

# Copper Country News

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## The mine named for Christmas

**By David Sowders Assistant Editor** 

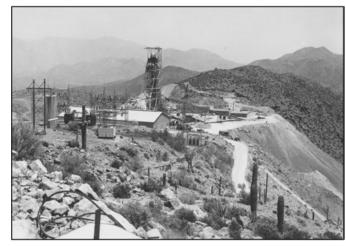
These days it is closed to the public, but in its day the ghost town of Christmas, Arizona - about 10 miles north of Winkelman boasted a population of about 1,000.

Christmas, like a number of Arizona towns, was built around copper mining. Between 1905 and 1943 the Christmas Mine produced 55 million pounds of copper, worth over \$10 million. The town that sprang up around it had a dairy, a grocery store, a school, a church, a cemetery, a hat

shop, a barbershop . . . and, for about 20 years, a post office.

From June 17, 1905 to March 30, 1935, the date it finally closed - it was shut down several times before - the Christmas post office took in Christmas cards and other packages from across the country by people who wanted their items re-mailed with a Christmas postmark. Despite the final closure, holiday mail came in for the next 20 years and was forwarded to the Winkelman post office.

As for the town cemetery, the website findagrave.com lists 57 memorials there but



COURTESY PHOTO/ARIZONA GEOLOGICAL SUR

McDonald Shaft (also known as the No. 9 Shaft) at the Christmas Mine, circa 1960s

that may not be all (watch future editions of the Arizona Silver Belt for more

on the cemetery and the Christmas Mine's history). See MINE on page 2



The Christmas, Arizona cemetery

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: Amanda Moors

## **COMMUNITY**

## **GCHS Book & Holiday Sale**

The Gila County Historical Society invites the community to come and browse its Book & Holiday Sale, Saturday, October 12 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Gila County Historical Museum grounds, 1330 N. Broad St.

The sale will feature lots of books – cookbooks, historical, romance, Western and kids' books – along with holiday dec-



orations for Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas, holiday dish sets, platters and cookie con-

tainers. Come and support a great organization. See you there.



#### MINE, from page 1

One thing the town did

not have was gambling halls, saloons or brothels. Christmas is also notable as the place three minerals apachite, junitoite and ruizite – were first found. The first mining claims were filed in 1878 by William Tweed and Dennis O'Brien. In 1882 Dr. James Douglas, acting as an agent for Phelps Dodge, bought Tweed's and acquired an option on O'Brien's holdings. Phelps Dodge formed the San Carlos Mining Company to explore and develop the area; a 70-mile wagon road was built from the Picacho railhead. Operations halted in 1882 when it was determined the site was on the San Carlos Apache Reservation, but on Dec. 22, 1902 President Theodore Roosevelt signed an executive order changing the reservation boundaries. The mine, and the town, would get its name some



COURTESY PHOTO

## No. 3 Shaft and hoist house at the Christmas Mine, circa 1916

three days later. A prospector named George Chittenden, founder of the Saddle Mountain Mining Company, and his partner N.H. Mellor staked their claim in the early hours of Dec. 25, 1902. They had kept an eye on the site and so had Phelps Dodge, who had hired a watchman who, it is said, went to Globe to celebrate the holiday. "We filled our stockings and named the place Christmas in honor of the day," Chittenden would say later.

After settling a lawsuit

by Phelps Dodge, Saddle Mountain Mining Company worked the site until 1907. In that time the mine produced about 4.5 million pounds of copper. Later owners of the Christmas Mine included the Gila Copper Sulphide Company, Miner Products Company and Inspiration Consolidated Copper Company. A slump in copper prices forced the mine's final closure in the early 1980s. Today Freeport McMoRan owns the property where the mine and the town stood.

## **Copper Country News**

THE COPPER COUNTRY NEWS is published weekly on Wednesday by Cobre Valley Publishing, 298 N. Pine St., Globe, Arizona 85501. Distribution to: Globe-Miami, San Carlos, Peridot, Roosevelt, Tonto Basin, Punkin Center, Payson, Superior, Kearny, Hayden, Winkelman, Dudleyville, Queen Valley, Apache Junction.

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#### **HOURS:**

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:30am - 3pm Closed: Monday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday Deadline: Thursdays at 10am

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**September 18, 2024** 

**Copper Country News** 

Page 3

## **COMMUNITY**

## Miami art show continues through October 6

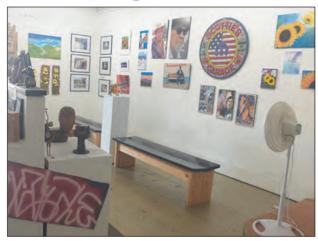
The Miami Arts Commission and Miami Art Works Gallery invite the public to experience their latest opencall group art show, with "Resilience" as its theme. The show runs through Oct. 6, 2024.

"Art is truly one of the most resilient aspects of human history, from the wall drawing of the Neanderthals to the pop art of the 21st Century," the Miami Arts Commission said in a press release. "Art endures and proves its worth as resilient and important as a continual part of our lives."

More than 30 artists from all over Arizona and beyond are taking part in "Resilience." Creators, who were not strictly bound by the theme, brought over 70 works of art to the show. Artists included in this

showing are Maya Barton

(Superior), Aaron Boston (Miami). Mark Chaidez (Miami), Carolyn Churchouse (Florence, OR), Jim Coates (Miami). MarvAnn Collins (Miami), Jenny Comerci (Tucson), Lisa Burk Darrow (Fountain Vly., CA), Elizabeth Eaton (Miami), Exhale (Oakdale, CA), Mark Hahn (Tucson), Delvan Hayward (Miami), Reshan Holland (Miami), Kevin Jacobs (Huntington Beach, CA), Gwendolyn Kammerzell (Chandler), Ailenay Lenazlunar (AZ), Robert Licano (Miami), Lob Instagon (Miami), William Lockyear (Torrance, CA), Eric and Anita Mahaffey (Phoenix), Miracle Martinez (Superior), Courtney Odom (Miami), Wayne Overholt (Apache Junction), Philhalffool (Miami), Amanda Rae (Miami), Libby Rooney (Tucson), Eric Sanchez (Spokane, WA),



COURTESY PHOTO

The public is invited to experience the Miami Arts Commission and Miami Art Works Gallery's group art show "Resilience" through October 6.

Kate Stewart (Globe), Tayha Tarron (Miami), Jennifer Weigel (McPherson, KS), Anonymous Body (Miami), and Unknown Macedonian Street Artist (Macedonia) Miami Art Works Gallery is located at 509 Sullivan St. Hours are 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

W-F and 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Their phone number is 928-473-9084.

The Miami Arts Commission is a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization that aims to revitalize the Miami. Arizona area through the arts and creative energy.

## Globe Active Adult Center News & Menu

Hello from the Globe Active Adult Center. Our Rummage Sale will be Monday, Sept. 23 through Friday, Sept. 27 from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lots of good stuff and great prices. Our activities include video exercise Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8 a.m., stretch & flex Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30 a.m., bingo Wednesdays and Fridays at 9 a.m., ceramics Wednesdays at 9 a.m. and crafts Fridays at 9 a.m. We serve biscuits & gravy Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m., for \$3 per bowl. PGCSC/SHIP and Ombudsman Education is every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 11 a.m. Heritage offers blood pressure checks and nutritional education every 1st Thursday of the month at 10:30 a.m. For

benefits assistance, call the Pinal-Gila Council for Senior Citizens at 1-800-293-9393. Lunch served Monday thru Friday at 11:45 a.m. 60 and over is \$2.50 per meal, under 60 \$5 per meal. We are lo-

See GAAC on page 12

## GCHS hamburger fry Sept. 27

cal Society would like to invite the

community to its next hamburger fry, on

Friday, Sept. 27, 2024 at 6 p.m., on the grounds of the Gila County Historical Museum, 1330 N. Broad

The Gila County Histori- St. Come one, come all to the last GCHS hamburger fry of 2024 and eniov great food and good com-

> Courtesy image pany for \$10 per plate while supporting a

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### **High Desert Humane Society** Dia de Muertos Dinner and Auction

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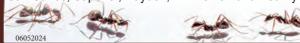
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## WORSHIP

## Worship Directory

#### St. Paul's United Methodist Church Pastor Gary Simons

928-425-2340 • 141 N Hill St, Globe (Cedar & Hill) Sun. School 9:15am, Service 10:30am Office 9am-12pm stpaulumglobe@gmail.com

#### Wheatfields Southern Baptist Church Pastor Jimmy Powers

928-425-3601 • 276 E Green Ave, Globe Sun. School 9:45am, Worship 11am Tue. Bible Study 10am

#### Globe Christian Center Pastor John Gooding, 928-425-7846

509 E Maple, Globe (by Globe HS) Sun. School 9:45am Sun. Worship 10:30am, 5:30pm Wed. Worship 7pm

#### Seventh-Day Adventist Church Pastor David Hakes, 423-314-1686

2407 E Ash St, Globe Sat. Bible Study 9:30am, Worship 11am

#### Miami Church of Christ Minister Robin Verdugo

928-473-3989 • 735 N Sullivan St, Miami Sun. Worship 10am, Bible Study 6 pm Thu. Ladies' Night Class 6:30pm

#### Sovereign Grace Baptist Church Pastor John Skaggs

928-425-8345 or 928-358-2612 201 E Yuma St, Globe (by Tri-City) Sun. School 9:45am, Worship 11am Wed. Worship 6:30pm

#### Divine Grace Presbyterian Church Rev. Dr. Valerie DeLaTorre

928-473-3158 305 W Live Oak St, Miami Sun. Worship 9:30am

#### Living Waters Community Church Pastors Jay & Gloria Petty

928-425-9462 or 928-812-4192 125 E Haskins Rd, Globe Sun. Church: 10am Tue. Women/Men's Fellowship 6:30pm Wed. Strive Youth 6:30pm

#### Family Fellowship Church Pastors Kenneth, Dennis & Scott Crick

928-425-0181 or 928-961-2466 200 E Oak St, Globe Sun. Service 10am Thu. Bible Study 7pm

#### Roosevelt Baptist Church Dr. Roger D. Pike

928-467-2349

18653 Hwy 188, Roosevelt, AZ Sun. Worship 11:00am • Wed. Night Bible Study: 6 p.m.

#### First Presbyterian Church - PC (USA) Pastor Troy Agema

928-425-5560 318 S Hill St, Globe & PO Box 1362 Sun. School 9:45am, Worship 11am

## **How to Deal with Regrets**

By Pastor Greg S. Baker First Baptist Church of Miami

We all have regrets in life. Each of us wish we'd have done something different, taken a lost opportunity, said, "I love you" to someone now passed on, or just chosen a different path in life to walk.

In the years that I have pastored and counseled people, the strongest regrets I have encountered are those from people who lost a loved one to death. I hear comments like, "I wish," "If only," "It's not fair," "Why?", and so many others. These regrets can consume a person to the point where he or she becomes paralyzed by them, living in guilt and frustration.

Regrets can be strong or minor. No matter the case, dealing with regrets is something that each of us must do.

REGRETS SHOW THAT YOU CARE

If you had no regrets, you probably do not care much. In the case of the death of someone dear and close, I would be bothered by someone who claims kinship or friendship with the

departed and yet has no regrets. Regrets demonstrate the level of love and care that we have for such a person. Regrets also demonstrate that we are now fully aware of the missed opportunities.

So in a very real sense, regrets are good. If you didn't have any regrets. you would be calloused or simply unaware of the opportunities that have slipped you by. Our past shapes our future and affects our present. We can't escape that fact. Although we cannot change the past, we must be aware of it. because the past shows us the path we took to get to where we are at. Until you know where you're at, how can you get to where you want to be? Regrets can help you see the path clearly — as long as they don't consume you and keep you in the past.

NEVER WALLOW IN REGRETS

Regrets have a lamentable attraction to feel the need to wallow in them. We flay ourselves with these regrets like some sort of whip on our guilty conscience. Guilt and regrets are God-given responses to

teach us lessons. Wallowing in them is counterproductive.

If you lost someone dear, you'll want to wallow in your own selfpity and focus on your regrets. But that robs the person you love of all the other things they accomplished in life. You focus on your failings with them instead of on them. Regrets can show that you care, but wallowing in them is an act of selfishness.

Wallowing in regrets keeps us from living. It keeps us from moving forward.

USE THE LESSONS THAT REGRETS TEACH

Regrets show us that we can't afford to miss any more opportunities. If you lost someone close to you, don't let your regrets keep you from being part of those who are still alive. Take the lessons you learned and try not to miss any more opportunities.

Spend more time with others. Ask yourself, if so and so died today, what regrets would I have? Then go out and do something about it. Regrets allow us to realize what is most important in our lives.

See REGRETS on page 8

## Worship Directory

#### Pentecostals of Globe , UPC Pastor David Staten

928-651-2191 425 N Devereaux St, Globe Sun. Service 10am Tues Service 6:30 pm Wed. Prayer 6:30pm

#### St. Paul's Lutheran Church, LCMC Pastor Barry Schwenk, 928-425-6006

750 W Paxton Ave, Miami Sunday School 3:30 - 4:30 p.m Wed. night Adult Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Sun. Worship 10 am • splcaz.org

#### St. Peter's Lutheran Church Pastor Eric Hartzell

512-635-1910 | 630 N Devereaux St, Globe Sun. School 9am, Worship 10am, Wed. Bible Study 7pm

#### Trinity Baptist Church Pastor Dan Rifenoark

928-425-4740 | 1362 S Hagen Rd, Globe Sun. Worship 11am contact@trinitybaptistglobeaz.org trinitybaptistglobeaz.org

#### Globe Church of the Nazarene Pastor Mason Cassens

928-200-4358 | 226 Holly Rd., Globe Sun. School 9:45 am Sun. Worship 11 a.m.

#### Central Heights Baptist Church Pastor Rob Craig,

928-425-5303 | 5468 Apache Ave, Globe Sun. School (all ages) 9:45am Sun. Worship Services & Childrens Church 11am (Nursery available) Sun. Evening Worship Service 6pm Wed. Bible Study/Prayer Meeting 6pm For all other services and events visit: centralheightsbaptistchurch.org

#### First Baptist Church of Miami AZ Pastor Greg S. Baker 3654 Gordon St. Miami, AZ 85539

(928) 351-7799 | fbcmiami.com facebook.com/firstbaptistmiami/ Sunday School: 10 AM Sunday Morning Service: 11 AM Sunday Luncheon Fellowship and Prayer: 12:15 PM Sunday Afternoon Worship: 1:30 PM Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 PM Saturday Visitation: 10 AM Nursery provided for all services

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#### Maranatha Baptist Church

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#### First Southern Baptist Church, Miami Pastor Gary McPherson

928-473-3311 880 W Live Oak St, Miami Sun. B'fast 9:00am, Sun. School 9:45am Sun. Worship 11am & 6pm Wed. Prayer Meeting 6pm

## **OBITUARIES**

## **Hugh Minefee**

Hugh "Buddy" Minefee, born in Frost, Texas on Feb.19, 1944 to Paul and Allie Hue Minefee, passed away in his home Sept. 6, 2024. Hugh moved to Miami, Arizona at the age of 2 and grew up there until he left for college. Therefore, he always felt like a Miami native. He met the love of his life, Joy Archer, at Grand Canyon College and they married Aug. 25, 1964. They had just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Hugh was a retired Southern Baptist preacher at the time of



the Pastor of numerous churches in Arizona and Texas, many of those churches right here in the Globe/Miami area. His other passion was raising a variety of birds.

Hugh is survived by his

precious wife, Joy Minefee, and their three daughters: Tami Ragan and her husband, Randy, and their two sons, Dylan and Ethan and Ethan's wife, Yese; Tari Kirby and her husband, David and their two children, Ky and Kylee; and Traci Dale and her two sons, Trace and Ty.

He was preceded in death by his parents Paul and Allie Hue Minefee and his brothers Sammy and Allen Minefee. He is survived by his siblings Jackie Saldana, Judy Williamson and Gary Mine-

## **Ima Jo Culpepper**

On Monday, Sept. 9, 2024, Ima Jo Culpepper, beloved Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother and Great-Great-Grandmother, peacefully passed away at the age of 95 at her home in Globe, Arizona. Ima was born in Oklahoma on Aug. 24, 1929 to Marvin and Bethany Vaughan.

She resided in Oklahoma for most of her young life before moving to Texas, where she met her late husband, Ernest (Buddy) Culpepper. Together they had three children. In 1967, Ima and her family moved to Globe, where she had resided for the past 57 years. She found immense



joy spending time with her family, watching them grow and prosper in their lives. "Grandma Jo" would not miss an occasion to send cards of love to those near and far to let them know how much she loved them.

Ima Jo was a devout member of the Trinity Baptist Church. She was honored to have worked in the Trinity Kitchen for many years. Ima Jo was dedicated to her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and found peace, serenity and purpose through her service.

Ima is survived by her three children, Danny (Susan) Culpepper, Deborah Steele and Terry Culpepper, her 8 grandchildren, 10 greatgrandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren. A Memorial Service will be held Oct. 5, 2024 at 11 a.m., at Trinity Baptist Church in Globe.







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## **COMMUNITY**

**REGRETS**, from page 6 Your regrets should show

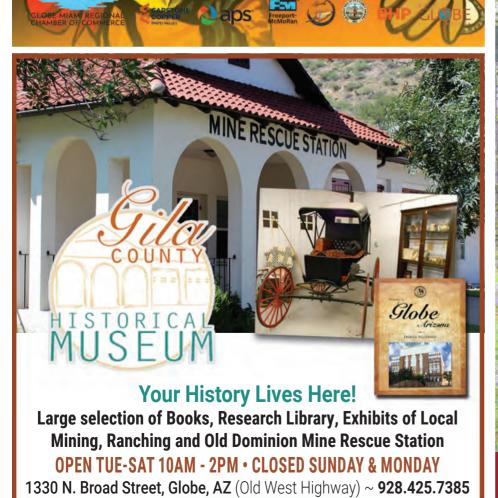
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you where your values are. Use that. As a Christian, I use regrets as motivation. I regret some of the things I have done in my life. I regret some of my choices. But having a loving and forgiving God allows me focus on what I can still accomplish, the things I can still do, and the choices that are still before me. Regrets can be very motivational. The Apostle Paul was very

zealous in attacking and persecuting Christianity. After his conversion, do you think he had regrets? Of course he did. Those regrets propelled him forward (1 Corinthians 15:10) and helped him become perhaps the greatest Christian of all

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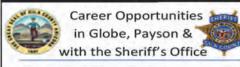
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## **COMMUNITY**

GAAC, from page 3

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Friday, Sept 20 Bingo 9 a.m./Crafts 9 a.m.

Crab Pasta Salad, Spinach Salad, Three-Bean Salad, Crackers, Mandarin Oranges

Monday, Sept 23 Rummage Sale 7 a.m. – 1 p.m./ Open Activities/Games 8:30 a.m.

Hot Dog w/Onions, Baked Beans, Broccoli w/Cheese Sauce, Wheat Bun, Mixed Fruit

Tuesday, Sept 24 Rum-

mage Sale 7 a.m. – 1 p.m./ Video Exercise 8 a.m./ Stretch & Flex 9:30 a.m. Chili Relleno Casserole, Spanish Rice, Corn, Corn Tortilla, Van. Pudding

Wednesday, Sept 25 Rummage Sale 7 a.m. - 1 p.m./ Biscuits/Gravy 7:30 a.m./ Bingo 9 a.m./Ceramics 9

Fish Fillet, Coleslaw, Brocw/Cheese Sauce, Wheat Bread, Banana **Pudding** 

The Globe Active Adult Center is sponsored by the Older Americans Act,

AZ DES Division of Aging, Pinal-Gila Council for Senior Citizens, Gila County and the City of Globe. Globe Active Adult Center does not discriminate regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.



# Open Day celebrating

# 50 years

in the community

All are welcome to attend!

- Food available for purchase
- Mining demonstrations & activities
- Mine site tour with photo opportunities
- Raffles held





Bullion Plaza Cultural Center and Museum 150 N Plaza Cir, Miami, AZ 85539