



DESERT FOOTHILLS CHRONICLE, INC.© www.desertfoothillschronicle.org

February 29, 2016, Issue 4

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THE DESERT FOOTHILLS CHRONICLE - NEWS & ARTS JOURNAL©2013

News and Events currently....

- EDITORIALS

1. Sara Vannucci, Editor- Unanimous Planning Committee Rejects Meritage Homes Requests
2. John B. Vannucci, Editor – “To Be 'Western' or Not To Be 'Western', that was the question”
3. Terry Zerkle – General Plan Comments to Council and the Public
4. Janelle Smith-Haff - Visit new entries on current issues of the Blog.

www.cavecreektownhallblog.com; janelle@cavecreektownhallblog.com

- ART EVENTS

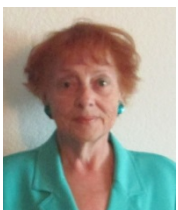
1. FEATURED ARTIST --Holland Fine Arts Gallery – “Extra Dimensional” by Sudha Achar :February 28-March 25, 2016, Reception Saturday March 12, 2016 , 4:30 to 6:30PM
2. Holland Fine Arts Gallery – Ending Exhibit “Let’s Talk Art”. Images follow in sequential issues.
3. Sonoran Arts League- ECS – “A New Path to Art Education in the Desert Foothills”
4. Call for Artists: Easy Street Art Gallery
5. On The Edge Gallery – “Video Art Walk” April 7, 7050 E Avenue , Scottsdale (article next issue)

- NON PROFIT EVENTS

6. Foothills Food Bank©
7. The Gold Mine Thrift Shop©

The Cave Creek Planning Commission unanimously rejected a petition for upzoning on behalf of Meritage Homes. The Developer was requesting Commercial Buffer for its planned subdivision of 55-56 homes on the land adjacent to the “McDonalds” property at 53rd-52nd Streets on Carefree Highway. The property is currently residential. The Commissioners expressed concern for several issues: the density of the homes; the ability of the builder to add a second floor; the dangerous traffic at the intersection of Carefree Highway and Cave Creek Road; the uncertainty as to the builder ability to obtain its own 100 year water supply; and a congested traffic flow within the subdivision. No initial plat was submitted for the commissioners to review, and they were concerned for the increased traffic and noise to the adjoining residences. The requested upzoning would mean that if the builder chose not to build homes, they could build commercially.

The newly approved commissioners were very well prepared, and offered excellent comments concerning the above issues, particularly on the example it set for intense density and suitability of location. Meritage responded that they would have to re-examine their numbers to see if the project would be financially feasible under these terms.



Sara Vannucci, Editor

John Vannucci , Editorial: To Be 'Western' or Not To Be 'Western', that was the question.

In a recent editorial of mine regarding the re-write/updating of the new 2016 General Plan, I wrote about my objection to the elimination/down grading of the descriptive word '**Western**' as related to the Town's historical characteristics.

Planning Commissioner Bob Voris was not amused by my use of his comments from the January 28, 2016, Commission Minutes. In my objection to this particular change in the GP, he claims that I misquoted him and, that in doing so, I have diminished my credibility.

The quote in question in my editorial reads "the Town Core has been described as eclectic" and " we are eclectic". Having read the minutes of that 28th meeting, a number of times, on Page 5, lines 204 thru 213, Voris' explanation uses a 2012 Resolution having to do with the 'Town Core Plan' as an "eclectic and diverse mix of thriving and creative businesses, housing opportunities and lifestyles. Existing attributes acknowledge different architectural styles and mentions the 'eclectic character of the Town Core'".

Furthermore, on page 6 of the same minutes, Lines 230 thru 239, Mr. Voris read a submitted letter by an undisclosed writer to bolster his explanation in which he states that "we are not just a western town" and continues on with other descriptions of the Town.

I stand by my editorial comments regarding the down-grading and elimination of the word 'Western' as the main descriptor of this town; all other descriptions are secondary. I believe this change is a big mistake although it may seem trivial to a number of people. Some of the reasons for my objection are:

- 1. The word 'Western' as describing the Town is NOT just a word. It is the Town's historical BRANDING. It is this one word that best describes the Town to the outside world; it is how we promote and sell our uniqueness.**
- 2. The word " Western" is NOT exclusive to the Town Core; it applies to the entire Town.**
- 3. If the town is not primarily described as Western, we will be no different than the other surrounding bedroom communities. One only needs to look at Scottsdale; they can hardly be recognized as a western community.**
- 4. On Page 5 of the revised General Plan under the caption 'Vision' it should have read ' Cave Creek is a Western Town'. It's just my opinion, period.**

Part Deux:

The Beat Down

During the February 18, 2016 Planning Commission meeting, there was only one agenda item. It was concerning the up-zoning of the now infamous 12.2 acres which was added at the last minute to the original **Specific Area Plan (SAP)** located behind the Lowes. Meritage Home Builders sought to change the zoning from **R89 residential to commercial buffer** with a proposed high density subdivision of 55/56 condominiums. Although commercial buffer allows multi-family housing, it also allows an assortment of other distasteful commercial possibilities within a few feet of a long standing residential community. It was another example of

a developer/investor trying to push the limit to maximize profit at the expense of current residents, especially since Meritage would not guarantee they would actually build any homes. The Commission voted it down unanimously.

Many resident homeowners came to the meeting to voice their opposition to this project. Among the speakers objecting to this proposal were two former Councilmen, Mr. Durkin and Mr. Monachino. After Mr. Durkin spoke against this up-zoning, Commissioner Voris felt compelled to publicly embarrass these two speakers by reminding the audience that they were two of the former councilmen to vote in favor of the additional contentious 12.2 acres to the SAP, thereby creating the problem that exists today and for future proposals for this parcel of land.

Mr. Voris said that he thought it was ironic that the two who voted in favor of the rezoning were now against it. What I thought was ironic, was that they were two of the four recalled councilmen that approved and voted to install Mr. Voris to this commission in the first place; OUCH! Payback is often painful. I found that this public beat down was uncalled for, as well as unprofessional. Again, it's just my opinion. **JV**



John Vannucci, The Fiscal Conservative Creeker

Terry Zerkle, on the General Plan

To: Hon. Vincent Francia, Mayor and Town Council Members

Cc: Peter Jankowski, Town Manager

Carrie Dyrek, Town Clerk

Ian Cordwell, Planning Director

Please allow me to share the following comments on the draft 2016 General Plan and ask that they be considered and addressed in your deliberations on this critically important document mapping the community's future.

Correct process. In large measure planning is about following correct public process. As a follow to my April 15, 2015 General Plan Protest Letter to the Mayor and Council, the process here remains fundamentally flawed. Allow me to explain.

Per Town Code, the Planning Commission is the planning agency for the town, not staff. As the planning agency, the Planning Commission is charged by Town Code and A.R.S. with initiating, developing, and recommending to the Town Council revisions to the town's General Plan.

While the Planning Commission worked exceptionally hard and invested considerable time since September 2015 developing a General Plan work product of their making and bringing it forward to Council, the document originally rolled out by staff in February 2015 and represented by staff to various outside referral agencies and others as the 2015 General Plan was in no way, shape, or form the Planning Commission's work product. It was not initiated by the Planning Commission. It was not developed by them. It was never seen or

vetted by the Planning Commission prior to its improper referral to the outside agencies by staff. Nor was it developed in a public setting at duly noticed public meetings.

It was exclusively a staff work product developed in a non-transparent setting behind closed doors without a smidgen of Planning Commission input and zero public exposure. And it incorporated wording and policy changes having far reaching negative impacts and consequences for the community without any explanations, professional/technical analysis or supporting documentation substantiating the changes. Moreover, the staff in improperly rolling out the 2015 General Plan document to the referral agencies in February 2015 misrepresented the Planning Department as the planning agency for the town, totally usurping, cutting out and by-passing the Planning Commission. Saying that this is way it was done in the past does not make it legal or right.

As it stands currently, that flawed staff created, non-vetted, non-Planning Commission produced February 2015 document is the only document ever referred to outside agencies for review and comment. And the comments that were received were on that improperly referred, non-Planning Commission produced, non-vetted document, not on the current Planning Commission developed version.

Bottom line: The General Plan draft currently before the Council is the first and only work product developed and vetted by the Planning Commission serving in its capacity as the duly authorized planning agency for the town. That document was not referred to outside agencies for review and comments as required by law. That is a major legal flaw in the process that begs correction. Failure to correct could lead to action torpedoing the whole General Plan update effort.

(Read More at our website at: [/documents/Terry Zerkle](#))

Monday night, February 29, will be an important opportunity to hear the latest status of the proposed new General Plan in council chamber. Issues that affect us all are density of new housing and commercial property; management of our water; costs of proposed expansion of town borders; and budgeting for what appears to be another recession on the horizon. The General Plan is about planning for the future for a substantial number of years. If you can't attend, it is transmitted via a user friendly link on the Cave Creek Town website. The sound is pretty poor, so grab some headphones for your computer.

**ON THE EDGE GALLERY -- Video ArtWalk! 7050 E. 5th Avenue (5th Avenue & Marshall Way)
Scottsdale, AZ 85251; [480-265-8991](tel:480-265-8991); EMAIL: info@ontheedgegallery.com**

WEB: www.ontheedgegallery.com

Bring your family and friends to On The Edge Gallery and enjoy the "Video ArtWalk" on Thursday, April 7, 2016, from 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM as we embrace the popular new trend of technology in the arts.

This is a unique opportunity see our featured artists share their creative process through videos and images as they play with oils, mixed media, acrylics and more.

"The greatest insight into the spirit and voice of an art piece is to observe the creative process behind it," states On The Edge Gallery Artist, Rani Primmer. "It is where the artist's joys and sorrows, courage and fear, beliefs, inspirations, and visions all dance together to create incredible works of art."

Featured artists are Jackie Roliardi, Victoria Monize, Kim Walker and Kelly Bowman. Come and meet these extraordinary artists and gain insights into what inspires them and how that inspiration transforms into amazing art.

ARTS



FEATURED ARTIST: SUDHA ACHAR



About me, an artist.

I was born in Bangalore, India. Some of the world's most graceful stone sculptures, including figures in the temples of Halebidu and Beluru, were available for me to enjoy as I grew up. My father introduced me to the extensive art collection in the Mysore palace museums at a very young age. Cinema was a part of life.

Living in the West with my husband, Patrick Freehill, I have the experience of being born and brought up in one culture and living in other cultures.

I have explored the art of a variety of different world cultures through extensive travel and study, with input from cinema, performance arts and pop

culture as well as other contemporary arts. They have enriched my life as I discover and explore many different approaches in my art making journey.

I appreciate the master artists who were my teachers. After years of endless creative effort where I find beauty and joy in both the process and the end product, I continue to enjoy making art. It offers me an efficacious and enduring method to communicate my feelings and ideas. Through installations, constructions, sculptures, paintings, photography and videography, I bring together an assortment of my feelings, thoughts and images

In addition, I straddle the worlds of arts and science. My work reflects who I am as a result of my close personal relationships, an amalgamation of multiple cultures and my training in art.



It also reflects who I am as a product of my medical training and my experience in a life humbled and enriched by exploring and nurturing the health of my patients as their physician.

LARGE FORMAT WATER MEDIUM



Whatever medium I have chosen to work with at a given time, I generally prefer to begin with no preconceived idea of my finished work. As I explore the materials and the technical process, I begin to envision a concept.

I work until I feel I have expressed what I wish to convey. I enjoy the challenge and the process of finding a result that will express who I am. In response to my effort to find the new and generate intrigue, **I invite viewers to bring their intuition and knowledge to explore my work for a richer and lasting experience.**

WATER MEDIUM ON CANVAS



SUDHA ACHAR- ARTIST, SCULPTOR, M.D., TEACHER
Sudhaachar9@gmail.com **Sudhachar.com**

ART EXHIBITION, HOLLAND GALLERY FINE ARTS 2-28-16 THRU MARCH 2TH, RECEPTION SATURDAY MARCH 12, 4:30-6:30PM



Available at Amazon

http://www.amazon.com/Square-Deal-Paintings-Sudha-Achar/dp/1466474432/ref=sr_1_1/186-0676883-1354654?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1456417817&sr=1-1&keywords=square+deal+abstract+paintings



I am looking for a few new artists for the Galleria. I am doing a wall space for \$50.00 a month and 30% commission till the end of June. I am looking for 4-5 new people. If you know anyone who may be interested please let me know. They can move in the end of Feb or March.

Victoria Orrico

Easy Street Galleria, 100 Easy Street, Carefree, AZ 85377

Tour d' Artistes 2016

March 4 - 6
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

A self-guided tour featuring 60 artists
in 9 artist studios and 2 galleries

Pre-Tour Reception 5:00 –7:00 pm Thursday, March 3
Emerson Gallery 16930 E. Palisades Blvd., Fountain Hills

Artist info, maps and how to
enter art raffle available at
www.FountainHillsArtLeague.com

Contact Persons: Judith Rothenstein-Putzer

ArtworksByJudith@aol.com 480-836-0952- Justine Mantor- Waldie -
480-837-2681

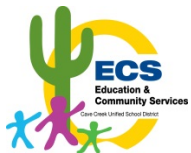
5th Annual Tour d'Artistes Studio Tour & Sale in Fountain Hills

Innovative media will be featured with over 60 artists, 9 studios and 2 galleries in the 5th annual Fountain Hills Art League's **"Tour d' Artistes Studio Tour and Sale"**, March 4th, 5th, 6th, 2016, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm.

This self-guided tour takes you by the namesake Fountain and through the scenic hills for which Fountain Hills is famous. It's a chance to interact with local artists and view their work in their homes and studios. Artists will be demoing their media techniques throughout the **"Tour"**.

For more information: <http://www.fountainhillsartleague.com/>
480-837-5593

SONORAN ARTS LEAGUE COMMUNITY ARTS PROGRAMS FOR SUMMER



**Art
Artists
Art Education**

Media Contact: Elaine Adrian

Special Projects, Education & Community Services, Cave Creek Unified School District
480-575-2071 / eadrian@ccusd93.org

Interviews: Pat Bell-Demers

Executive Director, Sonoran Arts League
480-575-6624 / pat@sonoranartsleague.org

**SONORAN ARTS LEAGUE &
EDUCATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES, CCUSD**

A NEW PATH TO ART EDUCATION IN THE DESERT FOOTHILLS

With over a year's experience with art classes at the Gallery @ El Pedregal and their own newly expanded office space, the Sonoran Arts League is ready to launch a full-fledged "Art Classes for All Ages" program. Summer 2016 marks the official start of the Sonoran Arts League Summer Foothills Art Academy. The Sonoran Arts League Summer Foothills Art Academy is open to all ages, kindergarten to adults, and will be offered through Education & Community Services (ECS), a department of the Cave Creek Unified School District.

Since 2008, members of the Sonoran Arts League have taught the ECS Foothills Art Academy, garnering rave reviews for the multi-generational art classes. This year, the Sonoran Arts League will take the lead, structuring the classes and recruiting teachers as part of a new Sonoran Arts League program, ArtReach, which celebrates and supports the power of art to enrich life.

"Artists of the Sonoran Arts League have been wonderful to work with through the years," said Elaine Vallario, ECS Enrichment Coordinator. "Our partnership has given flight to various summer workshops where teens and adults have worked side by side as their creativity is nurtured and encouraged."

The Sonoran Arts League has worked hard to put together a team to organize and run the Summer Foothills Art Academy. The screening procedure is rigorous. Artists must show more than competency in their work; they must be able to share their techniques with others. "Teaching is more difficult than merely showing what you do," Catherine Ross, Foothills Art Academy coordinator explains. "You have to be able to break down your technique into small meaningful segments."

For the younger set, grades kindergarten through 6th grade, the art classes are STEAM oriented. STEAM represents science, technology, engineering, art and math. For example, the "Desert Spring" class combines elements of plant life with math (sizes and shapes) into the creation of beautiful fields of flowers. There is also a 3D art class where students will be working with paper, foam board, wire and clay as they learn the mechanics of 3D art.

For grades 7th through adult, classes cover a wide range of wonderful art making experiences, including weaving, jewelry making, 3D art, ceramics, photography, and even pop up books.

Classes for kindergarten through 6th grade will be held at Desert Sun Academy, 27880 N. 64th St, Scottsdale. The classes for 7th grade through adults will be held at Cactus Shadows High School, 5802 E. Dove Valley Road, Scottsdale.

"Through this partnership of ECS and Sonoran Arts League, we've laid a strong foundation for even more opportunities to unfold for all ages in our community," said Elaine Vallario. "Please join us this summer!"



The weeklong classes take place June 13 through July 1, 2016, from 9:00am to noon. Class information and registration is online through Education & Community Services at www.ecsforall.org. For additional class details, go to www.foothillsartacademy.org or contact Pat Bell-Demers of the Sonoran Arts League at 480-575-6624. For questions regarding registration, contact Elaine Vallario at Education & Community Services, 480-575-2072.

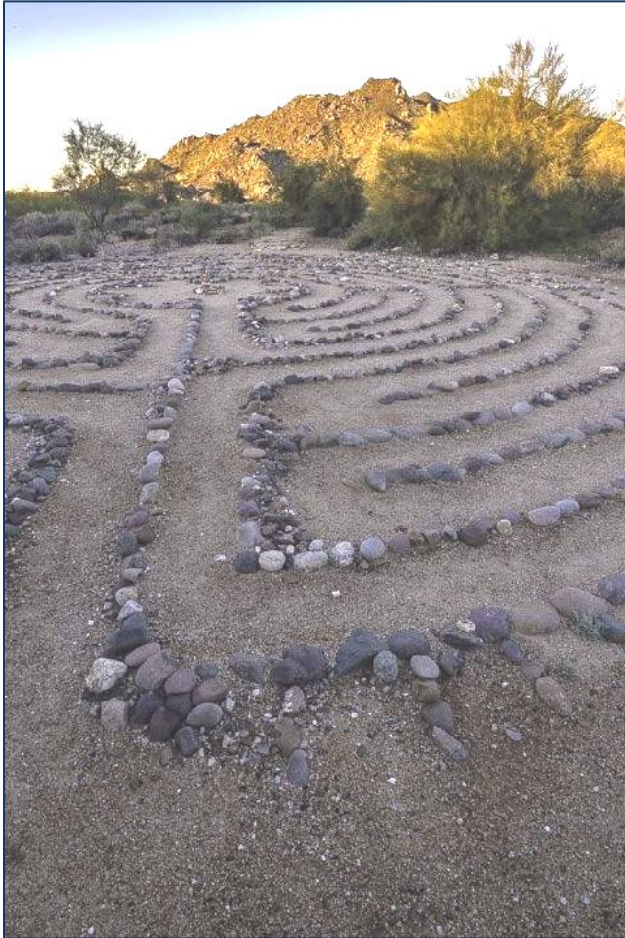
Education and Community Services is open to all students, public, private, charter or homeschooled, preschool through adult. For more information, visit www.ecsforall.org or contact Elaine

Vallario, ECS Enrichment Coordinator, Cave Creek Unified School District, at evallario@ccusd93.org or 480-575-2440.

Meet the Team: Catherine Ross, Robert Grebe, Julie Harmon, Rita Treat, Anne Hibbetts. Not pictured: Marcia Lang, Valerie Hildebrand. Photo courtesy of Sonoran Arts League.



Education & Community Services, 33016 N. 60th Street, Scottsdale AZ 85266 480-575-2440



CIRCLES OF ROCKS – Spur Cross

Images captured by Carefree resident, Tom Baker. Email Tom for prints of this and other wonderful photographs.

Thomas Baker <tomin8or@mac.com>



CIRCLES OF STARS

NON PROFITS



The Gold Mine & Gold Mine Too! Thrift Shops

6502 Cave Creek Road - 480-488-3721

Shopping and Donation Hours: Wednesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

<http://www.goodshepherdaz.org/gold-mine.html>

<http://goodshepherdaz.org/about/history.html>

This Week: Wednesday, February 24 – Saturday 27

Favorite black dot clothing are 50% off!

Thank you everyone for visiting our new second location last week. Beginning tomorrow the Gold Mine Too! Will only be open on Wednesday and Saturday with the same hours as the Gold Mine – 9 a.m to 3 p.m. 100% of net proceeds from the Gold Mine go to charity. Approximately 70% of that stays in our community. For a list of the monetary donations we make, visit <http://www.goodshepherdaz.org/outreach.html> Thank you so much to all our customers and contributors for supporting your community! We offer furniture pickup service on \$65 or more. Ask about our estate sale services!

Join us for the 2016 SPUR CROSS FAIR – Mary & Roger Kearney

When: Saturday, March 12, 2016; Time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Where: Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area*

What: Learn about the archaeology of the Cave

Creek/Spur Cross area through hikes, booths, guest speaker and live demonstrations!

There are booths from the Desert Foothills Chapter of AAS, Cave Creek Museum, Desert Awareness Group, Desert Foothills Land Trust, Verde Valley Archaeology Center, Liberty Wildlife, Pottery and Gold Panning demonstrations, and much more. There are other children's activities and crafts as well as the opportunity to view and hold prehistoric artifacts from the area. Come help celebrate Arizona Archaeology Month. Bring the whole family and have fun while learning about this beautiful state. See you there!

HIKES: Include First Mesa, Jewel of the Creek, and Rock Art.** Our speaker is Scott Wood retired Tonto National Forest Archaeologist. Please check the Arizona

Archaeological Society (AAS) website www.azarchsoc.org under "events" for the finalized schedule of speakers and hikes.

*From Cave Creek road, turn North on to Spur Cross Road. Spur Cross Conservation Area is 4 ½ miles north. Although the Expo is free, there is a \$3/adult park entrance fee. Children under 16 and those with Maricopa County Park or Spur Cross passes are free.

**Hikers should be prepared for desert walking with appropriate footwear, hats, snacks, and an adequate supply of bottled water!



Arizona Archaeology Society – Desert Foothills Chapter meeting

Dr. Deni Seymour presents *The Great Battle of 1698: A Historical Turning Point for the O'odham and Apache* on March 09, 2016. Perhaps, the greatest historical event to have occurred in this region happened along the San Pedro River in the vicinity of Fairbank on Easter Day in 1698. This was the battle at Santa Cruz de Gaybanipitea, when 500 Apache and their allies attacked the still-sleeping Sobaipuri-O'odham village of 80. This village was visited by the Jesuit Father Eusebio Kino in the 1690s. Against all odds, the Sobaipuri-O'odham won the battle. The story is remembered because it was retold and recorded by a number of

Spaniards, including by Padre Kino, but fresh understandings are now available that make the story even more important. Seymour corrects the historical record with new translations of historic battle-related documents. She moves beyond what the Spanish conveyed about the battle to include results of archaeological excavations and analysis with application of O'odham-specific cultural information that explains a number of problems including why Kino was delayed in his inspection of the battlefield. The reasons for the battle are discussed and long-held questions are answered including the role of the Spaniards, routes of retreat, evidence of ritualized site cleansing, how we can be certain about the correct location, and where specifically the Sobaipuri went after the battle. A newly identified battlefield signature is discussed based on projectile point breakage patterns. Projectile points also provide important indicators of the various ethnic groups involved: the Jocome, Jano, Manso, Suma, and Apache.

Dr. Deni Seymour is an internationally recognized authority on protohistoric and historic Native American and Spanish colonial archaeology and ethnohistory. For 30 years, she has studied the ancestral (Chiricahua, Mescalero, and Lipan) Apache, Sobaipuri-O'odham, and lesser-known mobile groups (Jano, Jocome, Manso, Suma, and Jumano). She has excavated two Spanish-period presidios (Santa Cruz de Terrenate and Tubac), several missions, and several indigenous sites. Dr. Seymour works with indigenous groups in reconnecting with their heritage, investigates Coronado and Niza expedition archaeology, and is rewriting the history of the pre-Spanish and colonial period in the southern portion of the Southwest. She has published extensively on these groups and this period, with more than 80 publications in referred journals, edited volumes, and popular venues, and has served as journal guest editors. She has published five books with another two under review. Dr. Seymour is a full-time research archaeologist and ethnohistorian, public speaker, and author affiliated with two academic institutions and the nonprofit research group Jornada Research Institute.

The general public may attend an Arizona Archaeology Society – Desert Foothills Chapter meeting at no charge, except for the holiday party in December. The AAS-DFC meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, September through May. There are refreshments available at 7:00 PM and the meeting begins at 7:30 PM, usually ending prior to 9:00 PM. The meetings are held in the community building (Maitland Hall) at The Good Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church, 6502 East Cave Creek Road, Cave Creek, AZ 85331 (near the Dairy Queen). www.azarchsoc.org/desertfoothills.

John & Sara Vannucci, Editors

Visit www.carefreetruth.com for CarefreeTown info & Events

About the Desert Foothills Chronicle & Chronicle Arts *expanded* Journal.

Part of our motivation in this project is to provide every local artist/merchant with an opportunity to present your current art and services to our neighbors and local business. Group event news will be welcome at no cost, to the extent of space. Individual artists or businesses may use a full page for \$25 per issue. Free business card ads accepted to extent of space . Contact Sara at: Creekerlady@gmail.com.

The Chronicle welcomes photographs and information intended for sharing on our website and newsletters. By submitting these images, the artist and end reader agree that this use is a limited license for personal enjoyment and social sharing, but no commercial re-use of the image/material is intended or permitted without the written permission of the original artist. The Chronicle disclaims any ownership rights in any submission.