

Territorial News

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Vol. 20, No. 11

Your Connection to the Old West

May 29, 2013

Next Issue
Wednesday

June 12

Play
Arizona Trivia
See Page 2 for Details

This Week's
Question:

What famous
Hollywood character
actor was born in
Flagstaff and raised
in Kingman?
(10 Letters)

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General Philip Sheridan

Ruthless Warrior Waged Total War Against Indians



General Philip Henry Sheridan was a ruthless warrior who played a decisive role in the Western Indian wars. He was in command when the U.S. Army prevailed over the Plains Indians and ultimately forced them onto reservations. His strategy of total war against the Indians, including surprise attacks on Indian settlements during winter and extermination of the buffalo, finally resulted in complete victory by government troops.

Sheridan was born in 1831, probably in Albany, New York, the third child of six by John and Mary Meenagh. Sheridan, immigrants from County Cavan, Ireland. He grew up in Somerset, Ohio. Fully grown, he reached only 5 feet, 5 inches, tall, a stature that led to the nickname, "Little Phil." Abraham Lincoln described his appearance in a famous anecdote: "A brown, chunky little chap, with a long body, short legs, not enough neck to hang him, and such long arms

that if his ankles itch he can scratch them without stooping."

As a boy Sheridan worked in general stores, and eventually as head clerk and bookkeeper for a dry goods store. In 1848, he obtained an appointment to the United States Military Academy from one of his customers, Congressman Thomas Ritchey.

Sheridan's military career did not begin auspiciously. It took him five years to graduate from West Point because of an altercation with fellow cadet and future Union general, William R. Terrill. After graduating in 1853, he was assigned to Fort Duncan, Texas, on the Rio Grande frontier, with the First United States Infantry. In late 1855 he was transferred to the Pacific Northwest, where he served until the Civil War started. After serving in a staff position during the early part of the war he was

(See Warrior on Page 4)

The History of Arizona The Earliest Settlements

By Thomas Edwin Farish

This History of Arizona, so far as it relates to the settlement of the Gila and Salt Rivers, in the absence of printed records, is taken from interviews with old settlers, in Arizona parlance, "old-timers," and I have had to rely upon their statements for the following, which may not be entirely reliable.

The first settlements in the Territory, included within the boundaries of Maricopa County as originally established in 1871, were made along the Gila River at Adamsville and Florence. Some claim that the first building erected was at the old town of Adamsville, about three miles west of Florence. From the best evidence at

In the early part of the 1900s writer/historian Thomas Edwin Farish was commissioned by the Arizona Territorial Legislature to write a history of Arizona. This was a mammoth undertaking in its day and took several years to complete. The original volumes of the book were published in 1915-1918.

The *Territorial News* is publishing excerpts of these volumes over the next several issues. This is an extensive work and, unfortunately, we are not able to publish the complete text on these pages. Every attempt is made to do justice to the author and preserve the integrity of his work in the selections we publish.

hand, both towns were located in the same year, 1866. During that year Charles Adams located at what was afterwards Adamsville. He took out a ditch there and irrigated his quarter section of land and it soon became a prosperous village. In the winter of 1866-67, the first store was opened, according to James M. Barney, the names of the proprietors I have not been able to

ascertain. In the early part of 1871 the district was of sufficient importance for a postoffice. William Dumont was the first postmaster, but the postoffice name was changed to Sanford in honor of Captain George B. Sanford of the First United States Cavalry, who was, for many years, in command at Fort McDowell. This action of the

(See History on Page 5)

In Their Own Words

Custer: Wild Bill Unlike Any Other

Prior to his fateful meeting with the Plains Indians at the Little Big Horn in 1876, General George Armstrong Custer wrote of his experiences with the Seventh Cavalry. His book, titled *My Life on the Plains, or Personal Experiences with Indians*, covered the years 1867 through 1869, especially the Winter Campaign of 1868. In this excerpt, Custer shares his thoughts on the legendary Wild Bill Hickok.



Wild Bill Hickok

man among the Great Plains frontiersmen was "Wild

The most prominent

(See Legend on Page 8)

A Prayer for Being Grateful

Lord God, may we be grateful for our lot, and compassionate toward all those who are suffering every kind of distress at this difficult time. May we hold back nothing, and hasten to be the ministers of prayer and mercy, like the disciples of Him who went about doing good in times of need.

Captain's Bar Presents

ARIZONA TRIVIA

This Week's Question: What famous Hollywood character actor was born in Flagstaff and raised in Kingman?
(10 Letters)

Last Issue's Question: Mount Humphries is the highest peak in Arizona. What's the second highest?
Answer: Mount Agassiz

Congratulations! You got the right answer!
You are entered into our drawing

Sid Clarke, Larry Damer, Vicki Damer, Bruce Davis, Doyle Ekey, Jack Gajewski, Marsha Gartley, Jack Heisler, Evelyn Kolsrud, Nikki Leschuck, Roger McDaniel, Marilyn Olsen, Sue Sinclair, Linda Wolfe, Robert Wolfe.

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Phone 480-983-5009 Fax 480-393-0695
Advertising Linda Rae Stewart 480-522-7728
Email: territorialnews@prodigy.net

Ralph Henderson - Business Manager
David Stanfel - Editor
Linda Rae Stewart - Ad Sales 480-522-7728
Michael Murphy - Layout & Design

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The Territorial's East Valley coverage area includes areas east of Gilbert Road, including East Mesa, Apache Junction, Superstition Falls, Mountain Brook, Gold Canyon and Queen Creek. Copies are distributed free at convenience and grocery stores, restaurants and bars, RV parks and subdivisions and libraries. Subscriptions are also available.

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Arizona - Web of Time

Jim Harvey

The Arizona Trail

The federal government's agent to the Navajo Tribe was stationed at northeastern Arizona's Fort Defiance in 1868. He said members of the tribe "are no doubt the best in the country for rapid progress in agriculture, as history proves that for several centuries they have been engaged in planting." He added that the Navajos were "far in advance of other tribes in manufacturing blankets, bridles and other articles."

Passengers traveling from Prescott to the Arizona-California border on 1871 stagecoaches were escorted by U.S. Army troops through Hualapai Indian Country. Two soldiers rode ahead to give advance warning of an ambush. The Hualapai were at war with the United States to keep white prospectors and ranchers off Hualapai land. The tribe welcomes visitors today to their part of the Grand Canyon.

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sheriff George Rich who was assigned to Williams suddenly resigned his position in 1882 and disappeared. It was said he feared arrest for helping to rob a liquor store. Williams had been founded a year before on a cattle ranch.

1890 entertainment at Tombstone's Bird Cage Theater included wrestling and weight lifting.

A visitor to Flagstaff the winter of 1903 said Sandy Donahue's saloon was crowded with cowboys and lumberjacks. They kept three bartenders busy, were entertained with fiddle music, and gambled at cards and dice. Down the street a little way was a Chinese restaurant called the American Chop House where a meal cost 25 cents.

In 1905, the four-year-old Santa Fe Railroad line from Williams to the Grand Canyon was being publicized all over the country as the best way to see Arizona's great natural wonder. The Grand Canyon was described in magazine advertising as "a whole chaotic underworld" and "the most sublime scene on earth." Round trip fare on the steam-powered train was \$6.50.

The 1928 motion picture version of a Zane Grey story titled "Avalanche" was filmed near Flagstaff. Some of the scenes were shot 12,000 feet above sea level on San Francisco Mountain.

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The Little Mesa Cafe is having a pancake breakfast on Saturday, June 8th, from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to help Cadence. Half of all proceeds from pancake breakfasts sold will go to help Cadence. Food specials and raffle prizes will be offered to all. For 29 years the Little Mesa Cafe, a local family owned and operated Family Restaurant, has played an active role in our Mesa community. This is a chance for all to help someone close



Cadence Renee Schutter

to home. Your participation, donations, gift certificates and door prizes greatly appreciated. For more info contact David at the Little Mesa Cafe, 3929 E. Main St., Mesa, Arizona (480-830-6201).

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General Sheridan

Warrior

(From Page 1)


recommended for the command of a cavalry regiment. Within days of taking command he was in charge of the brigade with which he earned his first star at Booneville in northern Mississippi. In the late summer of 1862 he was given a division in Kentucky and middle Tennessee. He fought well at Perryville and Murfreesboro and was given a second star. At Chickamauga his division, along with almost two-thirds of the army, was swept from the field. However, at Chattanooga he regained his somewhat tarnished reputation when his division broke through the Rebel lines atop Missionary Ridge.

When General Ulysses S. Grant went to the East, he placed Sheridan in command of the Army of the Potomac's mounted arm. Against J.E.B. Stuart's depleted horsemen Sheridan met with mixed success in the Overland Campaign, but did manage to mortally wound the Confederate cavalryman at Yellow Tavern. Grant later tapped Sheridan to command a new military division, comprised of three departments, and charged him with clearing out the Shenandoah Valley. For his success in this campaign, during which he burned his way through the Valley, preventing future Confederate use of its grain and other stores, he was named brigadier and major general in the regular army and received the thanks of Congress. It was Sheridan's cavalry command, backed by infantry, which finally blocked Lee's escape at Appomattox.

After the war, Sheridan was first given command over Texas and Louisiana, where his support for Mexican Republicans helped speed the collapse of Maximillian's regime and where his harsh treatment of former Confederates led to charges of "absolute tyranny." As unpopular as Sheridan was in Texas, the feeling was mutual. In 1866 newspapers quoted him as saying, "If I owned Texas and Hell, I would rent Texas and live in Hell."

The Indians on the Great Plains had been generally peaceful during the Civil War, but in 1864, Major John Chivington, a Colorado militia officer, attacked a peaceful village of Arapahos and Southern Cheyenne at Sand Creek in Colorado, killing over 150 Indians. That attack ignited a general war with the Indians. Under pressure from the various governors in the Great Plains, General Grant turned to Sheridan. In September 1866, Sheridan arrived at the former Fort Martin Scott near Fredericksburg, Texas, where

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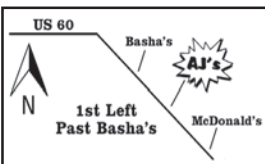
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(See Warrior on Page 6)

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History of Arizona

History

(From Page 1)

postoffice department caused much criticism throughout the Territory. The *Arizona Miner*, in 1871, said that “at a spot in the Valley of the Gila, situated between Florence and Sacaton, some five years since, a pioneer named Charles Adams located a piece of ground, erected a shanty, and proceeded to divest his property of the offensive shrubbery, preparatory to the sowing of a crop of grain. The location was in the midst of a large tract of land, and soon a thriving settlement sprang up, in the center of which Mr. Adams remained. At the solicitation of his neighbors he laid out a townsite on his property, gave lots to all who wished to build, and with one accord the whole community agreed that the town should be named Adamsville.

“The entire piece of property originally located by Mr. Adams was subsequently sold by him, but the town still retained the name of Adamsville, and all were satisfied until early in the present year, Territorial Delegate McCormick to satisfy a personal grudge of a political character against Mr.

Adams, concluded to have the name changed. With this object in view he managed to have the name of the postoffice changed from Adamsville to Sanford. His hope and intention was that the town would for convenience sake, adopt the name of the postoffice.”

It should be remembered that the *Miner* at that time, was edited by John Marion, who never forgave McCormick for the part he took in removing the capital from Prescott to Tucson.

After the departure of Mr. Adams, the founder of the place, who moved to the Salt River Valley, Adamsville became the headquarters of the Bichard Brothers, well known business men of the Gila Valley, who erected a modern flouring mill at that place. The Bichards were the first traders with the Pima Villages, and about the year 1865, became the owners of a primitive flouring mill at Casa Blanca, which was destroyed

(See History on Page 9)

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DEC 3 ALGODONES Pharmacies, Dentists, Eye Glasses, Shopping, Passport Required. \$65 pp	DEC 24-26 LAS VEGAS CHRISTMAS 3 Days/2 Nights, Four Queens, 2 Breakfasts, Fun Book, No Other Casino Stops \$139 pp dbl
DEC 10-12 EDGEWATER LAUGHLIN & OATMAN 3 Days, 2 Nights at Edgewater Hotel & Casino, 2 Buffets, Coffee/Donuts, Fun Book, Tour to Historic Oatman, an authentic western Ghost Town on Main Street USA Route 66 \$109 pp dbl, \$119 sgl	DEC 30-JAN 1, 2014 LAS VEGAS NEW YEARS EVE Stay at the NEW TROPICANA on the STRIP - A Doubletree by Hilton brand new & fully restored to 1950s decor! 3 Days, 2 Nights, 3 Meals, New Years Eve show & dinner buffet, spectacular fireworks \$447 pp dbl
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General Sheridan

Warrior

(From Page 4)

he spent three months subduing Indians in the Texas Hill Country.

In August 1867, Grant appointed Sheridan to head the Department of the Missouri, an administrative area of over one million square miles, stretching from the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains. His troops, even supplemented with state militia, were spread too thin to have any real effect. He conceived a strategy similar to the one he used in the Shenandoah Valley. In the Winter Campaign of 1868-69 he attacked the Cheyenne, Kiowa, and Comanche tribes in their winter quarters, taking their supplies and livestock and killing those who resisted, driving the rest back onto their reservations. He was unconcerned about the likelihood of high casualties among noncombatants, once remarking that, "If a village is attacked and women and children killed, the responsibility is not with the soldiers, but with the people whose crimes necessitated the attack."

Sheridan testified before Congress promoting the hunting and slaughter of the vast herds of American Bison on the Great Plains. In this way, Sheridan helped deprive the Indians of their primary source of food. Professional hunters, trespassing on Indian land, killed over four million bison by 1874. Sheridan wrote, "Let them kill, skin and sell until the buffalo is exterminated." When the Texas legislature considered outlawing bison poaching on tribal lands, Sheridan personally testified against it in Austin, Texas. He suggested that the legislature should give each of the hunters a medal, engraved with a dead buffalo on one side and a discouraged-looking Indian on the other. This strategy continued until the Indians honored their treaties.

In 1871, Sheridan was present in Chicago during the Great Chicago Fire and coordinated military relief efforts. The mayor, to calm the panic, placed the city under martial law and issued a proclamation putting Sheridan in charge. As there were no widespread disturbances, martial law was

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Custer Describes Wild Bill

Legend

(From Page 1)

Bill," whose highly varied career was made the subject of an illustrated sketch in one of the popular periodicals a few years ago. Wild Bill was a strange character, just the one which a novelist might gloat over. He was a Plainsman in every sense of the word, yet unlike any other of his class.

In person he was about six feet one in height, straight as the straightest of the warriors whose implacable foe he was; broad shoulders, well-formed chest and limbs, and a face strikingly handsome; a sharp, clear, blue eye, which stared straight in the face when in conversation; a finely-shaped nose, inclined to be aquiline; a well-turned mouth, with lips only partially concealed by a handsome moustache. His hair and complexion were those of the perfect blond. The former was worn in uncut ringlets falling carelessly over his powerfully formed shoulders. Add to this figure a costume blending the immaculate neatness of the dandy with the extravagant taste and style of the frontiersman, and you have Wild Bill, then as now the most famous scout on the Plains. Whether on foot or on horseback, he was one of the most perfect types of physical manhood I ever saw.

Of his courage there could be no question; it had been brought to the test on too many occasions to admit a doubt. His skill in the use of the rifle and pistol was unerring; while his deportment was exactly opposite of what might be expected from a man of his surroundings. It was entirely free from all bluster or bravado. He seldom spoke of himself unless requested to do so. His conversation, strange to say, never bordered either on the vulgar or the blasphemous. His influence among the frontiersmen was unbounded, his word was law; and many are the personal quarrels and disturbances which he has checked among his comrades by his simple announcement that "this has gone far enough," if need be followed by the ominous warning that when persisted in or renewed the quarrelers "must settle it with me."

Wild Bill is anything but a quarrelsome man; yet no one but himself can enumerate the many conflicts in which he has been engaged, and which have almost invariably resulted in the death of his adversary. I have a personal knowledge of at least half a dozen men whom he has at various times killed, one of these being at the time a member of my command. Others have been severely wounded, yet he always escapes unhurt. On the Plains every man openly carries his belt with its invariable appendages, knife and revolver, often two of the latter. Wild Bill always carried two handsome ivory-handled revolvers of large size; he was never seen without them.

Where this is the

(See Legend on Page 10)

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History of Arizona

History

(From Page 5)

in the winter of 1868 by one of the great floods in the Gila Valley. The Richards constructed a new mill at Adamsville in 1869, which was provided with the most improved machinery of that day, shipped in at great expense from the Pacific Coast, and it was called "The Pioneer Flouring Mill." This mill was the first modern flouring mill erected in the Territory.

The first house built in Florence was in 1866, by Levi Ruggles. Ruggles came to Arizona during that year as Indian Agent. He was a member of the Council in the Legislative Assemblies of 1873 and 1877, and was also Register and Receiver of the Land Office. He was a native of Ohio, and his wife was Cynthia M. Thorn. He was one of the principal merchants of the town that he helped to found and build up. He died in 1891.

Elliott's History of Arizona (1884), says: "Charles G. Mason was the first settler in Florence; built the first adobe house there in the summer of 1866. In March, 1869, Joseph Collingwood opened the first store in Mason's Building.

Levi Ruggles located in Florence in October, 1868." This part of the Gila Valley advanced rapidly. Among the first business men located there were Joe Collingwood and E. N. Fish, who did business under the name of E. N. Fish & Co. They started in business in 1868, it being a branch of their business in Tucson. They had government contracts and wanted wheat and barley, the demand for which caused the rapid settlement of that locality. The settlers were backed by the merchants, who induced them to take up land, and furnished them credit, wheat and barley being the principal crops which they raised. The farming was principally done by Mexicans. All the ditches around from Florence down to Adamsville and below, were built by peon labor, who received a dollar a day and their rations. It was pick and shovel work. The settlers usually paid themselves out of debt with one crop of grain. In 1870 the settlers in

(See History on Page 10)



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Custer On Wild Bill

Legend

(From Page 8)

common custom, brawls or personal difficulties are seldom if ever settled by blows. The quarrel is not from a word to a blow, but from a word to the revolver, and he who can draw and fire first is the best man. No civil law reaches him; none is applied for. In fact there is no law recognized beyond the frontier but that of "might makes right." Should death result from the quarrel, as it usually does, no coroner's jury is impaneled to learn of the cause of death, and the survivor is *requested* to be present when the circumstances of the homicide are inquired into, and the unfailing verdict of "justifiable," "self-defense," etc., is pronounced, and the law stands vindicated. That

justice is often deprived to a victim there is not a doubt. Yet in all the many affairs of this kind in which Wild Bill has performed a part, and which have come to my knowledge, there is not a single instance in which the verdict of twelve fair-minded men would not be pronounced in his favor.

That the even tenor of his way continues to be disturbed by little events of this description may inferred from an item which has been floating lately through the columns of the press, and which states that "the funeral of Joe Bludsoe, who was killed the other day by Wild Bill, took place today." It then adds: "The funeral expenses were borne by Wild Bill." What could be more thoughtful than this? Not only to send a fellow mortal out of the world, but to pay the expenses of the transit.

15th Annual Dog Run, Duchess, Simpleton's Golf Tourney

The Dog Run Saloon, Duchess Bar & Grill, and Simpleton's recently held their 15th annual charity golf outing. The event benefited the Apache Junction Humane Society and was a great success. After golf, the teams met at Simpleton's, on the southwest corner of Broadway and Lindsay in Mesa, for lunch, door prizes, and to announce the winners. At right, the winning team poses with owner Kim, (l to r) Cliff Bowles, Brian Brooks, Richard Reyes, and Ray Mendoza. Kim would like to thank everyone who helped make the event a success.



History of Arizona

History

(From Page 9)

and around Florence were as great in number, or greater, than those in and about Phoenix, and in the Legislature of 1871, which created the county of Maricopa, as will be seen further on, they made an effort to create the county of Pinal, embracing the Salt River Valley, with Florence as its county seat. At that time the population of Florence was estimated to be five or six hundred. Here the Catholics built their first Church in Central Arizona, known as the Assumption Church.

The town of Florence was located

about half a mile from the Gila River, and was in the center of a very rich agricultural country which, like the Salt River Valley, would grow almost anything with irrigation. It was an adobe town, built in the Mexican style. One-half of its population, at least, were Mexicans. It was named by Governor McCormick in honor of his wife. The first postoffice and mail facilities were obtained through the efforts of Governor McCormick and Levi Ruggles. Mr. Tom Ewing was appointed postmaster, but deputized Joseph Collingwood to run the office. The first mail arrived in September, 1869, on horseback from the Blue River Station, twenty-five miles distant on the Overland Stage road.

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General Sheridan

Warrior

(From Page 6)

lifted within a few days. Although Sheridan’s personal residence was spared, all of his professional and personal papers were destroyed.

On June 3, 1875, Sheridan married Irene Rucker, a daughter of Army Quartermaster General Daniel H. Rucker. She was 22, he 44. They had four children: Mary, born in 1876; twin daughters, Irene and Louise, in 1877; and Philip, Jr., in 1880. After the wedding, Sheridan and his wife moved to Washington, D.C., where they lived in a house given to them by Chicago citizens in appreciation for Sheridan’s protection of the city after the Great Chicago Fire.

One of Sheridan’s personal crusades was the protection of the Yellowstone area. He authorized expeditions to the area in 1871, and as early as 1875, he promoted military control of the area to prevent the destruction of natural formations and wildlife.

In 1882, the Department of the Interior granted rights to the Yellowstone Park Improvement Company to develop 4,000 acres in the park. Their plan was to build a railroad into the park and sell the land to developers. Sheridan personally organized opposition to the plan and lobbied Congress for protection of the park, including expansion, military control, reducing the development to 10 acres, and prohibiting leases near park attractions. In addition, he arranged an expedition to the park for President Chester A. Arthur and other influential men. His lobbying soon paid off. A rider was added to the Sundry Civil Bill of 1883, giving Sheridan and his supporters almost everything for which they had asked. In

1886, after a string of ineffectual and sometimes criminal superintendents, Sheridan ordered the 1st U.S. Cavalry into the park. The military operated the park until the National Park Service took it over in 1916.

On November 1, 1883, Sheridan succeeded William T. Sherman as Commanding General, U.S. Army, and held that position until shortly before his death. He began writing his own version of his eventful career, his book titled *Personal Memoirs*.

Sheridan suffered a

series of massive heart attacks two months after sending his memoirs to the publisher. Although only 57, hard living and hard campaigning and a lifelong love of good food and drink had taken their toll. Thin in his youth, he had reached over 200 pounds. His family moved him from the heat of Washington and he died in his vacation cottage at Nonquitt, Massachusetts. His body was returned to Washington and he was buried on a hillside facing the capital city near Arlington House in Arlington National Cemetery.



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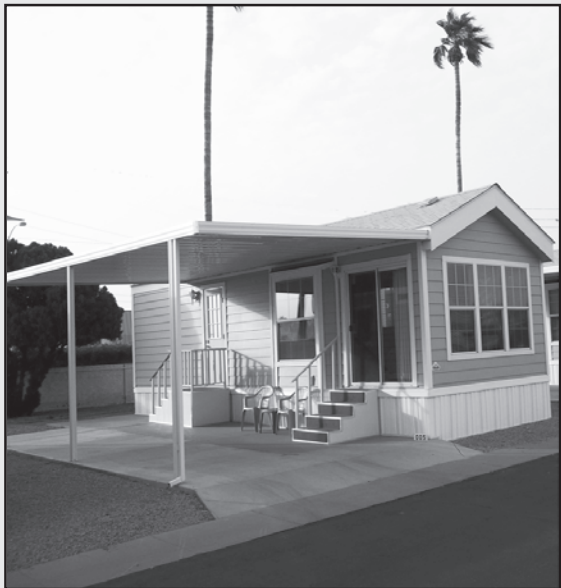
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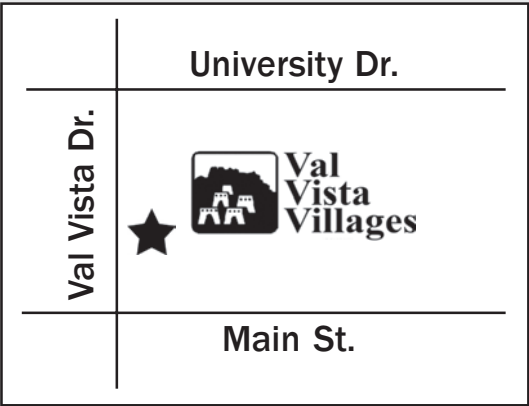
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HOURS:

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Sat	8-5
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