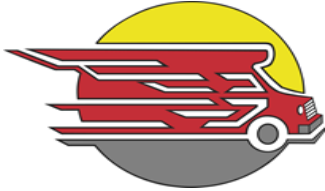
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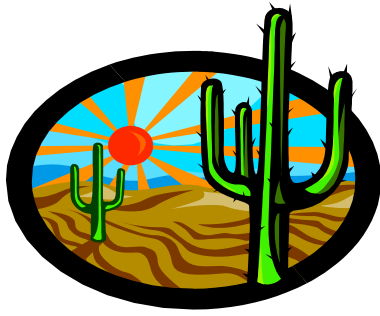
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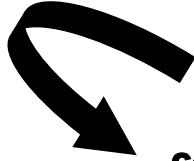


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PO Box 989
Tonto Basin, AZ 85553
Corner of: Dryer Drive & 101 Starkey Lane



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FREE BONUS: All ads can be seen in color on my website jfypub.com

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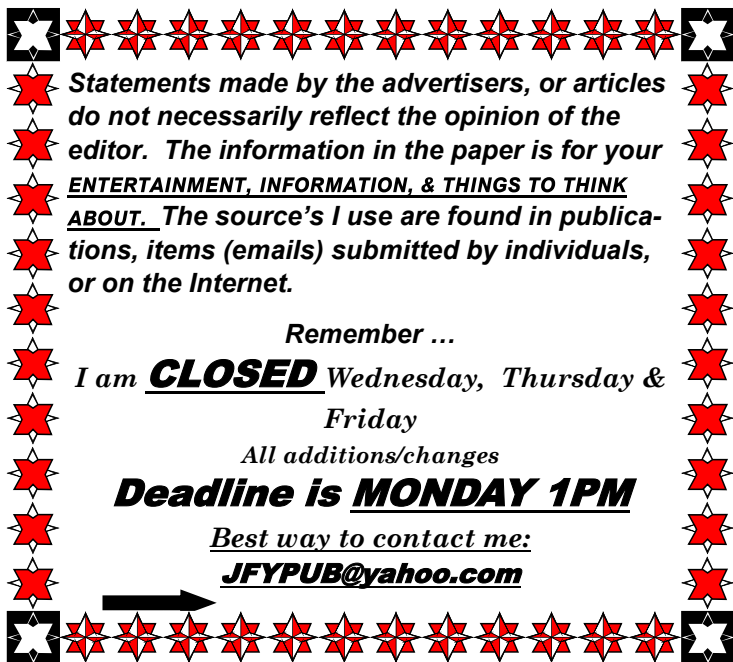
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CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS AND ITS LEGEND

A Christmas stocking refers to an empty sock or sock-shaped bag that children hang on Christmas Eve in the belief that it is to be filled with presents by Santa Claus. The gifts are generally of a small nature, consisting generally of small toys, goodies like candies and fruits, coins or other such items that are often referred to as stocking stuffers or stocking fillers. The bigger gifts are wrapped in present papers and placed near the Christmas tree.

St Nicholas

The tradition of Christmas stockings is said to have originated from the actions of a kind noble man named Nicholas, who was born in 280 AD, in Patara, a city of Lycia, in Asia Minor. While still young, his wealthy parents died in an epidemic. A true follower of Jesus Christ's principles, Nicholas became a Christian priest and used all his riches to help the poor, the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He dedicated his life in the service of God and was made Bishop of Myra at a young age. Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his kindness and generosity. A true celibate, Nicholas never married and had no children of his own. But he loved children greatly and often gave gifts to the kids of his hometown. This is why, he became known as the gift giver of Myra. A rich man, he traveled across the country helping people, giving gifts of money and other presents. However, Nicholas always gave his gifts late at night, so that his identity would remain a secret. He did not like to be seen when he gave away presents, so the children of the day were told to go to sleep quickly or he would not come! Nicholas was eventually named the patron saint of children and sailors (because of his concern for sailors and ships) and came to be known as Saint Nicholas.

(Continued on page 5)

CONGRATULATIONS

The winners of the 2021 Chamber of Commerce Christmas Lighting Contest this year are:

Commercial Entry, 2021-2022 Paid Membership of the Chamber of Commerce, goes to Jakes Corner Store.

Residential Entry:

\$75.00 1st place, goes to Jeff & Cathy Barnett on Earl Drive.

\$50.00 2nd Place, goes to Bridget Jackson on Slate Creek/Dessie Lane.

\$25.00 3rd Place, goes to Dan Bernot on W. Mountain Lane.



(Continued from page 4)

Through the centuries many stories and legends have been told of Saint Nicholas' life and deeds. One popular account tells us of a poor peasant who lived happily in a small cottage in Patara, Saint Nicholas' hometown, with his wife and three daughters. But their happiness was short-lived when the wife suddenly died of an illness one day, leaving the poor man and his three daughters in despair. All the burden of household chores now fell upon the daughters while their father trudged on with his life with a heavy heart.

When the daughters reached a marriageable age, the poor father became even more depressed for he knew he could in no way marry them off to good men. In those days a young woman's father had to offer prospective husbands something of value - a dowry. Without a dowry, this poor man's daughters were unlikely to marry. The helpless father looked around desperately for some solution while her daughters did their own cooking, sewing and cleaning.

Meanwhile, Saint Nicholas had come to know of the poor peasant and his daughters. Knowing the financial condition of the father, the kindly saint decided to help him. But he wanted to do this secretly. So he went to the peasant's house one night with a bag of gold and waited for the family to go to bed before he could throw the bag through the open cottage window.

Christmas stockings

That night, after finishing their washing for the day, the daughters had hung their stockings by the fireplace to dry. Little did they know that their benefactor was hiding nearby, waiting for them to go to sleep. A little later, as they turned off the lamps and fell asleep, St. Nicholas tiptoed to the cottage window and peeked inside. In the light of the moon, he saw the daughters' stockings hanging close to his reach. He carefully put in his bag of gold in one of the stockings and went away as stealthily as he came.

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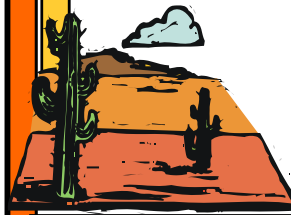
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When the father found the bag the next morning and opened it, he was ecstatic. There was enough gold in the stocking to pay for the dowry of one daughter. It seemed like a godsend to him. Who could have sent it, he wondered? With this timely gift the father was able to provide for his eldest daughter and saw that she got married to a nice groom.

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But by this time, the father had grown eager to discover his mysterious benefactor, and next night he kept on the lookout. Then, for the third time Saint Nicholas came with a bag of gold upon his back and walked on to the window. The old lord at once recognized his fellow townsman. He fell on his knees before the kindly Bishop, cried out in joy and gratitude and thanked him with all his heart. With his blessings of Saint Nicholas, the poor father was able to see his three daughters get married. He lived a long and happy life thereafter.

And this is how the tradition of Christmas stockings is said to have started in the European countries. It is also believed that Santa Claus is actually an alteration of this same Saint Nicholas, Santa standing for Saint and Claus for Nicholas.

Since then, children have been hanging Christmas stockings or putting out shoes, eagerly awaiting for gifts from Santa Claus. Originally, children simply used one of their everyday socks, but with time special Christmas stockings were created for this purpose. Today, Christmas stockings of a wide variety of styles and sizes can be found in gift stores across countries. There are also special Christmas stockings available in the market.

In modern culture, Christmas stockings are also a popular homemade craft. Some families design unique stockings for each family member. Many families create their own Christmas stockings stitching the name of each family member to the stocking so that Santa knows which stocking belongs to which family member.

In some countries, the contents of the Christmas stocking are the only gifts that a child receives at Christmas from Santa Claus. Western Christmas tradition dictates that a child who behaves badly during the year will not get a gift in their Christmas stocking and will receive a piece of coal instead.

(Continued on page 7)

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On another night Saint Nicholas set off with one more bag of gold, and threw it carefully into another stocking, so that the second daughter was provided for.

When his daughters excitedly brought the bag to their father the following morning and opened it, he could not believe his eyes. With this gift the father was able to marry off his second daughter too.



(Continued from page 6)

In many places, the Christmas stocking is to be stuffed by a gift that will stimulate the five sensory organs. Traditional celebrations of Christmas demand that the stocking be hung on the fireplace mantel. However, since many contemporary homes do not have fireplaces, stockings are hung in almost any location.

Today, children all over the world continue the tradition of hanging Christmas stockings. Kids of all nations look forward to Christmas and when the stockings are hung, they know the most anticipated time of the year is not far behind.

The Story

Time was, with most of us, when Christmas Day encircling all our limited world like a magic ring, left nothing out for us to miss or seek; bound together all our home enjoyments, affections, and hopes; grouped everything and everyone around the Christmas fire; and made the little picture shining in our bright young eyes, complete.

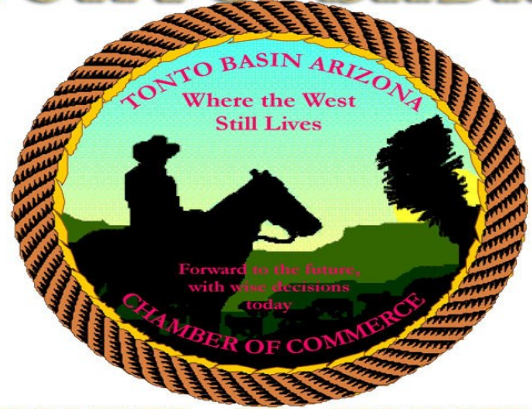
Time came, perhaps, all so soon, when our thoughts over-leaped that narrow boundary; when there was some one (very dear, we thought then, very beautiful, and absolutely perfect) wanting to the fulness of our happiness; when we were wanting too (or we thought so, which did just as well) at the Christmas hearth by which that someone sat; and when we intertwined with every wreath and garland of our life that some one's name.

That was the time for the bright visionary Christmases which have long arisen from us to show faintly, after summer rain, in the palest edges of the rainbow! That was the time for the beatified enjoyment of the things that were to be, and never were, and yet the things that were so real in our resolute hope that it would be hard to say, now, what realities achieved since, have been stronger!

What! Did that Christmas never really come when we and the priceless pearl who was our young choice were re-

(Continued on page 8)

TONTO BASIN



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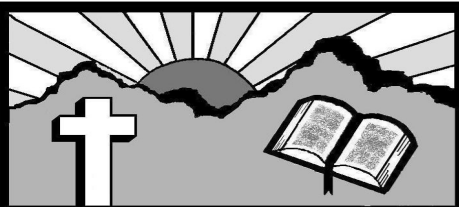
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M

Birthdays & Anniversaries **Dec 23 -Dec 29**

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Dax Rhoton	12/23
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Kim Byrne	12/23
Fran Edwards	12/24
Patty Hager	12/24
Pat Turnbull	12/25
Erin Silvester	12/27
Tim Hill	12/27
Erin Watson	12/28

ANNIVERSARY'S

Larry & Judianne
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ceived, after the happiest of totally impossible marriages, by the two united families previously at daggers—drawn on our account? When brothers and sisters-in-law who had always been rather cool to us before our relationship was affected, perfectly doted on us, and when fathers and mothers overwhelmed us with unlimited incomes? Was that Christmas dinner never really eaten, after which we arose, and generously and eloquently rendered honor to our late rival, present in the company, then and there exchanging friendship and forgiveness, and founding an attachment, not to be surpassed in Greek or Roman story, which subsisted until death? Has that same rival long ceased to care for that same priceless pearl, and married for money, and become usurious? Above all, do we really know, now, that we should probably have been miserable if we had won and worn the pearl, and that we are better without her?

That Christmas when we had recently achieved so much fame; when we had been carried in triumph somewhere, for doing something great and good; when we had won an honored and ennobled name, and arrived and were received at home in a shower of tears of joy; is it possible that THAT Christmas has not come yet?

And is our life here, at the best, so constituted that, pausing as we advance at such a noticeable milestone in the track as this great birthday, we look back on the things that never were, as naturally and full as gravely as on the things that have been and are gone, or have been and still are? If it be so, and so it seems to be, must we conclude that life is little better than a dream, and little worth the loves and strivings that we crowd into it?

No! Far be such miscalled philosophy from us, dear Reader, on Christmas Day! Nearer and closer to our hearts be the Christmas spirit, which is the spirit of active usefulness, perseverance, cheerful discharge of duty, kindness, and forbearance! It is in the last virtues especially, that we are, or should be,



strengthened by the unaccomplished visions of our youth; for, who shall say that they are not our teachers to deal gently even with the impalpable nothings of the earth!

Therefore, as we grow older, let us be more thankful that the circle of our Christmas associations and of the lessons that they bring, expands! Let us welcome every one of them, and summon them to take their places by the Christmas hearth.

Welcome, old aspirations, glittering creatures of an ardent fancy, to your shelter underneath the holly! We know you and have not outlived you yet. Welcome, old projects and old loves, however fleeting, to your nooks among the steadier lights that burn around us. Welcome, all that was ever real to our hearts; and for the earnestness that made you real, thanks to Heaven! Do we build no Christmas castles in the clouds now? Let our thoughts, fluttering like butterflies among these flowers of children, bear witness! Before this boy, there stretches out a Future, brighter than we ever looked on in our old romantic time, but bright with honor and with truth. Around this little head on which the sunny curls lie heaped, the graces sport, as prettily, as airily, as when there was no scythe within the reach of Time to shear away the curls of our first love. Upon another girl's face near it—smiling bright—a quiet and contented little face, we see Home written. Shining from the word, as rays shine from a star, we see how, when our graves are old, other hopes than ours are young, other hearts than ours are moved; how other ways are smoothed; how other happiness blooms, ripens, and decays—no, not decays, for other homes and other bands of children, not yet in being nor for ages yet to be, arise, and bloom and ripen to the end of all!

Welcome, everything! Welcome, alike what has been, and what never was, and what we hope may be, to your shelter underneath the holly, to your places round the Christmas fire, where what is sits open-hearted! In yonder shadow, do we see obtruding furtively upon the blaze, an

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enemy's face? By Christmas Day we do forgive him! If the injury he has done us may admit of such companionship, let him come here and take his place. If otherwise, unhappily, let him go hence, assured that we will never injure nor accuse him.

On this day we shut out Nothing!

"Pause," says a low voice. "Nothing? Think!"

"On Christmas Day, we will shut out from our fireside, Nothing."

"Not the shadow of a vast City where the withered leaves are lying deep?" the voice replies. "Not the shadow that darkens the whole globe. Not the shadow of the city of the Dead?"

Not even that. Of all days in the year, we will turn our faces towards that City upon Christmas Day, and from its silent hosts bring those we loved, among us. City of the Dead, in the blessed name wherein we are gathered together at this time, and in the Presence that is here among us ac-

ording to the promise, we will receive, and not dismiss, thy people who are dear to us!

Yes. We can look upon these children angels that alight, so solemnly, so beautifully among the living children by the fire, and can bear to think how they departed from us. Entertaining angels unawares, as the Patriarchs did, the playful children are unconscious of their guests; but we can see them—can see a radiant arm around one favorite neck, as if there were a tempting of that child away. Among the celestial figures there is one, a poor misshapen boy on earth, of a glorious beauty now, of whom his dying mother said it grieved her much to leave him here, alone, for so many years as it was likely would elapse before he came to her— being such a little child. But he went quickly, and was laid upon her breast, and in her hand she leads him.

There was a gallant boy, who fell, far away, upon a burning sand beneath a burning sun, and said, "Tell them at home, with my last love, how much I

could have wished to kiss them once, but that I died contented and had done my duty!" Or there was another, over whom they read the words, "Therefore we commit his body to the deep," and so consigned him to the lonely ocean and sailed on. Or there was another, who lay down to his rest in the dark shadow of great forests, and, on earth, awoke no more. O shall they not, from sand and sea and forest, be brought home at such a time!

There was a dear girl—almost a woman—never to be one—who made a mourning Christmas in a house of joy and went her trackless way to the silent City. Do we recollect her, worn out, faintly whispering what could not be heard, and falling into that last sleep for weariness? O look upon her now! O look upon her beauty, her serenity, her changeless youth, her happiness! The daughter of Jairus was recalled to life, to die; but she, more blest, has heard the same voice, saying unto her, "Arise forever!"

We had a friend who was our friend from early days, with whom we often pictured the changes that were to come upon our lives, and merrily imagined how we would speak, and walk, and think, and talk, when we came to be old. His destined habitation in the City of the Dead received him in his prime. Shall he be shut out from our Christmas remembrance? Would his love have so excluded us? Lost friend, lost child, lost parent, sister, brother, husband, wife, we will not so discard you! You shall hold your cherished places in our Christmas hearts, and by our Christmas fires; and in the season of immortal hope, and on the birthday of immortal mercy, we will shut out Nothing!

The winter sun goes down over town and village; on the sea it makes a rosy path, as if the Sacred tread were fresh upon the water. A few more moments, and it sinks, and night comes on, and lights begin to sparkle in the prospect. On the hillside beyond the shapelessly-diffused town, and in the quiet keeping of the trees that gird the village-steeple, remembrances are cut in stone, planted in

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common flowers, growing in grass, entwined with lowly brambles around many a mound of earth. In town and village, there are doors and windows closed against the weather, there are flaming logs heaped high, there are joyful faces, there is healthy music of voices. Be all ungentleness and harm excluded from the temples of the Household Gods, but be those remembrances admitted with tender encouragement! They are of the time and all its comforting and peaceful reassurances; and of the history that reunited even upon earth the living and the dead; and of the broad beneficence and goodness that too many men have tried to tear to narrow shreds.

by Charles Dickens

The Gift of the Magi

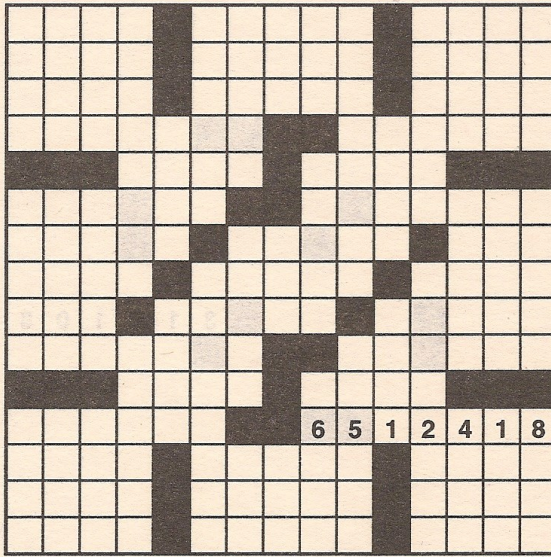
One dollar and eighty-seven cents. That was all. And sixty cents of it was in pennies. Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and the vegetable man and the butcher until one's cheeks burned with the silent imputation of parsimony that such close dealing implied. Three times Della counted it. One dollar and eighty-seven cents. And the next day would be Christmas.

There was clearly nothing to do but flop down on the shabby little couch and howl. So Della did it. Which instigates the moral reflection that life is made up of



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590	8379	16356	98653	7944454
611	8538	20963		
766	9131	26075	6 DIGITS	8 DIGITS
788	9192	30705	023783	03349786
	9293	33306	079163	12325171
4 DIGITS	9391	37264	117487	48732937
0575	9596	39063	155066	70568113
0629	9965	41635	453631	
0837		48737	481895	
0991	5 DIGITS	58758	635117	
1056	02767	72936	869358	Answer on page 112
1971				
2193				
2561				
3065				
3077				
3445				
3993				
4209				
4277				
4951				
5468				
5827				
5985				
6015				
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6600				
7533				



NUMBER-820

3	0	1	2		8	2	1	1	1		9	7	9	2
3	9	0	1		4	2	6	4	9		8	5	0	5
6	5	3	3		7	5	5	8	5		1	3	4	0
6	6	2	8		0	7	2	4	1	4		4	1	1
					2	9	2	1			4	9	8	5
7	2	1	1	9	7		4	6	6	5	9			
9	5	2		6	6	8	2	5		2	5	8	3	5
5	5	5	2		6	4	9	1	3		9	8	7	0
0	1	1	0	9		6	0	1	3	0		9	0	1
					7	8	8	8	2		9	1	4	5
6	3	7	8	1	7					0	3	0	3	
0	9	0		4	0	2	6	3	9		5	9	0	0
8	6	4	9		5	3	3	7	5		8	7	6	8
8	3	2	5		0	8	7	8	2		1	1	1	3
5	6	9	4		6	3	4	4	2		1	6	8	9

sobs, sniffles, and smiles, with sniffles predominating.

While the mistress of the home is gradually subsiding from the first stage to the second, take a look at the home. A furnished flat at \$8 per week. It did not exactly beggar description, but it certainly had that word on the lookout for the mendicancy squad.


In the vestibule below was a letter-box into which no letter would go, and an electric button from which no mortal finger could coax a ring. Also appertaining thereunto was a card bearing the name "Mr. James Dillingham Young."

The "Dillingham" had been flung to the breeze during a former period of prosperity when its possessor was being paid \$30 per week. Now, when the income was shrunk to \$20, though, they were thinking seriously of contracting to a modest and unassuming D. But whenever Mr. James Dillingham Young came home and reached his flat above he was called "Jim" and greatly hugged by Mrs. James Dillingham Young, already introduced to you as Della. Which is all very good.

Della finished her cry and attended to her cheeks with the powder rag. She stood by the window and looked out dully at a gray cat walking a gray fence in a gray backyard. Tomorrow would be Christmas Day, and she had only \$1.87 with which to buy Jim a present. She had been saving every penny she could for months, with this result. Twenty dollars a week doesn't go far. Expenses had been greater than she had calculated. They always are. Only \$1.87 to buy a present for Jim. Her Jim. Many a happy hour she had spent planning for something nice for him. Something fine and rare and sterling--something just a little bit near to being worthy of the honor of being owned by Jim. There was a pier-glass between the windows of the room. Perhaps you have seen a pier-glass in an \$8 flat. A very thin and very agile person may, by observing his reflection in a rapid sequence of longitudinal strips, obtain a fairly accurate conception of his looks.





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 **Sunday, noon To 5:30 pm**



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convenience**

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community.**

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An interesting array of stocking stuffers.**

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and stop by for some laid back Christmas shopping
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Bill: Cell 928-595-2331

Della, being slender, had mastered the art.

Suddenly she whirled from the window and stood before the glass. Her eyes were shining brilliantly, but her face had lost its color within twenty seconds. Rapidly she pulled down her hair and let it fall to its full length.

Now, there were two possessions of the James Dillingham Youngs in which they both took a mighty pride. One was Jim's gold watch that had been his father's

and his grandfather's. The other was Della's hair. Had the queen of Sheba lived in the flat across the airshaft, Della would have let her hair hang out the window some day to dry just to depreciate Her Majesty's jewels and gifts. Had King Solomon been the janitor, with all his treasures piled up in the basement, Jim would have pulled out his watch every time he passed, just to see him pluck at his beard from envy.

So now Della's beautiful hair fell about her rippling and shining like a cascade of brown waters. It reached below her knee and made itself almost a garment for her. And then she did it up again nervously and quickly. Once she faltered for a minute and stood still while a tear or two splashed on the worn red carpet.

On went her old brown jacket; on went her old brown hat. With a whirl of skirts and with the brilliant sparkle still in her eyes, she fluttered out the door and down the stairs to the street.

Where she stopped the sign read: "Mne. Sofronie. Hair Goods of All Kinds." One flight up Della ran, and collected herself, panting. Madame, large, too white, chilly, hardly looked the "Sofronie."

"Will you buy my hair?" asked Della.

"I buy hair," said Madame. "Take yer hat off and let's have a sight at the looks of it." Down rippled the brown cascade.

"Twenty dollars," said Madame, lifting the mass with a practiced hand.

"Give it to me quick," said Della.

Oh, and the next two hours tripped by on rosy wings. Forget the hashed metaphor. She was ransacking the stores for Jim's present. She found it at last. It surely had been made for Jim and no one else. There was no other like it in any of the stores, and she had turned all of them inside out. It was a platinum fob chain simple and chaste in design, properly proclaiming its value by substance alone and not by meretricious ornamentation—as all good things should do. It was even

worthy of The Watch. As soon as she saw it she knew that it must be Jim's. It was like him. Quietness and value--the description applied to both. Twenty-one dollars they took from her for it, and she hurried home with the 87 cents. With that chain on his watch Jim might be properly anxious about the time in any company. Grand as the watch was, he sometimes looked at it on the sly on account of the old leather strap that he used in place of a chain. When Della reached home her intoxication gave way a little to prudence and reason. She got out her curling irons and lighted the gas and went to work repairing the ravages made by generosity added to love. Which is always a tremendous task, dear friends--a mammoth task. Within forty minutes her head was covered with tiny, close-lying curls that made her look wonderfully like a truant schoolboy. She looked at her reflection in the mirror long, carefully, and critically.

"If Jim doesn't kill me," she said to herself, "before he takes a second look at me, he'll say I look like a Coney Island chorus girl. But what could I do--oh! what could I do with a dollar and eighty-seven cents?"

At 7 o'clock the coffee was made and the frying-pan was on the back of the stove hot and ready to cook the chops.

Jim was never late. Della doubled the fob chain in her hand and sat on the corner of the table near the door that he always entered. Then she heard his step on the stair away down on the first flight, and she turned white for just a moment. She had a habit for saying little silent prayer about the simplest everyday things, and now she whispered: "Please God, make him think I am still pretty."

The door opened and Jim stepped in and closed it. He looked thin and very serious. Poor fellow, he was only twenty-two--and to be burdened with a family! He needed a new overcoat, and he was without gloves.

Jim stopped inside the door, as immovable as a setter at the scent of quail. His eyes were fixed upon Della, and there

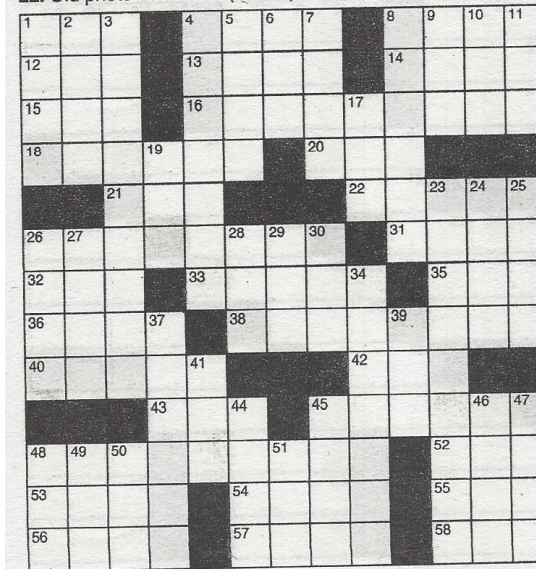
WORD 810

ACROSS

1. Politician
4. Bartlett's kin
8. Breaks one's fast
12. Itinerary word
13. Face shape
14. Film-rating org.
15. Directional suffix
16. Orange-blossom perfume (2 wds.)
18. Rodent-catching dog
20. Juan or Ameche
21. Vienna's land (abbr.)
22. Old photo tint
26. Courts of justice
31. Scottish fellows
32. IM provider
33. Broadway's LuPone
35. Cheerleader's spirit
36. Cut calories
38. Wanders about
40. Standish's stand-in
42. Possessive pronoun
43. ___ Cruces, New Mexico
45. Golfer Arnold
48. "Me and Mrs. Jones" singer (2 wds.)
52. "___ to Pieces" (2 wds.)
53. Cheese from Holland
54. Farm tract
55. Gehrig of the Yankees
56. British noblewoman
57. After mob or gang
58. WWII craft

DOWN

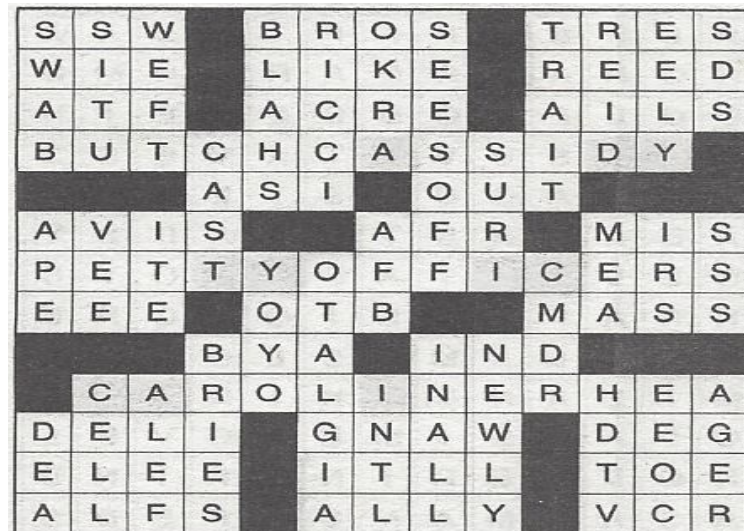
1. Declare emphatically
2. Former currency in Florence
3. Like some shrimp (hyph.)
4. Crams (2 wds.)
5. "The Party's ___"



6. Patriotic org.
7. Insensitive one
8. Marshall Mathers's more famous name
9. GI's address (abbr.)
10. Mai ___
11. "Erie Canal" mule
17. ___ Gatos
19. Bath place
23. Certain factory (2 wds.)
24. Freezer
25. Egyptian snakes
26. Triumphant interjection (hyph.)
27. Trouble the waters
28. Asian land, informally
29. Paris summer
30. Train terminal (abbr.)
34. Asthmatic's tool
37. "___ a Lie" (2 wds.)
39. Biden's home state (abbr.)
41. "No" vote
44. Health spots
45. Unmixed
46. Psyches
47. Complete defeat
48. Where the sandman visits
49. Mrs. Eddie Cantor
50. Run away quickly
51. Perform onstage

Answer on page 127

WORD 809





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was an expression in them that she could not read, and it terrified her. It was not anger, nor surprise, nor disapproval, nor horror, nor any of the sentiments that she had been prepared for. He simply stared at her fixedly with that peculiar expression on his face.

Della wriggled off the table and went for him.

"Jim, darling," she cried, "don't look at me that way. I had my hair cut off and sold because I couldn't have lived through Christmas without giving you a present. It'll grow out again--you won't mind, will you? I just had to do it. My hair grows awfully fast. Say `Merry Christmas!' Jim, and let's be happy. You don't know what a nice-- what a beautiful, nice gift I've got for you."

"You've cut off your hair?" asked Jim, laboriously, as if he had not arrived at that patent fact yet even after the hardest mental labor. "Cut it off and sold it," said

Della. "Don't you like me just as well, anyhow? I'm me without my hair, ain't I?"

Jim looked about the room curiously.

"You say your hair is gone?" he said, with an air almost of idiocy.

"You needn't look for it," said Della. "It's sold, I tell you--sold and gone, too. It's Christmas Eve, boy. Be good to me, for it went for you. Maybe the hairs of my head were numbered," she went on with sudden serious sweetness, "but nobody could ever count my love for you. Shall I put the chops on, Jim?" Out of his trance Jim seemed quickly to wake. He enfolded his Della. For ten seconds let us regard with discreet scrutiny some inconsequential object in the other direction. Eight dollars a week or a million a year--what is the difference? A mathematician or a wit would give you the wrong answer. The magi brought valuable gifts, but that was not among them. This dark assertion will be illuminated later on.



Jim drew a package from his overcoat pocket and threw it upon the table.

"Don't make any mistake, Dell," he said, "about me. I don't think there's anything in the way of a haircut or a shave or a shampoo that could make me like my girl any less. But if you'll unwrap that package you may see why you had me going a while at first."

White fingers and nimble tore at the string and paper. And then an ecstatic scream of joy; and then, alas! a quick feminine change to hysterical tears and wails, necessitating the immediate employment of all the comforting powers of the lord of the flat.

For there lay The Combs—the set of combs, side and back, that Della had worshipped long in a Broadway window. Beautiful combs, pure tortoise shell, with jewelled rims—just the shade to wear in the beautiful vanished hair. They were expensive combs, she knew, and her heart had simply craved and yearned over them without the least hope of possession. And now, they were hers, but the tresses that should have adorned the coveted adornments were gone.

But she hugged them to her bosom, and at length she was able to look up with dim eyes and a smile and say: "My hair grows so fast, Jim!" And then Della leaped up like a little singed cat and cried, "Oh, oh!"

Jim had not yet seen his beautiful present. She held it out to him eagerly upon her open palm. The dull precious metal seemed to flash with a reflection of her bright and ardent spirit.

"Isn't it a dandy, Jim? I hunted all over town to find it. You'll have to look at the time a hundred times a day now. Give me your watch. I want to see how it looks on it."

Instead of obeying, Jim tumbled down on the couch and put his hands under the back of his head and smiled.



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Sun. 9:00AM - 4:00PM

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RV & Marine, Lumber,

Cement, & Block

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Located behind The Butcher Hook

"Dell," said he, "let's put our Christmas presents away and keep 'em a while. They're too nice to use just at present. I sold the watch to get the money to buy your combs. And now suppose you put the chops on."

The magi, as you know, were wise men—wonderfully wise men—who brought gifts to the Babe in the manger. They invented the art of giving Christmas presents. Being wise, their gifts were no doubt wise ones, possibly bearing the privilege of exchange in case of duplication. And here I have lamely related to you the uneventful chronicle of two foolish children in a flat who most unwisely sacrificed for each other the greatest treasures of their house. But in a last word to the wise of these days let it be said that of all who give gifts these two were the wisest. O all who give and receive gifts, such as they are wisest. Everywhere they are wisest. They are the magi.

by O. Henry



Punkin Center Bar
Restaurant & Lodge



Old Highway 188
(928) 479-2627 Bar
(928) 479-2229 Lodge

Bar Hours

Sun.-Thurs. 9AM-10PM
Friday-Saturday 9AM-1AM

Kitchen Hours

Sunday-Thursday . 11AM - 8PM
Friday-Saturday. 11AM - 9PM

Please note: As we continue to grow and strive to provide the best customer experience possible, we will no longer be serving breakfast as of Monday, Nov. 29, 2021. Our lunch service will begin at 11AM

We are still offering Take-Out /Curb Side service!

Consignment Store-OPEN during bar hours.

Weekly Events

Tuesday-Taco Tuesday
Wednesday-Wing Wednesday
Friday-3-Ball Tournament 7PM
Saturday-Karaoke with KJ Lindsay 8PM-Midnight

Upcoming Events

Dec. 25 - Christmas Day CLOSED

Dec. 31-New years Eve Party



A MILE IN HIS MOCCASINS

is a collection of Dederer's newspaper columns (Arizona Republic). Very entertaining, some very funny, many interesting characters. Includes Winner of the Ernie Pyle Memorial Award. From the dust jacket: "John McPhee, who killed Santa Claus. Charlie Penn, who owns a whole town. Lillian Riggs, blind widow who ramrods 10 square miles of range. George Curtis, who sat at Doc Holiday's death bed. the dignity of a man who creates one cane basket a day; the dedication of a schoolmaster to rebuild his burned school; the courage of a doomed miner to provide for his family. " Great human interest stories; humorous and touching.

This is one of them:

Punkin Center

One time I told a Phoenix operator I wanted to telephone Frankie Toot of Punkin Center, and the operator thought I was drunk.

"Punkin Center is a store, bar, and service station in Tonto Basin, north of Roosevelt Lake," I said, a little niffed. "Frankie Toot is the wife of Gyp Toot. T-o-o-t. Now put the call through or I'll report you to the supervisor. S-u-p-e-r-v-i-s-o-r."

In a few minutes Frankie Toot and I were hating about the subject of my call. It seemed that Punkin Center year after year has led Arizona in per-capita collections for the March of Dimes.

Mrs. Toot, a grandmother of three, said the community of some 60 souls spontaneously adopted the National Foundation of its favorite charity. Every year a Texas-size pumpkin was picked from a nearby field and put on a shelf behind the bar.

Folks would come in to buy beer and take a 25-cent guess at the weight of the pumpkin. After the dimes drive, the person who guessed the weight of the gourd got it.

Anyway, the story was do backwoodsy I invented a Mammy Yokum mental image of Franke Toot. I figured she would have a hair bun, a feed-sack dress and maybe a lump of snuff in her cheek.



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Sudoku 812

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

“Hello!” said I to a genial compact fellow at the Punkin Center store. “Are you Gyp Toot?”

“I’m him.” He said, extending a strong, rough hand.

“I’d like to see your wife.”

Toot cranked the proper combination of the wall telephone and asked his wife to come from her house over to the store.

While I was waiting for Frankie Toot, a beautiful woman entered the store. Her Marlene Deitrich figure was niftily displayed in a fashionable blue, ribbon dress. Dark ringlets framed a classic face. She walked toward me, and in a voice as soft as Miss Monitor’s said: I’m Frankie Toot.”

Whatever little speech I had planned fled from my head, and about all I could say was:

“The folks with the March of Dimes made you this plaque for hanging over the bar, and since I was coming this way, they asked me to give it to you.”



Sudoku 811

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



Flag Display Days

Feb.	President Day	3rd Monday
May	V.E. Day	May 8th
May	Armed Forces Day	3rd Saturday
May	Memorial Day	Last Monday
May	Memorial Day	May 30th (Memorial Service at Cemetery)
June	Flag Day	June 14th
July	Independence Day	July 4th
Sept.	Labor Day	1st Monday
Sept.	V.J. Day	Sept. 2 (Formal Surrender)
Sept.	POW-MIA Day	3rd Friday
Nov.	Veterans Day	Nov. 11th
Dec.	Pearl Harbor Day	Dec. 7th



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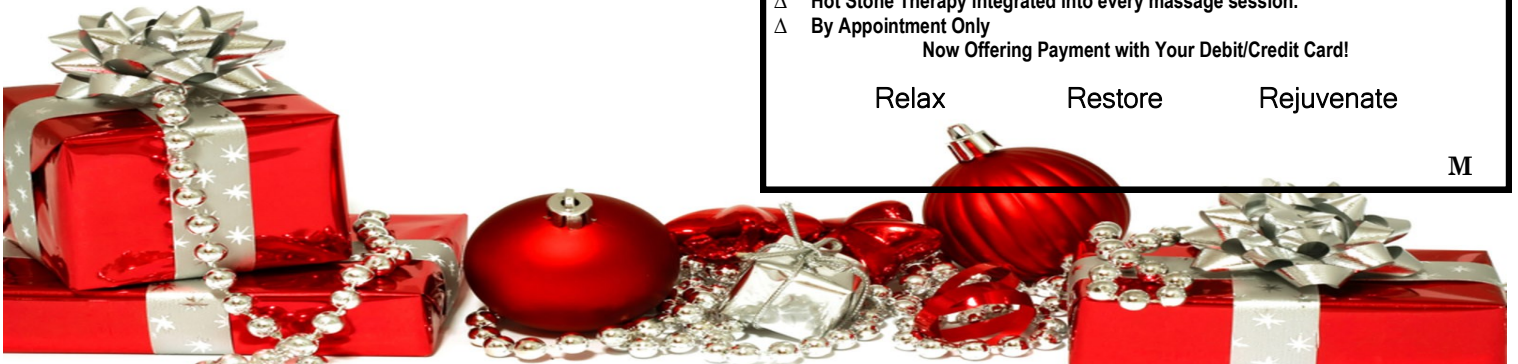
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Friends and Fellowship

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Everyone Welcome!





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Douglas J. Campbell, M.D.



Ryan Beau Bradley, PA-C





District 2 Gila County Supervisor
Tim R Humphrey

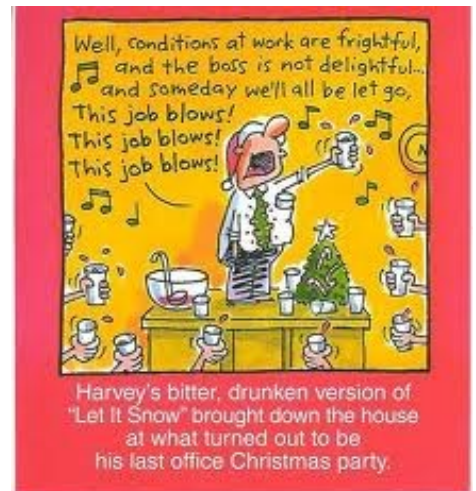
Tonto Basin Community Meeting,
Jan. 4, 2022 at 5 PM,
Tonto Basin Chamber
State Route 188 & Rattlesnake,
Tonto Basin,

For more information call:
District 2 Supervisor Tim R. Humphrey
(928) 425-3231 or toll free 800-304-4452

Updates, information, and upcoming events will
be discussed at this meeting.

**Frankie Toot said they knocked down a
goat for \$38.40 and sold a snip of the
goat's tail for \$1.50.**

**I wonder what the telephone operator
would this about that?**





*Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year
To All!*



*From all of us at Ffinch's Restaurant and
Pat's Place Marina Bar,
at Roosevelt Lake Marina.*



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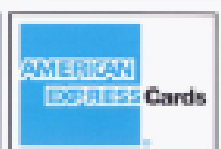
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448 N Day Place: The perfect hideaway! This newly remodeled 1984 24x48 High Chaparral man. home located on the west side of Tonto Creek features a split floorplan, a 3 year old metal roof, front covered Trex Deck and back covered deck with a mountain view! Many updates—call for details! 12x36 covered parking and a private well. **\$185,000 MLS#85445**



PENDING-297 S Wade Schandley: This 2008 custom Fleetwood home features 1620 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, custom kitchen cabinets, island breakfast bar, walk-in pantry, split floor plan with walk-in closets in each bedroom. Detached oversized garage (needs work) w/bathroom. Private well & storage tank. Views of Four Peaks and surrounding mountains. Property borders open ranch land, horses OK. **\$210,000 MLS#85089**



140 Hohokam Lane: This well kept 2007 Fleetwood 26x48 Manufactured Home features 3 bedroom and 2 bathrooms, Large garage, RV hookup and plenty of room on the .58 acres to park all of your toys. Beautiful fruit trees (2 peach, pomegranate, fig., plum, and apricot) The 360 degree views show all the surrounding mountains. Only 7 miles from Roosevelt Lake there is plenty to do all year around. **\$300,000 MLS#85699**



650 Tonto Creek Trail: Perfect fisherman's hideaway. Cool coated roof done in 2018 for double insulation and heating/cooling. Evaporative cooling only but set up for the installation of AC, stove can be electric or propane, maple laminate flooring throughout the home, plumbing and wiring replaced 2006, back half of the garage is set up to raise chickens for sale of eggs which can be removed for additional parking, home furnishings included. **\$130,000 MLS#85050**

ACREAGE

57P-57Q N Riverview Lane: This 1.33 acre parcel features 1/14 share in a co-op well with 2 water spickets, electric conduit installed for power, panoramic views, zoned GU for RV, Manufactured home, or site built home. Near Roosevelt Lake for great fishing and water sports, and at the base of the Sierra Ancha Wilderness area and the Mazatzal Mountains to the west for great UTV riding. **\$90,000 MLS#84890**

57R N Riverview Lane: This 1/2 Acre features panoramic views of the Sierra Ancha wilderness area to the east, the Mazatzal mountains to the west, and Four Peaks to the south. Just 5 miles south to the Indian Point boat ramp at Roosevelt Lake for great fishing and water sports. You can take your ATV right from this lot to many forest service roads. **\$40,000 MLS#84925**

PENDING-94B W Canyon Ridge Drive: Nestled on the outskirts of Ridge Canyon this beautiful level 1 acre lot is reserved for site built homes only (site built home with 1500 sq ft minimum and matching garage.) Views of high desert and sounding mountains. Build your dream home here! Enjoy nearby Roosevelt Lake for great fishing and water sports. Don't miss a great opportunity for this beautiful lot. Electric and water to lot line. **\$65,000 MLS#85787**

Information is deemed to be reliable, but is not guaranteed.



MEETINGS & EVENTS

Important Numbers for Tonto Basin, For Situation updates & Non-Emergency messaging, call the Gila County HOT-LINE

(928) 402-8888 or toll free 800-304-4452.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

emsdept@co.gila.az.us

Emergency: 9-1-1

Road Conditions: 5-1-1

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE meet the 3rd Thursday of every month at 9:30 A.M. at the Chamber building. (NO meetings June, July, or August.)

www.tontobasinchamber.org

FORT RENO VFW POST 8807 meets 4th Saturday of the month 9 AM

GILA COUNTY SUPERVISOR/COMMUNITY MTG FOR TONTO BASIN The 1st Tuesday of the month at 5PM held at the Tonto Basin Chamber bldg

SIERRA ANCHO LADY CARD PLAYERS: come join us to play/learn **CRAZY CANASTA** Wednesday 9AM-3PM at the Chamber of Commerce Building - Break for lunch @ 11:30AM

PUNKIN CENTER BAR'S FLEA MARKET IS HELD every other week on **SATURDAY** Stop by Punkin Center to sign up for your **"FREE"** Space.

TONTO BASIN KIWANIS CLUB MEETINGS
NO MEETINGS FOR THE REST OF DEC.
NEXT MEETING JAN.5TH, 2022, 9:00AM AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER.



BE PART OF A GREAT CLUB - WE WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS AND MEMBERS! APPLY AT THE THRIFT STORE.

KIWANIS THRIFT STORE 928-479-2795
CLOSED THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS. MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TONTO BASIN! WE WILL REOPEN THURSDAY JAN 6TH.
STORE HOURS ARE THURSDAY, FRIDAY

AND SATURDAYS 9-2.
DROP OFF HOURS ARE 9-1:30 ONLY.

KIWANIS BINGO
NO BINGO FOR THE REST OF DECEMBER.
BINGO WILL RESUME ON THURSDAY JAN. 6TH AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER.
DOORS OPEN 5:30
CHECK-IN AT 6:15
GAMES BEGIN 6:30
DOOR PRIZES!



TONTO BASIN LIBRARY
Phone: (928) 479-2355
Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8:00A.M.- 4 P.M.
Also offers other services: FAX, Copies, & Public Computer/printer for nominal fee.

TONTO BASIN POST OFFICE
(928) 479-2210

ADOT EMAIL ADDRESS FOR TONTO BASIN
George Collaco gcollaco@azdot.gov
M. Bejarano mbejarano@azdot.gov



HAVE A GOOD WEEK





Rambo Realty & Investment
 Margaret Rambo, Broker
Office: 928-978-0260 Fax: 928-268-3511
 email: margaret@ramborealty.com



Go to: www.ramborealty.com for ALL Local MLS LISTING Or just Google the property address for all details!

LOTS-ACREAGE

RR115 W Buckshot Ln. Prime location, Double Corner Lot on HWY188 & Buckshot. .94 acre w/181 ft of HWY frontage. 1500 gallon septic 3/4' water meter, electric avail. \$199,000 MLS85807

RR Parcel # "C", "D" & "E" ROS #5361 S Ewing Trl 1.4 acres, Borders TNF. Power & water avail. \$94,900 ea, MLS85743-MLS85744-MLS85745

RR44247 N HWY 188 Sen Hardt HWY Close to Roosevelt Lake! One of a kind! 5.89 acre w/ septic, well & elect in. water company line at West Boundary \$229,000 MLS85727

RR54 W Ironwood Ln. View lot .23 acres. Ready for your Man'd or Site built 1036 sq ft min home. Country maintained paved road w/elec & water to lot line \$49,000/ MLS85515

PENDING-RR251 S Moose Point .56 acre w/ Panoramic Views of Picture Mnt. Four Peaks, & Mount Ord! All utilities including water & electric meter + NO Traffic. Septic installed. Storage bldg. Perfect for RV or ready to build/ manufactured home. \$86,900 MLS85440

REDUCED-RR71 W Saguaro Rd .44 acre, Build your home or manufactured home (1036 sq ft) Panoramic Views. Close to Roosevelt Lake & TNF. Paved county road & pvt dirt access. \$19,900 MLS85136

RR5Q W Raven Cliff. Take a look at this .70 ac parcel! Great Views! Build your lake house here! Water & Power to lot line. \$59,900 MLS84658

RR5N W Canyon Ridge Dr. Unique Mountaintop setting! Views from this private awesome home site! Borders TNF on South & West boundaries. Site built only. 1500 sq ft min & matching garage. \$229,000 MLS84204

REDUCED-RR188A N Pioneer Pass Secluded quiet 1.45 acre parcel w/septic in, concrete slab & power avail. Great for RV or Permanent Home. \$74,500 MLS82600

RR741 W Gila Monster Panoramic Views overlooking Tonto Creek, borders TNF to the North., 1.78 acres, septic installed, two elec meters & shared well, water line installed, graveled drive & partial wire fencing. \$189,900 MLS83870

RR62A W Walnut Way .50 Acre Great lot bordering TNF. Septic installed. \$69,900. MLS84967

RR83 S Moose Point one of a kind View! .96 ac Lot! RV okay! Elect & water at lot line \$69,900 MLS84190

MANUFACTURED-SITE BUILT HOMES

PENDING-RR165 W Elmer LN Great mountain Views! .29 ac 2020 1,120 sq ft 3bd/2ba MH. Totally remodeled, New kitchen w/stainless apl., stacking washer & dryer. New frame gar, 20X26 w/gar door opener, atchd 8X25 Awning/patio. Two new steel awnings & concrete patios on 3 sides. RV hook-up! \$255,000 MLS85874

PENDING RR500 W Packard Dr. Rural Living at its Best! Private Quiet 1 ac, borders TNF to west. Horses OK! 2012 Quality CAVCO MH 1,376 sq ft, 3bd/2ba front & rear patios, private well. 1,344 sq ft finished 4 car garage w/lots of cabinets & util sink + det storage shed \$325,000 MLS85868

REDUCED-RR159 N Rope RD 1370 sq ft Site Built home on 1 ac. 2bd/2ba. Totally Remodeled. W 528 sq ft attached garage. New kitchen w/ breakfast bar, tile flooring, all appl incld. Shared well. 3 RV spaces, steel carport, vinyl & wood fencing. Shed. A must see! \$395,000 MLS85738

PENDING-RR271 W Christopher Ln 2001 24x44 Fleetwood 1,056 sq ft 3bd/2ba MH. Lg tree on corner. Horse property! All appl incl'd. New metal roof & HVAC. Dbl carport, rear deck plus open patio w/privacy fencing. Nice cov'd front deck & util rm w/wall a/c, det office craft building w/wall a/c, RV parking! Must See! \$165,000 MLS85848

PENDING RR472 N Rocky Rd Views of surrounding mountains, this home borders TNF..23 ac 19999 2bd/2ba., 1,456 sq ft., 26X56 Fleetwood MH. Extra parking w/2concrete driveways. RV parking Steel carport, steel patio cover. Metal storage shed. Fenced back yard. \$239,000. MLS85803

PENDING-RR 434 S Ewing Trail 3.06 ac, 1,920 sq ft 3bd/4ba Fleetwood MH. Upgraded cabinets w/ Corian countertops. All appls, inc. Garden beds, Orchard Koi pond, greenhouse, fruit, nut 7 shade trees, rain water cistern sys. 1900 sq ft block gar. w/13 ft doors. 2 additional steel covered carports, 2 portable bldgs.,. Must see. \$399,500 MLS85186

