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**SIERRA VISTA**  
**HERALD**

TUESDAY DECEMBER 22, 2015 — 75¢



**MIGHTY MINI GREENS**



LIVING, A8

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# Eye on Tombstone

Webcams on Allen Street draw mixed reviews

BY DANA COLE  
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TOMBSTONE — While some question the purpose of two webcams aimed at opposite ends of Tombstone's historic Allen Street, others applaud them.

Yvete Oald-Rayna, who was visiting Tombstone with family members a few weeks ago, said she and her group discovered the cameras when they stepped into the Tombstone Chamber of Commerce

**"BECAUSE OF THE WEBCAMS, PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD SEE THE STAGECOACHES COMING AND GOING, THE LOCALS IN PERIOD DRESS, THE TROLLEY AND OUR TOWN'S STOREFRONTS."**

TIM FATTIG OF OK CORRAL

and saw the live broadcast on the web.

"We had no idea our private actions walking up and down the street were being scrutinized like that," she noted through an email. "We mentioned it to some businesses and some knew about it, but

didn't understand the purpose." Others in Tombstone didn't know about the cameras at all, she added.

According to Oald-Rayna, "One female employee was concerned about how the

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COURTESY

Leadership coach and trainer Dorothy Guy Bonvillain speaking at a military family appreciation day in Iowa.

## 'Intentional living' seeks to inspire community

BY AMANDA BAILLIE  
 For the Herald/Review

SIERRA VISTA — What is Sierra Vista's DNA?

That is a question Dorothy Guy Bonvillain hopes to find the answer to, during a year-long quest to explore leadership values.

Over the next 12 months Bonvillain is looking to work with local leaders and residents to promote what she calls "intentional living."

Her goal is to start a movement which inspires people to create the kind of community she witnessed during the 2011 Monument Fire, and culminating in a military family appreciation day in December 2016.

"I want to explore where we are as a community and to find out what is Sierra Vista's DNA," Bonvillain said. "When the Monument Fire happened I fell totally in love with Sierra Vista. Everyone just came together to help each other. I felt it was what a community should be, even when there isn't a crisis. That's what this is about.

"I still see this as a beautiful community, but I think we have become somewhat disconnected and complacent. I want to inject a new energy into the community and I don't think you have to have a crisis to do that."

As a long-time military spouse, Bonvillain is focused on using her skills as a leadership coach and mentor to help wives navigate life married to a member of the armed forces.

To that end, she is planning for her work with local residents and influencers to conclude with a military family appreciation day on December 11 next year.

She was inspired to organize the event after attending a similar day in Iowa in August, where she was asked to be the guest speaker.

"I'm a certified coach, speaker and trainer for the John Maxwell Team and I'm known for serving military

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### TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS



PHOTO BY AMANDA BAILLIE

Planning Director Paul Esparza studies a map of Cochise County, which is significantly larger than the 13 square mile town he has recently left.

## Customer service a priority for new planning director

BY AMANDA BAILLIE  
 For the Herald/Review

As he looks out of the window of his office, Paul Esparza marvels at the expansive scene that takes in the mountains of Mexico.

The reaction is understandable after learning the new Cochise County Planning Director has swapped a 13-square-mile town for a territory which increases that number to 6,219.

The father of three left the densely forested community of Pinetop-Lakeside for the sweeping vistas of Cochise in mid November, and has already determined one of his top priorities.

"I'm still going through the evaluation process, but I want to deliver the best customer service possible," he said.

During his 18 years at Pinetop-Lakeside, Esparza held the positions of town planner, zoning administrator, and community development director.

Having lived or worked in small communities for most of his life — he was born and raised in the mining town of Morenci — he was ready to stretch his wings.

"I came here because I wanted to go to the next level and work for county government," he explained. "I liked that Cochise County was so well run and that it has been so good at taking care of business. They have reduced staffing levels, but not laid anyone off, and they are not in debt. I was really impressed with that."

His first task has been to talk to the

See **PLANNING**, Page A7

#### BY THE NUMBERS

**\$275,188** total permit fees revenue in 2014

**1,365** number of permits issued in 2014

**\$528.84** average permit fee

**518** number of code violations in 2014

**19** number of Planning and Zoning department staff

**3** number of divisions within the Planning and Zoning department

**9** average number of days to approve commercial permits

**2** average number of days to approve residential permits

**1** average number of days to conduct an inspection after initial request

This paper is published for valued subscriber **Donna Schaub** of **Sierra Vista** and the rest of Cochise County.



**SUN & CLOUDS**  
 High: 59 Low: 42

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### HOLIDAY GARBAGE PICK UP SCHEDULE

THE CITY OF BISBEE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS IS AS FOLLOWS:

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2015**

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY ROUTES WILL BE PICKED UP ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2015  
 FRIDAY GARBAGE PICK UP WILL BE ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2015

**NEW YEAR'S DAY**  
**FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 2015**

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY ROUTES WILL BE PICKED UP ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2015  
 FRIDAY GARBAGE PICK UP WILL BE ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2015

COMMERCIAL ROUTES WILL BE PICKED UP ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2015

ALL OTHER DAYS WILL BE AS SCHEDULED  
 THERE WILL BE NO YARD DEBRIS PICK UP ON THE HOLIDAY WEEKS

## SFB rubberized floor-use survey evaluations continue

BY CHRIS DABOVICH  
chris.dabovich@bensonneews-sun.com

ST. DAVID — State-wide assessment with regard to use of rubberized flooring deemed cause of elevated mercury vapor level readings in a St. David School building proceeds on schedule with nearly all school districts having responded to a State Facilities Board survey.

The move comes in response to the St. David incident which has rendered Kartchner Hall, the school's cafeteria and middle school gymnasium, unusable since early September when water penetration in the structure from an August monsoon downpour resulted in an air-quality reading test which shed light on the elevated level of mercury vapor.

In response to the situation, which to date has cost more than \$750,000, SFB with assistance of sister agency Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, swung into action by way of the ongoing assessment initiative to determine exactly what SFB could be looking at in terms of remediation and cost.

As a result of that initiative More than 200 surveys have been

distributed to school district administrator's said Kerry Campbell, public information officer at the State Facilities Board.

"The SFB is finalizing the flooring survey sent to 220 school districts, of which 98 percent have responded," Campbell said. "We are working to get those last few districts to respond."

The surveys, so far, have shown 174 rubberized floors will need to be assessed with that process well underway.

"As we develop the testing protocols, we have assessed 15 of these floors to date and determined they are not the type of flooring we are looking for."

Other schools have undergone similar circumstances.

"Through our work with the Arizona Risk Retention Trust, we were made aware of a floor at Round Valley Unified that was being remediated through a claim due to flooding," Campbell said.

The incident wreaked havoc at St. David School, key among them meal preparation, practice and game scheduling for volleyball and boys and girls basketball. But through it all students, faculty and staff have soldiered on.

## PLANNING: Looking to streamline

FROM PAGE A1

planning and zoning staff, to understand what they do, and to evaluate the role of his department.

Esparza realizes area residents are not always happy with the rules and regulations that come with planning and zoning requests, many of which are required by the state legislature, but he is willing to find solutions where possible and promises to work with property owners and developers to bring them within code compliance.

"I never want to open a conversation with, 'No, you can't do this', he said. "I want to see what we can do to make this process work for our customers, which includes anything from building a home to a commercial property. Of course, we have to work within the regulations, but we also have to work to look at different options."

With that in mind, one of his goals is to reevaluate the County's current zoning regulations and to streamline where possible.

"We don't want to overburden people," he said "Do our regulations work for the kind of applications we are getting?"

Following the reopening of his department's office in Sierra Vista, Esparza says he is sensitive to the geo-

### PLANNING AND ZONING

Covering more than 6,000 square miles of unincorporated areas, the county's Planning and Zoning Department takes on a wide range of responsibilities, which go far beyond processing and issuing permits.

This includes partnering with communities throughout the region. "The challenges and issues we face affect all jurisdictions, so we make sure we have partnerships and intergovernmental agreements," said department director Paul Esparza. "For example, we have an IGA with Benson to provide assistance in planning and building plan review and inspection services."

The department is divided into three divisions — planning, zoning and building safety.

The planning division works closely with unincorporated towns to develop neighborhood and community plans, as well as in helping to implement and revise zoning and subdivision ordinances.

It is also responsible for developing and updating the Comprehensive Plan, which provides a long-range vision and framework for land use and development.

Required at the state level by the Arizona Revised Statutes, the Comprehensive Plan acts as a guideline for residents, landowners, developers, conservationists, and Cochise County decision and policy makers.

It must be updated every 10 years, and was most recently amended and adopted in 2015.

The zoning division issues land clearing and demolition permits, but also enforces



PHOTO BY AMANDA BAILLIE

the regulations — some of which are county specific, while others are required by the state legislature.

This enforcement includes the Light Pollution Ordinance, which has been lauded by local astronomers as being the strictest code in the state, protecting the region's dark skies.

Finally, the building safety division oversees the issuance of building permits, and ensures codes are adhered to in the interest of public safety.

The goal of the Building Safety Code is to ensure quality construction throughout the county, including plumbing, electrical, fire, mechanical, and energy conservation.

It also works with other county departments to review and approve septic systems, residential work in rights-of-way, and floodplain use permits.

graphical challenges the county presents to those needing to submit permitting paperwork.

"We don't want people making multiple trips, so we have to set things up where people can sit down with someone and go through the process, and we have to be really clear about what we need people to submit," he said. "We also need to look at the time it takes to process a permit, while also giving ourselves the time to do it."

Esparza may have exchanged a small town for a county the size of Rhode Island and Connecticut combined, but he does not find the change daunting.

"There will be a lot of the same situations and challenges, whether you are in a town of 13 square miles, or here," he said. "I don't think there will be much I haven't seen before, and I didn't feel coming here would be overwhelming."

He does acknowledge, however, that there are some environmental differences between the two regions, in particular the water situation.

Although water re-

sources were not necessarily a top priority in Pinetop-Lakeside, Esparza, who plans to settle with his wife and stepdaughter in or near Sierra Vista, is aware that the environmental situation in Cochise County has its challenges.

"The San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area is very important. We have to be aware of encroachment and protecting our environmental assets. I know that's important," he said. "These are the reasons that people come to Cochise County and we don't have the tap running here. We have to encourage people to think about water conservation."

With economic development becoming a higher priority for both the County and the incorporated communities within its boundaries, Esparza says another mission is to build a reputation of business friendliness and to support future, controlled growth.

"We don't want to have a reputation of not being business friendly," said Esparza, who oversees 18 staff in the Planning and Zoning

Department, including three division managers. "We want to be able to help business owners get their project done and we have to really embrace local businesses.

"For many years economic development has meant chasing after retail and big businesses, but most new jobs are created when existing businesses expand. So how can we create an environment for those businesses to succeed?"

"We've got to talk to those businesses. In my previous job I would go out and visit the businesses. I'm very sensitive to that, to business expansion and retention, and to whatever we can do to help with that."

And whether dealing with residential or commercial requests, Esparza again emphasizes that superior customer service will always be the goal.

"Community development may not be the favorite government department, but customer service is so important," he said. "Our job is to help people get through the process as quickly and as painlessly as possible."

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## WEBCAM: Concerns aired about use of the videos

FROM PAGE A1

video could be used," questioned whether people are able to record the live stream and why the chamber of commerce has cameras set up on the street in the first place. Oald-Rayna says the cameras and live streaming make her feel uneasy.

When asked what she thought about the cameras, Sonya Adamson, a Tombstone tourist who was visiting the town on Sunday, was surprised to learn about the live stream. "I'm a bit taken aback about being on a live feed as I move about town, but I suppose it's not much different than the cameras in stores, parking lots and malls across the country," she said. "At first glance, it seems almost like an invasion of privacy, but cameras are everywhere, so I guess this is just another use for them, a way to promote the town."

Another tourist, Tom Murray, says he thinks the webcams are "an excellent marketing strategy" for the town. "Tombstone is a major tourist attraction for Arizona and something like this gives prospective visitors an idea of what to expect when they're planning to visit the area," he said. "They can go to the chamber website and look at what the town is like."

The Tombstone Chamber of Commerce installed the cameras several years ago as a marketing tool, said Tim Fattig, who manages the gunfight shows at OK Corral. "We were made aware of them when they were installed a few years back and I think they're good for Tombstone and the surrounding area," he added. "They're not high resolution, so you can't see detailed features of the people, but the images give view-

ers a nice picture of Tombstone's Old West look. Because of the webcams, people around the world see the stagecoaches coming and going, the locals in period dress, the trolley and our town's storefronts." The cameras, he added, help draw tourists to Tombstone as well as Bisbee and other Cochise County destinations.

Tombstone City Councilwoman Patricia Moreno agrees. "The cameras are intended as a marketing tool and are a live broadcast only," she said. "They are not recorded or stored, they're nothing more than a live feed so people all over the country and world can see what the town is like." Moreno also points to the fact that Allen Street and other public areas of Tombstone are heavily photographed and videotaped all the time. "Allen Street is a public street and people are taking photos and videos on that street on a daily basis. Videoring the street is a way of life in Tombstone," she said.

And finally, here's what the new Tombstone Mustachery posted on Facebook about the webcams: "Hey folks! We'd like to share with you a little treasure that not many people know about in Tombstone! Did you know we have a continual live webcam that sits above the Visitor's Center? That's right...you can to the Tombstone Chamber of Commerce website and see Allen Street whenever you want. As a fun little bonus — at least we think so — our store is right in the middle of camera one."

The Mustachery then urges visitors to "call your loved ones and tell them to go to the website, where you can go outside and wave to them. Now that is cool!"

## HOLIDAY HOURS

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Offices will re-open Monday December 28th at 7:30 a.m.

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